

# ARM® Compiler

Version 5.05

## **armcc User Guide**



**ARM® Compiler****armcc User Guide**

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# Preface

This preface introduces the *ARM® Compiler armcc User Guide*.

It contains the following:

- [About this book on page 26.](#)

## About this book

ARM Compiler armcc User Guide. This manual provides user information for the ARM compiler, armcc. armcc is an optimizing C and C++ compiler that compiles Standard C and Standard C++ source code into machine code for ARM architecture-based processors. Available as PDF.

## Using this book

This book is organized into the following chapters:

### **Chapter 1 Overview of the Compiler**

Gives an overview of the ARM compiler, the languages and extensions it supports, and the provided libraries.

### **Chapter 2 Getting Started with the Compiler**

Introduces some of the more common ARM compiler command-line options.

### **Chapter 3 Using the NEON Vectorizing Compiler**

Introduces the NEON unit and explains how to take advantage of automatic vectorizing features.

### **Chapter 4 Compiler Features**

Provides an overview of ARM-specific features of the compiler.

### **Chapter 5 Compiler Coding Practices**

Describes programming techniques and practices to help you increase the portability, efficiency and robustness of your C and C++ source code.

### **Chapter 6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages**

Describes the format of compiler diagnostic messages and how to control the output during compilation.

### **Chapter 7 Using the Inline and Embedded Assemblers of the ARM Compiler**

Describes the optimizing inline assembler and non-optimizing embedded assembler of the ARM compiler, armcc.

### **Chapter 8 Compiler Command-line Options**

Describes the armcc compiler command-line options.

### **Chapter 9 Language Extensions**

Describes the language extensions that the compiler supports.

### **Chapter 10 Compiler-specific Features**

Describes compiler-specific features including ARM extensions to the C and C++ Standards, ARM-specific pragmas and intrinsics, and predefined macros.

### **Chapter 11 C and C++ Implementation Details**

Describes the language implementation details for the compiler. Some language implementation details are common to both C and C++, while others are specific to C++.

### **Chapter 12 ARMv6 SIMD Instruction Intrinsics**

Describes the ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics. SIMD instructions allow the processor to operate on packed 8-bit or 16-bit values in 32-bit registers.

### **Chapter 13 Via File Syntax**

Describes the syntax of via files accepted by the armcc.

### **Chapter 14 Summary Table of GNU Language Extensions**

Describes ARM compiler support for GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages.

### **Chapter 15 Standard C Implementation Definition**

Provides information required by the ISO C standard for conforming C implementations.

### Chapter 16 Standard C++ Implementation Definition

Lists the C++ language features defined in the ISO/IEC standard for C++, and states whether or not ARM C++ supports that language feature.

### Chapter 17 C and C++ Compiler Implementation Limits

Describes the implementation limits when using the ARM compiler to compile C and C++.

### Chapter 18 Using NEON Support

Describes NEON intrinsics support in this release of the ARM compilation tools.

### Appendix A Compiler Document Revisions

Describes the technical changes that have been made to the armcc Compiler User Guide.

## Glossary

The ARM Glossary is a list of terms used in ARM documentation, together with definitions for those terms. The ARM Glossary does not contain terms that are industry standard unless the ARM meaning differs from the generally accepted meaning.

See the [ARM Glossary](#) for more information.

## Typographic conventions

*italic*

Introduces special terminology, denotes cross-references, and citations.

**bold**

Highlights interface elements, such as menu names. Denotes signal names. Also used for terms in descriptive lists, where appropriate.

monospace

Denotes text that you can enter at the keyboard, such as commands, file and program names, and source code.

monospace

Denotes a permitted abbreviation for a command or option. You can enter the underlined text instead of the full command or option name.

*monospace italic*

Denotes arguments to monospace text where the argument is to be replaced by a specific value.

**monospace bold**

Denotes language keywords when used outside example code.

<and>

Encloses replaceable terms for assembler syntax where they appear in code or code fragments. For example:

```
MRC p15, 0 <Rd>, <CRn>, <CRm>, <Opcode_2>
```

SMALL CAPITALS

Used in body text for a few terms that have specific technical meanings, that are defined in the *ARM glossary*. For example, IMPLEMENTATION DEFINED, IMPLEMENTATION SPECIFIC, UNKNOWN, and UNPREDICTABLE.

## Feedback

### Feedback on this product

If you have any comments or suggestions about this product, contact your supplier and give:

- The product name.
- The product revision or version.
- An explanation with as much information as you can provide. Include symptoms and diagnostic procedures if appropriate.

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- The title.
- The number ARM DUI0472K.
- The page number(s) to which your comments refer.
- A concise explanation of your comments.

ARM also welcomes general suggestions for additions and improvements.

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## Other information

- [ARM Information Center](#).
- [ARM Technical Support Knowledge Articles](#).
- [Support and Maintenance](#).
- [ARM Glossary](#).

# Chapter 1

## Overview of the Compiler

Gives an overview of the ARM compiler, the languages and extensions it supports, and the provided libraries.

It contains the following sections:

- [1.1 The compiler on page 1-30.](#)
- [1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)
- [1.3 Language extensions on page 1-33.](#)
- [1.4 Language compliance on page 1-34.](#)
- [1.5 The C and C++ libraries on page 1-35.](#)

## 1.1 The compiler

The compiler, `armcc`, is an optimizing C and C++ compiler that compiles Standard C and Standard C++ source code into machine code for ARM architecture-based processors.

Command-line options enable you to control the level of optimization.

The compiler compiles the following different varieties of C and C++ source code into ARM and Thumb® code:

- ISO Standard C:1990 source.
- ISO Standard C:1999 source.
- ISO Standard C++:2003 source.
- ISO Standard C++:2011 source.

Publications on the C and C++ standards are available from national standards bodies. For example, AFNOR in France and ANSI in the USA.

The compiler also provides a vectorization mode for ARM processors that have NEON™ technology, enabling use of the ARM Advanced *Single Instruction Multiple Data* (SIMD) extension. Vectorization involves the compiler generating NEON vector instructions directly from C or C++ code.

`armcc` complies with the *Base Standard Application Binary Interface for the ARM Architecture* (BSABI). In particular, the compiler:

- Generates output objects in ELF format.
- Generates *Debug With Arbitrary Record Format* Debugging Standard Version 3 (DWARF 3) debug information and contains support for DWARF 2 debug tables.
- Uses the *Edison Design Group* (EDG) front end.

Many features of the compiler are designed to take advantage of the target processor or architecture that your code is designed to run on, so knowledge of your target processor or architecture is useful, and in some cases, essential, when working with the compiler.

---

### Note

Be aware of the following:

- Generated code might be different between two ARM® Compiler releases.
- For a feature release, there might be significant code generation differences.

---

### Note

The command-line option descriptions and related information in the individual ARM Compiler tools documents describe all the features supported by ARM Compiler. Any features not documented are not supported and are used at your own risk. You are responsible for making sure that any generated code using unsupported features is operating correctly.

### Related concepts

[3.1 NEON technology on page 3-72.](#)

### Related information

[The DWARF Debugging Standard, http://dwarfstd.org/.](http://dwarfstd.org/)

[Application Binary Interface \(ABI\) for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 1.2 Source language modes of the compiler

The compiler can compile different varieties of C and C++ source code.

### ISO C90

The compiler compiles C as defined by the 1990 C standard and addenda.

- ISO/IEC 9899:1990. The 1990 International Standard for C.
- ISO/IEC 9899 AM1. The 1995 Normative Addendum 1, adding international character support through `wchar.h` and `wtype.h`.

### ISO C99

The compiler compiles C as defined by the 1999 C standard and addenda:

- ISO/IEC 9899:1999. The 1999 International Standard for C.
- ISO/IEC 9899:1999/Cor 2:2004. Technical Corrigendum 2.

### ISO C++03

The compiler compiles C++ as defined by the 2003 standard, excepting wide streams and export templates:

- ISO/IEC 14882:2003. The 2003 International Standard for C++.

### ISO C++11

The compiler compiles supported features of C++11 as defined by the 2011 standard.

- ISO/IEC 14882:2011. The 2011 International Standard for C++.

The compiler provides support for numerous extensions to the C and C++ languages. For example, it supports some GNU compiler extensions. The compiler has several modes in which compliance with a source language is either enforced or relaxed:

#### Strict mode

In strict mode the compiler enforces compliance with the language standard relevant to the source language.

To compile in strict mode, use the command-line option `--strict`.

#### GNU mode

In GNU mode all the GNU compiler extensions to the relevant source language are available.

To compile in GNU mode, use the compiler option `--gnu`.

Throughout this document, the term:

#### C90

Means ISO C90, together with the ARM extensions.

Use the compiler option `--c90` to compile C90 code. This is the default.

#### Strict C90

Means C as defined by the 1990 C standard and addenda.

Use the compiler options `--C90 --strict` to enforce strict C90 code. Because C90 is the default, you could omit `--C90`.

#### C99

Means ISO C99, together with the ARM and GNU extensions.

Use the compiler option `--c99` to compile C99 code.

#### Strict C99

Means C as defined by the 1999 C standard and addenda.

Use the compiler options `--c99 --strict` to compile strict C99 code.

## Standard C

Means C90 or C99 as appropriate.

## C

Means any of C90, strict C90, C99, strict C99, and Standard C.

## C++03

Means ISO C++03, excepting wide streams and export templates, either with or without the ARM extensions.

Use the compiler option `--cpp` to compile C++03 code.

Use the compiler options `--cpp` `--cpp_compat` to maximize binary compatibility with C++03 code compiled using older compiler versions.

## strict C++03

Means ISO C++03, excepting wide streams and export templates.

Use the compiler options `--cpp` `--strict` to compile strict C++03 code.

## C++11

Means ISO C++11, excepting wide streams and export templates, either with or without the ARM extensions.

Use the compiler option `--cpp11` to compile C++11 code.

Use the compiler options `--cpp11` `--cpp_compat` to compile a subset of C++11 code that maximizes compatibility with code compiled to the C++ 2003 standard.

## strict C++11

Means ISO C++11, excepting wide streams and export templates.

Use the compiler options `--cpp11` `--strict` to compile strict C++11 code.

## Standard C++

Means strict C++03 or strict C++11 as appropriate.

## C++

Means any of C++03, strict C++03, C++11, strict C++11.

## Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

[5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99](#) on page 5-239.

## Related references

[1.3 Language extensions](#) on page 1-33.

[1.4 Language compliance](#) on page 1-34.

[1.3 Language extensions](#) on page 1-33.

[1.4 Language compliance](#) on page 1-34.

[15.1 Implementation definition](#) on page 15-898.

[16.4 Standard C++ library implementation definition](#) on page 16-922.

[8.23 --c90](#) on page 8-352.

[8.24 --c99](#) on page 8-353.

[8.92 --gnu](#) on page 8-430.

[8.37 --cpp](#) on page 8-367.

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict](#) on page 8-519.

[8.38 --cpp11](#) on page 8-368.

[8.39 --cpp\\_compat](#) on page 8-369.



## 1.3 Language extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to its various source languages.

These language extensions are categorized as follows:

### C99 features

The compiler makes some language features of C99 available:

- As extensions to strict C90, for example, `//`-style comments.
- As extensions to both Standard C++ and strict C90, for example, **restrict** pointers.

### Standard C extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to strict C99, for example, function prototypes that override old-style nonprototype definitions.

These extensions to Standard C are also available in C90.

### Standard C++ extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to strict C++, for example, qualified names in the declaration of class members.

These extensions are not available in either Standard C or C90.

### Standard C and Standard C++ extensions

The compiler supports some extensions specific to strict C++ and strict C90, for example, anonymous classes, structures, and unions.

### GNU extensions

The compiler supports some GNU extensions.

### ARM-specific extensions

The compiler supports a range of extensions specific to the ARM compiler, for example, instruction intrinsics and other built-in functions.

### Related references

- [9.6 C99 language features available in C90 on page 9-563.](#)
- [9.10 C99 language features available in C++ and C90 on page 9-567.](#)
- [9.15 Standard C language extensions on page 9-572.](#)
- [9.24 Standard C++ language extensions on page 9-581.](#)
- [9.32 Standard C and Standard C++ language extensions on page 9-589.](#)
- [1.4 Language compliance on page 1-34.](#)
- [9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.](#)

## 1.4 Language compliance

The compiler provides several command-line options for either enforcing or relaxing compliance with the available source languages.

### Strict mode

In strict mode the compiler enforces compliance with the language standard relevant to the source language. For example, the use of `//`-style comments results in an error when compiling strict C90.

To compile in strict mode, use the command-line option `--strict`.

### GNU mode

In GNU mode all the GNU compiler extensions to the relevant source language are available. For example, in GNU mode:

- Case ranges in **switch** statements are available when the source language is any of C90, C99 or nonstrict C++.
- C99-style designated initializers are available when the source language is either C90 or nonstrict C++.

To compile in GNU mode, use the compiler option `--gnu`.

---

#### **Note**

Some GNU extensions are also available when you are in a nonstrict mode.

---

### Examples

The following examples illustrate combining source language modes with language compliance modes:

- Compiling a `.cpp` file with the command-line option `--strict` compiles Standard C++03.
- Compiling a C source file with the command-line option `--gnu` compiles GNU mode C90.
- Compiling a `.c` file with the command-line options `--strict` and `--gnu` is an error.

### Related references

[8.92 `--gnu` on page 8-430.](#)

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)

[9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

## 1.5 The C and C++ libraries

ARM provides a number of runtime C and C++ libraries, including the ARM C libraries, the Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library, and ARM C libraries.

The following runtime C and C++ libraries are provided:

### The ARM C libraries

The ARM C libraries provide standard C functions, and helper functions used by the C and C++ libraries. The C libraries also provide target-dependent functions that implement the standard C library functions such as `printf()` in a semihosted environment. The C libraries are structured so that you can redefine target-dependent functions in your own code to remove semihosting dependencies.

The ARM libraries comply with:

- The *C Library ABI for the ARM Architecture* (CLIBABI).
- The *C++ ABI for the ARM Architecture* (CPPABI).

### Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library

The Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library, as supplied by Rogue Wave Software, Inc., provides Standard C++ functions and objects such as `cout`. It includes data structures and algorithms known as the *Standard Template Library* (STL). The C++ libraries use the C libraries to provide target-specific support. The Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library is provided with C++ exceptions enabled.

For more information on the Rogue Wave libraries, see the Rogue Wave HTML documentation. These manuals might be installed with the documentation of your ARM product. If they are not installed, you can view them at [Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library Documentation](#)

### Support libraries

The ARM C libraries provide additional components to enable support for C++ and to compile code for different architectures and processors.

The C and C++ libraries are provided as binaries only. There is a variant of the 1990 ISO Standard C library for each combination of major build options, such as the byte order of the target system, whether interworking is selected, and whether floating-point support is selected.

### Related information

[Compliance with the Application Binary Interface \(ABI\) for the ARM architecture.](#)

[The ARM C and C++ Libraries.](#)

[ARM DS-5 License Management Guide.](#)

[Application Binary Interface \(ABI\) for the ARM Architecture.](#)

# Chapter 2

## Getting Started with the Compiler

Introduces some of the more common ARM compiler command-line options.

It contains the following sections:

- *2.1 Compiler command-line syntax on page 2-38.*
- *2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.*
- *2.3 Default compiler behavior on page 2-45.*
- *2.4 Order of compiler command-line options on page 2-46.*
- *2.5 Using stdin to input source code to the compiler on page 2-47.*
- *2.6 Directing output to stdout on page 2-49.*
- *2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.*
- *2.8 Compiler output files on page 2-52.*
- *2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.*
- *2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.*
- *2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place on page 2-55.*
- *2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable on page 2-56.*
- *2.13 Code compatibility between separately compiled and assembled modules on page 2-57.*
- *2.14 Using GCC fallback when building applications on page 2-58.*
- *2.15 Linker feedback during compilation on page 2-60.*
- *2.16 Unused function code on page 2-61.*
- *2.17 Minimizing code size by eliminating unused functions during compilation on page 2-62.*
- *2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.*
- *2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.*
- *2.20 Minimizing compilation build time with a single armcc invocation on page 2-66.*

- *2.21 Effect of --multifile on compilation build time on page 2-67.*
- *2.22 Minimizing compilation build time with parallel make on page 2-68.*
- *2.23 Compilation build time and operating system choice on page 2-69.*

## 2.1 Compiler command-line syntax

Use the `armcc` command from the command-line to invoke the compiler. Specify the source files you want to compile, together with any options you need to control compiler behavior.

The command for invoking the compiler is:

```
armcc [options] [source]
```

where:

*options*

are compiler command-line options that affect the behavior of the compiler.

*source*

provides the filenames of one or more text files containing C or C++ source code. By default, the compiler looks for source files and creates output files in the current directory.

If a source file is an assembly file, that is, one with an extension of `.s`, the compiler activates the ARM assembler to process the source file.

When you invoke the compiler, you normally specify one or more source files. However, a minority of compiler command-line options do not require you to specify a source file. For example, `armcc --version_number`.

The compiler accepts one or more input files, for example:

```
armcc -c [options] input_file_1 ... input_file_n
```

Specifying a dash `-` for an input file causes the compiler to read from `stdin`. To specify that all subsequent arguments are treated as filenames, not as command switches, use the POSIX option `--`.

The `-c` option instructs the compiler to perform the compilation step, but not the link step.

### Related concepts

[2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.](#)

### Related references

[8.21 `-c` on page 8-350.](#)

### Related information

[Rules for specifying command-line options.](#)

[Toolchain environment variables.](#)

## 2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group

This topic lists the compiler command-line options, ordered by functional group.

---

### Note

The following characters are interchangeable:

- Nonprefix hyphens and underscores. For example, `--version_number` and `--version-number`.
- Equals signs and spaces. For example, `armcc --cpu=list` and `armcc --cpu list`.

This applies to all tools provided with the compiler.

---

The compiler command-line options are as follows:

### Help

- `--echo`
- `--help`
- `--show_cmdline`
- `--version_number`
- `--vsn`

### Source languages

- `--c90`
- `--c99`
- `--compile_all_input`, `--no_compile_all_input`
- `--cpp`
- `--cpp11`
- `--cpp_compat`
- `--gnu`
- `--strict`, `--no_strict`
- `--strict_warnings`

### Search paths

- `-Idir[,dir,...]`
- `-Jdir[,dir,...]`
- `--kandr_include`
- `--preinclude=filename`
- `--reduce_paths`, `--no_reduce_paths`
- `--sys_include`
- `--ignore_missing_headers`

### Precompiled headers

- `--create_pch=filename`
- `--pch`
- `--pch_dir=dir`
- `--pch_messages`, `--no_pch_messages`
- `--pch_verbose`, `--no_pch_verbose`
- `--use_pch=filename`

## Preprocessor

- -C
- --code\_gen, --no\_code\_gen
- -Dname[(parm-list)][=def]
- -E
- -M
- --old\_style\_preprocessing
- -P
- --preprocess\_assembly
- --preprocessed
- -Uname

## C++

- --allow\_null\_this
- --anachronisms, --no\_anachronisms
- --dep\_name, --no\_dep\_name
- --export\_all\_vtbl, --no\_export\_all\_vtbl
- --force\_new\_nothrow, --no\_force\_new\_nothrow
- --friend\_injection, --no\_friend\_injection
- --guiding\_decls, --no\_guiding\_decls
- --implicit\_include, --no\_implicit\_include
- --implicit\_include\_searches, --no\_implicit\_include\_searches
- --implicit\_typename, --no\_implicit\_typename
- --nonstd\_qualifier\_deduction, --no\_nonstd\_qualifier\_deduction
- --old\_specializations, --no\_old\_specializations
- --parse\_templates, --no\_parse\_templates
- --pending\_instantiations=n
- --rtti, --no\_rtti
- --rtti\_data
- --type\_traits\_helpers
- --using\_std, --no\_using\_std
- --vfe, --no\_vfe



## Output format

- `--asm`
- `--asm_dir`
- `-c`
- `--default_extension=ext`
- `--depend=filename`
- `--depend_dir`
- `--depend_format=string`
- `--depend_single_line`
- `--depend_system_headers, --no_depend_system_headers`
- `--depend_target`
- `--errors`
- `--info=totals`
- `--interleave`
- `--list`
- `--list_dir`
- `--list_macros`
- `--md`
- `--mm`
- `-o filename`
- `--output_dir`
- `--phony_targets`
- `-S`
- `--split_sections`

## Target architectures and processors

- `--arm`
- `--arm_only`
- `--compatible=name`
- `--cpu=list`
- `--cpu=name`
- `--fpu=list`
- `--fpu=name`
- `--thumb`
- `--device=name`

## Floating-point support

- `--fp16_format=format`
- `--fpmode=model`
- `--fpu=list`
- `--fpu=name`

## Debug

- `--debug, --no_debug`
- `--debug_macros, --no_debug_macros`
- `--dwarf2`
- `--dwarf3`
- `-g`
- `--remove_unneeded_entities, --no_remove_unneeded_entities`
- `--emit_frame_directives`

## Code generation

- `--allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata, --no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata`
- `--alternative_tokens, --no_alternative_tokens`
- `--bigend`
- `--bitband`
- `--branch_tables`
- `--bss_threshold=num`
- `--conditionalize, --no_conditionalize`
- `--default_definition_visibility`
- `--dllexport_all, --no_dllexport_all`
- `--dllimport_runtime, --no_dllimport_runtime`
- `--dollar, --no_dollar`
- `--enum_is_int`
- `--exceptions, --no_exceptions`
- `--exceptions_unwind, --no_exceptions_unwind`
- `--execute_only`
- `--float_literal_pools`
- `--export_all_vtbl, --no_export_all_vtbl`
- `--export_defs_implicitly, --no_export_defs_implicitly`
- `--extended_initializers, --no_extended_initializers`
- `--global_reg`
- `--gnu_defaults`
- `--gnu_instrument`
- `--gnu_version`
- `--hide_all, --no_hide_all`
- `--implicit_key_function`
- `--import_all_vtbl`
- `--integer_literal_pools`
- `--interface_enums_are_32_bit`
- `--littleend`
- `--locale=lang_country`
- `--long_long`
- `--loose_implicit_cast`
- `--message_locale=lang_country[.codepage]`
- `--min_array_alignment=opt`
- `--multibyte_chars, --no_multibyte_chars`
- `--multiply_latency`
- `--narrow_volatile_bitfields`
- `--pointer_alignment=num`
- `--protect_stack, --no_protect_stack`
- `--restrict, --no_restrict`
- `--relaxed_ref_def`
- `--share_inlineable_strings`
- `--signed_bitfields, --unsigned_bitfields`
- `--signed_chars, --unsigned_chars`
- `--split_ldm`
- `--string_literal_pools`
- `--trigraphs`
- `--unaligned_access, --no_unaligned_access`

- `--use_frame_pointer`
- `--vectorize, --no_vectorize`
- `--visibility_inlines_hidden`
- `--vla, --no_vla`
- `--wchar`
- `--wchar16`
- `--wchar32`

### Optimization

- `--autoinline, --no_autoinline`
- `--data_reorder, --no_data_reorder`
- `--forceinline`
- `--fpmode=model`
- `--inline, --no_inline`
- `--library_interface=lib`
- `--library_type=lib`
- `--loop_optimization_level=opt`
- `--lower_ropi, --no_lower_ropi`
- `--lower_rwpi, --no_lower_rwpi`
- `--multifile, --no_multifile`
- `-Onum`
- `-Ospace`
- `-Otime`
- `--reassociate_saturation`
- `--retain=option`
- `--whole_program`

---

#### Note

Optimization options can limit the debug information generated by the compiler.

---

### Diagnostics

- `--brief_diagnostics, --no_brief_diagnostics`
- `--diag_error=tag[,tag,...]`
- `--diag_remark=tag[,tag,...]`
- `--diag_style={arm|ide|gnu}`
- `--diag_suppress=tag[,tag,...]`
- `--diag_suppress=optimizations`
- `--diag_warning=tag[,tag,...]`
- `--diag_warning=optimizations`
- `--errors=filename`
- `--link_all_input`
- `--remarks`
- `-W`
- `--wrap_diagnostics, --no_wrap_diagnostics`

### Command-line options in a text file

- `--via=filename`

### Linker feedback

- `--feedback=filename`

### Procedure call standard

- `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier`

### Licensing

- `--licretry`

### Passing options to other tools

- `-Aopt`
- `-Lopt`

### ARM Linux

- `--arm_linux`
- `--arm_linux_configure`
- `--arm_linux_config_file=path`
- `--arm_linux_paths`
- `--configure_gas`
- `--configure_gcc=path`
- `--configure_gcc_version`
- `--configure_gld=path`
- `--configure_sysroot=path`
- `--configure_cpp_headers=path`
- `--configure_extra_includes=paths`
- `--configure_extra_libraries=paths`
- `--execstack`
- `--shared`
- `--translate_g++`
- `--translate_gcc`
- `--translate_gld`
- `--use_gas`
- `-Warmcc,option[,option,...]`
- `-Warmcc,--gcc_fallback`

### Related concepts

[2.4 Order of compiler command-line options](#) on page 2-46.

### Related references

[8 Compiler Command-line Options](#) on page 8-317.

## 2.3 Default compiler behavior

By default, the compiler determines the source language by examining the source filename extension. For example, `filename.c` indicates C, while `filename.cpp` indicates C++03, although the command-line options `--c90`, `--c99`, `--cpp`, and `--cpp11` let you override this.

The default compiler target instruction set depends on the target processor (`--cpu=name`):

- For processors that support ARM instructions, the default instruction set is ARM. Use the `--thumb` command-line option to specify Thumb®.
- For processors that do not support ARM instructions, the default instruction set is Thumb.

When you compile multiple files with a single command, all files must be of the same type, either C or C++. The compiler cannot switch the language based on the file extension. The following example produces an error because the specified source files have different languages:

```
armcc -c test1.c test2.cpp
```

If you specify files with conflicting file extensions you can force the compiler to compile both files for C or for C++, regardless of file extension. For example:

```
armcc -c --cpp test1.c test2.cpp
```

Where an unrecognized extension begins with `.c`, for example, `filename.cmd`, an error message is generated.

Support for processing *Precompiled Header* (PCH) files is not available when you specify multiple source files in a single compilation. If you request PCH processing and specify more than one primary source file, the compiler issues an error message, and aborts the compilation.

### ———— Note ————

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

`armcc` can in turn invoke `armasm` and `armlink`. For example, if your source code contains embedded assembly code, `armasm` is called. `armcc` searches for the `armasm` and `armlink` binaries in the following locations, in this order:

1. The same location as `armcc`.
2. The PATH locations.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [2.4 Order of compiler command-line options on page 2-46.](#)
- [2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)
- [2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place on page 2-55.](#)
- [2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable on page 2-56.](#)
- [2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.](#)
- [2.1 Compiler command-line syntax on page 2-38.](#)

### Related tasks

- [2.5 Using stdin to input source code to the compiler on page 2-47.](#)

### Related references

- [2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)
- [2.8 Compiler output files on page 2-52.](#)

## 2.4 Order of compiler command-line options

In general, compiler command-line options can appear in any order in a single compiler invocation. However, the effects of some options depend on the order they appear in the command line and how they are combined with other related options.

The compiler enables you to use multiple options even where these might conflict. This means that you can append new options to an existing command line, for example, in a makefile or a via file.

Where options override previous options on the same command line, the last option specified always takes precedence. For example:

```
armcc -O1 -O2 -Ospace -Otime ...
```

is executed by the compiler as:

```
armcc -O2 -Otime
```

You can use the environment variable `ARMCC5_CCOPT` to specify compiler command-line options. Options specified on the command line take precedence over options specified in the environment variable.

To see how the compiler has processed the command line, use the `--show_cmdline` option. This shows nondefault options that the compiler used. The contents of any via files are expanded. In the example used here, although the compiler executes `armcc -O2 -Otime`, the output from `--show_cmdline` does not include `-O2`. This is because `-O2` is the default optimization level, and `--show_cmdline` does not show options that apply by default.

### Related concepts

[2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.](#)

## 2.5 Using stdin to input source code to the compiler

Instead of creating a file for your source code, you can use `stdin` to input source code directly on the command line.

This is useful if you want to test a short piece of code without having to create a file for it.

### Procedure

1. Invoke the compiler with the command-line options you want to use. The default compiler mode is C. Use the minus character (-) as the source filename to instruct the compiler to take input from `stdin`. For example:

```
armcc --bigend -c -
```

If you want an object file to be written, use the `-o` option. If you want preprocessor output to be sent to the output stream, use the `-E` option. If you want the output to be sent to `stdout`, use the `-o-` option. If you want an assembly listing of the keyboard input to be sent to the output stream after input has been terminated, use none of these options.

2. You cannot input on the same line after the minus character. You must press the return key if you have not already done so.

The command prompt waits for you to enter more input.

3. Enter your input. For example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{ printf("Hello world\n"); }
```

4. Terminate your input by entering:

- Ctrl+Z then Return on Microsoft Windows systems.
- Ctrl+D on Red Hat Linux systems.

An assembly listing for the keyboard input is sent to the output stream after input has been terminated if both the following are true:

- No output file is specified.
- No preprocessor-only option is specified, for example `-E`.

Otherwise, an object file is created or preprocessor output is sent to the standard output stream, depending on whether you used the `-o` option or the `-E` option.

The compiler accepts source code from the standard input stream in combination with other files, when performing a link step. For example, the following are permitted:

- `armcc -o output.axf - object.o mylibrary.a`
- `armcc -o output.axf --c90 source.c -`

Executing the following command compiles the source code you provide on standard input, and links it into `test.axf`:

```
armcc -o test.axf -
```

You can only combine standard input with other source files when you are linking code. If you attempt to combine standard input with other source files when not linking, the compiler generates an error.

### Related concepts

[2.1 Compiler command-line syntax on page 2-38.](#)

[2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.](#)

## Related information

*Rules for specifying command-line options.*

*Toolchain environment variables.*



## 2.6 Directing output to stdout

If you want output to be sent to the standard output stream, use the `-o-` option.

For example:

```
armcc -c -o- hello.c
```

This outputs an assembly listing of the source code to `stdout`.

To send preprocessor output to `stdout`, use the `-E` option.

### Related concepts

[2.1 Compiler command-line syntax on page 2-38.](#)

[2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.](#)

### Related information

[Rules for specifying command-line options.](#)

[Toolchain environment variables.](#)

## 2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler

The compiler uses filename suffixes to identify the classes of file involved in compilation and in the link stage.

The filename suffixes recognized by the compiler are described in the following table.

———— **Note** —————

Explicitly specifying `--c90`, `--c99`, `--cpp`, or `--cpp11` overrides the effect of filename suffixes.

**Table 2-1 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler**

Suffix	Description	Usage notes
<code>.c</code>	C source file	Implies <code>--c90</code>
<code>.C</code>	C or C++ source file	On UNIX platforms, implies <code>--cpp</code> . On non-UNIX platforms, implies <code>--c90</code> .
<code>.cpp</code>	C++ source file	Implies <code>--cpp</code>
<code>.c++</code>		The compiler uses the suffixes <code>.cc</code> and <code>.CC</code> to identify files for implicit inclusion.
<code>.cxx</code>		
<code>.cc</code>		
<code>.CC</code>		
<code>.d</code>	Dependency list file	<code>.d</code> is the default output filename suffix for files output using the <code>--md</code> option.
<code>.h</code>	C or C++ header file	-
<code>.i</code>	C or C++ source file	A C or C++ file that has already been preprocessed, and is to be compiled without additional preprocessing.
<code>.ii</code>	C++ source file	A C++ file that has already been preprocessed, and is to be compiled without additional preprocessing.
<code>.lst</code>	Error and warning list file	<code>.lst</code> is the default output filename suffix for files output using the <code>--list</code> option.
<code>.a</code> <code>.lib</code> <code>.o</code> <code>.obj</code> <code>.so</code>	ARM, Thumb, or mixed ARM and Thumb object file or library.	-
<code>.pch</code>	Precompiled header file	<p><code>.pch</code> is the default output filename suffix for files output using the <code>--pch</code> option.</p> <p>———— <b>Note</b> —————</p> <p>Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.</p>

**Table 2-1 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler (continued)**

Suffix	Description	Usage notes
<code>.s</code>	ARM, Thumb, or mixed ARM and Thumb assembly language source file.	For files in the input file list suffixed with <code>.s</code> , the compiler invokes the assembler, <code>armasm</code> , to assemble the file.  <code>.s</code> is the default output filename suffix for files output using either the option <code>-S</code> or <code>--asm</code> .
<code>.S</code>	ARM, Thumb, or mixed ARM and Thumb assembly language source file.	On UNIX platforms, for files in the input file list suffixed with <code>.S</code> , the compiler preprocesses the assembly source prior to passing that source to the assembler.  On non-UNIX platforms, <code>.S</code> is equivalent to <code>.s</code> . That is, preprocessing is not performed.
<code>.sx</code>	ARM, Thumb, or mixed ARM and Thumb assembly language source file.	For files in the input file list suffixed with <code>.sx</code> , the compiler preprocesses the assembly source prior to passing that source to the assembler.
<code>.txt</code>	Text file	<code>.txt</code> is the default output filename suffix for files output using the <code>-S</code> or <code>--asm</code> option in combination with the <code>--interleave</code> option.

#### Related references

[8.7 `--arm` on page 8-332.](#)  
[8.110 `--interleave` on page 8-448.](#)  
[8.118 `--list` on page 8-457.](#)  
[8.129 `--md` on page 8-469.](#)  
[8.147 `--pch` on page 8-490.](#)  
[8.167 `-S` on page 8-510.](#)  
[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)  
[8.23 `--c90` on page 8-352.](#)  
[8.24 `--c99` on page 8-353.](#)  
[8.92 `--gnu` on page 8-430.](#)  
[8.37 `--cpp` on page 8-367.](#)  
[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)  
[8.38 `--cpp11` on page 8-368.](#)  
[8.39 `--cpp\_compat` on page 8-369.](#)  
[8.27 `--compile\_all\_input`, `--no\_compile\_all\_input` on page 8-357.](#)

## 2.8 Compiler output files

By default, output files created by the compiler are located in the current directory. Object files are written in ARM ELF.

### Related information

*[ELF for the ARM Architecture.](#)*

## 2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files

Several factors influence how the compiler searches for `#include` header files and source files.

- The value of the environment variable `ARMCC5INC`.
- The value of the environment variable `ARMINC`.
- The `-I` and `-J` compiler options.
- The `--kandr_include` and `--sys_include` compiler options.
- Whether the filename is an absolute filename or a relative filename.
- Whether the filename is between angle brackets or double quotes.

### Related concepts

[2.12 The `ARMCC5INC` environment variable on page 2-56.](#)

[2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place on page 2-55.](#)

### Related references

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

[8.99 `-Idir\[,dir,...\]` on page 8-437.](#)

[8.111 `-Jdir\[,dir,...\]` on page 8-449.](#)

[8.112 `--kandr\_include` on page 8-450.](#)

[8.178 `--sys\_include` on page 8-524.](#)

### Related information

[Toolchain environment variables.](#)

## 2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths

The following table shows how the specified compiler command-line options affect the search path used by the compiler when it searches for header and source files.

**Table 2-2 Include file search paths**

Compiler option	<include> search order	"include" search order
Neither - <i>Idir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...] nor - <i>Jdir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ARMCC5INC</li> <li>2. ARMINC</li> <li>3. ../include</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <a href="#">current place page 2-55</a>.</li> <li>2. ARMCC5INC</li> <li>3. ARMINC</li> <li>4. ../include</li> </ol>
- <i>Idir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ARMCC5INC</li> <li>2. ARMINC</li> <li>3. ../include</li> <li>4. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Idir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...] .</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <a href="#">current place page 2-55</a>.</li> <li>2. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Idir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> <li>3. ARMCC5INC</li> <li>4. ARMINC</li> <li>5. ../include</li> </ol>
- <i>Jdir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...]	The directory or directories specified by - <i>Jdir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...].	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <a href="#">current place page 2-55</a>.</li> <li>2. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Jdir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> </ol>
Both - <i>Idir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...] and - <i>Jdir</i> [, <i>dir</i> ,...]	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Jdir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> <li>2. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Idir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The <a href="#">current place page 2-55</a>.</li> <li>2. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Idir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> <li>3. The directory or directories specified by -<i>Jdir</i>[,<i>dir</i>,...].</li> </ol>
--sys_include	No effect.	Removes the <a href="#">current place page 2-55</a> from the search path.
--kandr_include	No effect.	Uses Kernighan and Ritchie search rules.

### Related concepts

- [2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable on page 2-56.](#)
- [2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place on page 2-55.](#)
- [2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

- [8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-437.](#)
- [8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-449.](#)
- [8.112 --kandr\\_include on page 8-450.](#)
- [8.178 --sys\\_include on page 8-524.](#)

## 2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place

By default, the compiler uses Berkeley UNIX search rules, so source files and `#include` header files are searched for relative to the *current place*. The current place is the directory containing the source or header file currently being processed by the compiler.

When a file is found relative to an element of the search path, the directory containing that file becomes the new current place. When the compiler has finished processing that file, it restores the previous current place. At each instant there is a stack of current places corresponding to the stack of nested `#include` directives. For example, if the current place is the include directory `... \include`, and the compiler is seeking the include file `sys\defs.h`, it locates `... \include\sys\defs.h` if it exists. When the compiler begins to process `defs.h`, the current place becomes `... \include\sys`. Any file included by `defs.h` that is not specified with an absolute path name, is searched for relative to `... \include\sys`.

The original current place `... \include` is restored only when the compiler has finished processing `defs.h`.

You can disable the stacking of current places by using the compiler option `--kandr_include`. This option makes the compiler use Kernighan and Ritchie search rules whereby each nonrooted user `#include` is searched for relative to the directory containing the source file that is being compiled.

### Related concepts

[2.12 The `ARMCC5INC` environment variable on page 2-56.](#)

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

[8.99 `-Idir\[dir,...\]` on page 8-437.](#)

[8.111 `-Jdir\[dir,...\]` on page 8-449.](#)

[8.112 `--kandr\_include` on page 8-450.](#)

[8.178 `--sys\_include` on page 8-524.](#)

## 2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable

The ARMCC5INC environment variable points to the location of the included header and source files that are provided with the compilation tools.

This variable might be initialized with the correct path to the header files when the ARM compilation tools are installed or when configured with server modules. You can change this variable, but you must ensure that any changes you make do not break the installation.

The list of directories specified by the ARMCC5INC environment variable is colon separated on UNIX and semi-colon separated on Windows, following the convention for the platform you are running on.

If you want to include files from other locations, use the `-I` and `-J` command-line options as required.

When compiling, directories specified with ARMCC5INC are searched immediately after directories specified by the `-I` option have been searched, for user include files.

If you use the `-J` option, ARMCC5INC is ignored.

### Related concepts

[2.11 Compiler search rules and the current place on page 2-55.](#)

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

[8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-437.](#)

[8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-449.](#)

[8.112 --kandr\\_include on page 8-450.](#)

[8.178 --sys\\_include on page 8-524.](#)

### Related information

[Toolchain environment variables.](#)



## 2.13 Code compatibility between separately compiled and assembled modules

By writing code that adheres to the ARM Architecture Procedure Call Standard (AAPCS), you can ensure that separately compiled and assembled modules can work together.

The AAPCS forms part of the *Base Standard Application Binary Interface for the ARM Architecture* specification.

Interworking qualifiers associated with the `--apcs` compiler command-line option control interworking. Position independence qualifiers, also associated with the `--apcs` compiler command-line option, control position independence, and affect the creation of reentrant and thread-safe code.

---

**Note**

This does not mean that you must use the same `--apcs` command-line options to get your modules to work together. You must be familiar with the AAPCS.

---

### Related references

[8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier` on page 8-327.](#)

### Related information

[Interworking ARM and Thumb.](#)

[BPABI and SysV Shared Libraries and Executables.](#)

[ARM C libraries and multithreading.](#)

[Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 2.14 Using GCC fallback when building applications

When building applications developed to build with GCC, there might be cases when the ARM Compiler toolchain cannot complete the build successfully, because of unsupported GCC-specific functionality. For such cases, GCC fallback can invoke the GCC toolchain to complete the build.

GCC fallback supports the CodeSourcery 2010Q1 GNU toolchain release.

You cannot use GCC fallback to build the Linux kernel, only user applications.

To specify GCC fallback, include the compiler options `-warmcc` and `--gcc_fallback`. GCC is invoked with the same GCC-style command-line options that are given to `armcc`. Therefore, GCC fallback has the same effect as the following shell script:

```
armcc $myflags
if found-gcc-specific-coding; then
    gcc $myflags
endif
```

The whole build is still driven by the build script, makefile, or other infrastructure you are using, and that does not change. For example, a single compile step might fail when `armcc` tries to compile that step. `armcc` then attempts to perform that single compile step with `gcc`. If a link step fails, `armcc` attempts to perform the link with the GCC toolchain, using GNU `ld`. When `armcc` performs a compile or link step, the include paths, library paths, and Linux libraries it uses are identified in the ARM Linux configuration file. For fallback, you must either:

- Use the `--arm_linux_config_file` compiler option to produce the configuration file by configuring `armcc` against an existing `gcc`.
- Provide an explicit path to `gcc` if you are specifying other configuration options manually.

The GCC toolchain used for fallback is the one that the configuration was created against. Therefore, the paths and libraries used by `armcc` and `gcc` must be equivalent.

If GCC fallback is invoked by `armcc`, a warning message is displayed. If `gcc` also fails, an additional error is displayed, otherwise you get a message indicating that `gcc` succeeded. You also see the original error messages from `armcc` to inform you of the source file or files that failed to compile, and the cause of the problem.

### ———— Note ————

- There is no change to what the ARM Compiler tools link with when using GCC fallback. That is, the tools only link with whatever `gcc` links with, as identified in the configuration file generated with the `--arm_linux_config_file` compiler option. Therefore, it is your responsibility to ensure that licenses are adhered to, and in particular to check what you are linking with. You might have to explicitly override this if necessary. To do this, include the GNU options `-nostdinc`, `-nodefaultlibs`, and `-nostdlib` on the `armcc` command line.
- `armcc` invokes the GNU tools in a separate process.
- `armcc` does not optimize any code in any GCC intermediate representations.

To see the commands that are invoked during GCC fallback, specify the `-warmcc`, `--echo` command-line option.

The following figure shows a high-level view of the GCC fallback process:

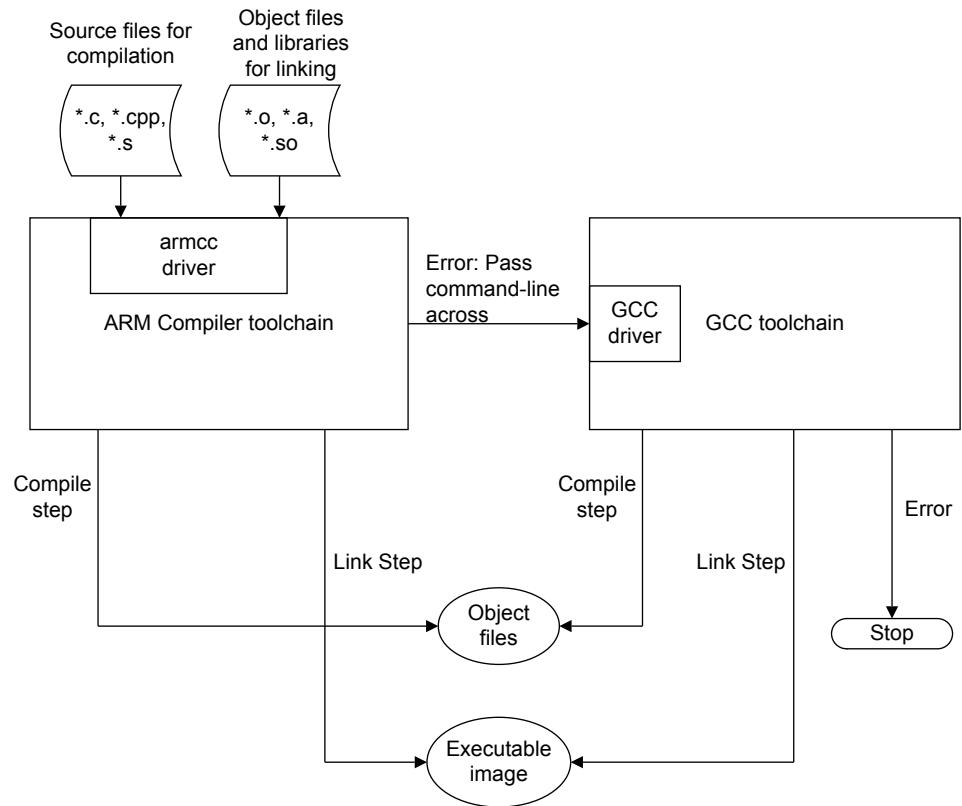


Figure 2-1 GCC fallback process diagram

#### Related references

- 8.9 `--arm_linux_config_file=path` on page 8-335.
- 8.10 `--arm_linux_configure` on page 8-336.
- 8.70 `--echo` on page 8-405.
- 8.199 `-Warmcc,option[,option,...]` on page 8-549.
- 8.200 `-Warmcc,--gcc_fallback` on page 8-550.

#### Related information

GNU Compiler Collection, <http://gcc.gnu.org>.

## 2.15 Linker feedback during compilation

The compiler can use feedback files produced by the linker to optimize code generation.

Feedback from the linker to the compiler enables:

- Efficient elimination of unused functions.
- Reduction of compilation required for interworking.

### Related concepts

[2.16 Unused function code on page 2-61.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.17 Minimizing code size by eliminating unused functions during compilation on page 2-62.](#)

## 2.16 Unused function code

Unused function code can unnecessarily increase code size. Feedback from the linker to the compiler can remove unused function code, minimizing code size.

Unused function code might occur in the following situations.

- Where you have legacy functions that are no longer used in your source code. Rather than manually remove the unused function code from your source code, you can use linker feedback to remove the unused object code automatically from the final image.
- Where a function is inlined. Where an inlined function is not declared as **static**, the out-of-line function code is still present in the object file, but there is no longer a call to that code.

In addition, the linker can detect when an ARM function is being called from a Thumb state, and when a Thumb function is being called from an ARM state. You can use feedback from the linker to avoid compiling functions for interworking that are never used in an interworking context.

---

### Note

Reduction of compilation required for interworking is only applicable to ARMv4T architectures. ARMv5T and later processors can interwork without penalty.

---

The linker option `--feedback=filename` creates a feedback file, and the `--feedback_type` option controls the different types of feedback generated.

### Related tasks

[2.17 Minimizing code size by eliminating unused functions during compilation on page 2-62.](#)

### Related references

[2.15 Linker feedback during compilation on page 2-60.](#)

## 2.17 Minimizing code size by eliminating unused functions during compilation

Feedback from the linker to the compiler enables efficient elimination of unused functions.

### Procedure

1. Compile your source code.
2. Use the linker option `--feedback=filename` to create a feedback file.
3. Use the linker option `--feedback_type` to control which feedback the linker generates.  
By default, the linker generates feedback to eliminate unused functions. This is equivalent to `--feedback_type=unused,noiw`. The linker can also generate feedback to avoid compiling functions for interworking that are never used in an interworking context. Use the linker option `--feedback_type=unused,iw` to eliminate both types of unused function.

#### ———— Note ————

Reduction of compilation required for interworking is only applicable to ARMv4T architectures. ARMv5T and later processors can interwork without penalty.

4. Re-compile using the compiler option `--feedback=filename` to feed the feedback file to the compiler.

The compiler uses the feedback file generated by the linker to compile the source code in a way that enables the linker to subsequently discard the unused functions.

#### ———— Note ————

To obtain maximum benefit from linker feedback, do a full compile and link at least twice. A single compile and link using feedback from a previous build is normally sufficient to obtain some benefit.

#### ———— Note ————

Always ensure that you perform a full clean build immediately prior to using the linker feedback file. This minimizes the risk of the feedback file becoming out of date with the source code it was generated from.

You can specify the `--feedback=filename` option even when no feedback file exists. This enables you to use the same build commands or makefile regardless of whether a feedback file exists, for example:

```
armcc -c --feedback=unused.txt test.c -o test.o
armlink --feedback=unused.txt test.o -o test.axf
```

The first time you build the application, it compiles normally but the compiler warns you that it cannot read the specified feedback file because it does not exist. The link command then creates the feedback file and builds the image. Each subsequent compilation step uses the feedback file from the previous link step to remove any unused functions that are identified.

### Related concepts

[2.16 Unused function code on page 2-61.](#)

### Related references

[2.15 Linker feedback during compilation on page 2-60.](#)

[8.81 --feedback=filename on page 8-416.](#)

### Related information

[Interworking ARM and Thumb.](#)

[--feedback\\_type=type linker option.](#)

[About linker feedback.](#)

## 2.18 Compilation build time

Modern software applications can comprise many thousands of source code files. These files can take a considerable amount of time to compile. The many different techniques that the ARM compilation tools use to optimize for small code size and high performance can also increase build time.

When you invoke the compiler, the following steps occur:

1. The compiler loads and begins to execute.
2. The compiler tries to obtain a license.
3. The compiler compiles your code.

Loading and beginning to execute the compiler normally takes a fixed period of time.

The time taken to obtain a license does not generally vary if a license is available. However, if a floating license is being used, the time taken to obtain a license depends on network traffic and whether or not a license is free on the server. In most cases, rather than terminate with error if a license is not immediately available, the compiler waits for a license to become available.

The process of obtaining a floating license is more involved than obtaining a node-locked license. With a node-locked license, the compiler only has to parse the file to check that there is a valid license. With a floating license, the compiler has to check where the license is, send a message through the TCP/IP stacks over the network to the server, then wait for a response. When the compiler receives the response, it then has to check whether or not it has been granted a license. When the compilation is complete, the license has to be returned back to the server.

Floating licenses provide flexibility, but at the cost of speed. If speed is your priority, consider obtaining node-locked licenses for your build machines, or some node-locked licenses locked to USB network cards that can be moved between machines as required.

Setting the environment variable `TCP_NODELAY` to 1 improves FlexNet license server system performance when processing license requests. However, you must use this with caution, because it might cause an increase in network traffic.

The time taken to compile your code depends on the size and complexity of the file being compiled. Compiling a small number of large files might be quicker than compiling a larger number of small files. This is because the longer compilation time per file might be offset by the smaller amount of time spent loading and unloading the compiler and obtaining licenses.

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

### Related references

[2.20 Minimizing compilation build time with a single `armcc` invocation on page 2-66.](#)

[2.21 Effect of `--multifile` on compilation build time on page 2-67.](#)

[2.22 Minimizing compilation build time with parallel `make` on page 2-68.](#)

[2.23 Compilation build time and operating system choice on page 2-69.](#)

[5.13 Methods of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-172.](#)

### Related information

[Licensed features of ARM Compiler.](#)

[Optimizing license checkouts from a floating license server.](#)

## 2.19 Minimizing compilation build time

There are a number of actions you can take to minimize how long the compiler takes to compile your source code.

These actions include:

- Avoid compiling at -O3 level. -O3 gives maximum optimization in the code that is generated, but can result in longer build times to achieve such results.
- Minimize the amount of debug information the compiler generates.
- Guard against multiple inclusion of header files.
- Use the **restrict** keyword if you can safely do so, to avoid the compiler having to do compile-time checks for pointer aliasing.
- Try to keep the number of include paths to a minimum. If you have many include paths, ensure that the files you include most often exist in directories near the start of the include search path.
- Try compiling a small number of large files instead of a large number of small files. The longer compilation time per file might be offset by less time spent unloading and unloading the compiler and obtaining licenses, particularly if using floating licenses.
- Try compiling multiple files within a single invocation of `armcc` (and single license checkout), instead of multiple `armcc` invocations.
- Floating licenses provide flexibility, but at the cost of speed. Consider obtaining node-locked licenses for your build machines, or some node-locked licenses locked to USB network cards that can be moved between machines as required.
- Consider using or avoiding `--multifile` compilation, depending on the resulting build time.

### ———— Note ————

- In RVCT 4.0, if you compile with -O3, `--multifile` is enabled by default.
- In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, `--multifile` is disabled by default, regardless of the optimization level.

- If you are using a makefile-based build environment, consider using a make tool that can apply some form of parallelism.
- Consider your choice of operating system for cross-compilation. Linux generally gives better build speed than Windows, but there are general performance-tuning techniques you can apply on Windows that might help improve build times.

### Related concepts

- [2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)
- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [5.14 Guarding against multiple inclusion of header files on page 5-173.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)

### Related references

- [2.20 Minimizing compilation build time with a single `armcc` invocation on page 2-66.](#)
- [2.21 Effect of `--multifile` on compilation build time on page 2-67.](#)
- [2.22 Minimizing compilation build time with parallel make on page 2-68.](#)
- [2.23 Compilation build time and operating system choice on page 2-69.](#)
- [5.13 Methods of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-172.](#)
- [8.42 `--create\_pch=filename` on page 8-375.](#)
- [8.134 `--multifile`, `--no\_multifile` on page 8-474.](#)
- [8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)
- [8.147 `--pch` on page 8-490.](#)



8.148 *--pch\_dir=dir* on page 8-491.

8.163 *--restrict, --no\_restrict* on page 8-506.

## **Related information**

*Licensed features of ARM Compiler.*

## 2.20 Minimizing compilation build time with a single armcc invocation

Using a single armcc invocation rather than multiple invocations helps minimize compilation build time.

The following type of script incurs multiple loads and unloads of the compiler and multiple license checkouts:

```
armcc file1.c ...  
armcc file2.c ...  
armcc file3.c ...
```

Instead, you can try modifying your script to compile multiple files within a single invocation of armcc. For example, `armcc file1.c file2.c file3.c ...`

For convenience, you can also list all your .c files in a single via file invoked with `armcc -via sources.txt`.

Although this mechanism can dramatically reduce license checkouts and loading and unloading of the compiler to give significant improvements in build time, the following limitations apply:

- All files are compiled with the same options.
- Converting existing build systems could be difficult.
- Usability depends on source file structure and dependencies.
- An IDE might be unable to report which file had compilation errors.
- After detecting an error, the compiler does not compile subsequent files.

### Related concepts

[2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

### Related references

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile on page 8-474.](#)

[8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)

[8.194 --via=filename on page 8-544.](#)

### Related information

[Licensed features of ARM Compiler.](#)

## 2.21 Effect of --multifile on compilation build time

When compiling with `--multifile`, the compiler might generate code with additional optimizations by compiling across several source files to produce a single object file. These additional cross-source optimizations can increase compilation time.

Conversely, if there is little additional optimization to apply, and only small amounts of code to check for possible optimizations, then using `--multifile` to generate a single object file instead of several might reduce compilation time as a result of time recovered from creating (opening and closing) multiple object files.

---

**Note**

- In RVCT 4.0, if you compile with `-O3`, `--multifile` is enabled by default.
  - In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, `--multifile` is disabled by default, regardless of the optimization level.
- 

### Related concepts

[2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

### Related references

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile on page 8-474.](#)

[8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)

### Related information

[Licensed features of ARM Compiler.](#)

## 2.22 Minimizing compilation build time with parallel make

If you are using a makefile-based build environment, you could consider using a make tool that can apply some form of parallelism to minimize compilation build time.

For example, with GNU make you can typically use `make -j N`, where N is the number of compile processes you want to have running in parallel.

Even on a single machine with a single processor, a performance boost can be achieved. This is because running processes in parallel can hide the effects of network delays and general I/O accesses such as loading and saving files to disk, by fully utilizing the processor during these times with another compilation process.

If you have multiple processor machines, you can extend the use of parallelism with `make -j N * M`, where M is the number of processors.

### Related concepts

[2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

## 2.23 Compilation build time and operating system choice

Your choice of operating system can affect compilation build time.

Linux generally gives better build speeds than Windows.

However, if you are using Windows, there are ways to tune the performance of the operating system at a general level. This might help with increasing the percentage of processor time that is being used for your build.

At a simple level, turning off virus checking software can help, but an Internet search for "tune windows performance" provides plenty of information.

### Related concepts

[2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

### Related information

[On what platforms will my ARM development tools work?.](#)

# Chapter 3

## Using the NEON Vectorizing Compiler

Introduces the NEON unit and explains how to take advantage of automatic vectorizing features.

It contains the following sections:

- [3.1 NEON technology on page 3-72.](#)
- [3.2 The NEON unit on page 3-73.](#)
- [3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON on page 3-75.](#)
- [3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code on page 3-76.](#)
- [3.5 NEON C extensions on page 3-77.](#)
- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop on page 3-79.](#)
- [3.8 Stride patterns and data accesses on page 3-80.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts on page 3-90.](#)
- [3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `\_\_promise\(expr\)` on page 3-92.](#)
- [3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization on page 3-94.](#)

- [3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths](#) on page 3-95.
- [3.22 Nonvectorization of function calls to non-inline functions from within loops](#) on page 3-96.
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization](#) on page 3-97.
- [3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance](#) on page 3-98.
- [3.25 Vectorizable code example](#) on page 3-100.
- [3.26 DSP vectorizable code example](#) on page 3-102.
- [3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization](#) on page 3-104.

## 3.1 NEON technology

ARM NEON technology is the implementation of the Advanced SIMD architecture extension. It is a 64 and 128-bit hybrid SIMD technology targeted at advanced media and signal processing applications and embedded processors.

NEON technology is implemented as part of the ARM core, but has its own execution pipelines and a register bank that is distinct from the ARM core register bank.

NEON instructions are available in both ARM and Thumb code.

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**Note**

Not all ARM processors support NEON technology. In particular, there is no NEON support for architectures before ARMv7.

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### Related concepts

[3.2 The NEON unit on page 3-73.](#)



## 3.2 The NEON unit

The NEON unit has a register bank of thirty-two 64-bit vector registers that can be operated on in parallel.

The NEON unit can view the register bank as either:

- Sixteen 128-bit quadword registers, Q0 to Q15.
- Thirty-two 64-bit doubleword registers, D0 to D31.

These registers can then be operated on in parallel in the NEON unit. For example, in one vector add instruction you can add eight 16-bit integers to eight other 16-bit integers to produce eight 16-bit results. This is known as vectorization (or more specifically for NEON, *Single Instruction Multiple Data* (SIMD) vectorization).

The NEON unit supports 8-bit, 16-bit and 32-bit integer operations, and some 64-bit operations, in addition to single-precision (32-bit) floating point operations. It can operate on elements in groups of 2, 4, 8, or 16. (The Cortex-A9 processor also supports conversion to and from 16-bit floating-point operations, which the compiler supports when `--fp16_format` is specified, from RVCT 4.0 and later, and ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.)

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**Note**

---

Vectorization of floating-point code does not always occur automatically. For example, loops that require re-association only vectorize when compiled with `--fpmode fast`. Compiling with `--fpmode fast` enables the compiler to perform some transformations that could affect the result.

The NEON unit is classified as a vector *Single Instruction Multiple Data* (SIMD) unit that operates on multiple elements in a vector register by using one instruction.

For example, array A is a 16-bit integer array with 8 elements.

**Table 3-1 Array A**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Array B has the following 8 elements:

**Table 3-2 Array B**

80	70	60	50	40	30	20	10
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

To add these arrays together, fetch each vector into a vector register and use one vector SIMD instruction to obtain the result.

**Table 3-3 Result**

81	72	63	54	45	36	27	18
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

The NEON unit can only deal with vectors that are stored consecutively in memory, so it is not possible to vectorize indirect addressing.

When writing structures, be aware that NEON structure loads require the structure to contain equal-sized members.

### Related concepts

[3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON on page 3-75.](#)

## Related tasks

[3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code](#) on page 3-76.

## Related references

[8.85 --fp16\\_format=format](#) on page 8-420.

[8.86 --fpmode=model](#) on page 8-421.

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize](#) on page 8-541.

## Related information

[Introducing NEON Development Article.](#)

## 3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON

You can use a number of different methods to write code for NEON.

These methods are as follows:

- Write in assembly language, or use embedded assembly language in C, and use the NEON instructions directly.
- Write in C or C++ using the NEON C language extensions.
- Call a library routine that has been optimized to use NEON instructions.
- Use automatic vectorization to get loops vectorized for NEON.

Optimizing for performance requires an understanding of where in the program most of the time is spent. To gain maximum performance benefits you might also have to use profiling and benchmarking of the code under realistic conditions.

### Related concepts

- [3.2 The NEON unit on page 3-73.](#)
- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.8 Stride patterns and data accesses on page 3-80.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts on page 3-90.](#)
- [3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `\_\_promise\(expr\)` on page 3-92.](#)
- [3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization on page 3-94.](#)
- [3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths on page 3-95.](#)
- [3.22 Nonvectorization of function calls to non-inline functions from within loops on page 3-96.](#)
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization on page 3-97.](#)
- [3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance on page 3-98.](#)
- [3.25 Vectorizable code example on page 3-100.](#)
- [3.26 DSP vectorizable code example on page 3-102.](#)

### Related tasks

- [3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code on page 3-76.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 `--vectorize`, `--no\_vectorize` on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.5 NEON C extensions on page 3-77.](#)
- [3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop on page 3-79.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization on page 3-104.](#)

## 3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code

To generate NEON instructions from C or C++ code, you must specify particular compiler options.

You must use RVCT 3.1 or later, and ARM Compiler 4.1, with a valid NEON compiler license. ARM Compiler 5.01 and later do not require a separate NEON compiler license.

To generate NEON instructions from C or C++ code, specify the following compiler options:

- A target `--cpu` that has NEON capability, for example Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A12, or Cortex-A15.
- `--vectorize` to enable NEON vectorization.
- `-O2` (default) or `-O3` optimization level.
- `-Otime` to optimize for performance instead of code size.

You can also use `--diag_warning=optimizations` to obtain useful diagnostics from the compiler on what it can and cannot optimize or vectorize. For example:

```
armcc --cpu Cortex-A8 --vectorize -O3 -Otime --diag_warning=optimizations source.c
```

---

### Note

To run code that contains NEON instructions, you must enable both the FPU and NEON.

---

### Related concepts

[3.2 The NEON unit on page 3-73.](#)

[3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON on page 3-75.](#)

[5.5 Enabling NEON and FPU for bare-metal on page 5-160.](#)

### Related tasks

[5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time on page 5-159.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

[8.40 --cpu=list on page 8-371.](#)

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

[3.5 NEON C extensions on page 3-77.](#)

### Related information

[Licensed features of ARM Compiler.](#)

## 3.5 NEON C extensions

The NEON C extensions are a set of new data types and intrinsic functions defined by ARM to enable access to the NEON unit from C.

Most of the vector functions map directly to vector instructions available in the NEON unit and are compiled inline by the NEON enhanced ARM C compiler. With these extensions, performance at C level can be comparable to performance obtained with assembly language coding.

### Related concepts

[3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON on page 3-75.](#)

### Related references

[18 Using NEON Support on page 18-929.](#)

## 3.6 Automatic vectorization

Automatic vectorization involves the high-level analysis of loops in your code. This is the most efficient way to map the majority of typical code onto the functionality of the NEON unit.

For most code, the gains that can be made with algorithm-dependent parallelism on a smaller scale are very small relative to the cost of automatic analysis of such opportunities. For this reason, the NEON unit is designed as a target for loop-based parallelism.

Vectorization is carried out in a way that ensures that optimized code gives the same results as nonvectorized code. In certain cases, to avoid the possibility of an incorrect result, vectorization of a loop is not carried out. This can lead to suboptimal code, and you might have to manually tune your code to make it more suitable for automatic vectorization.

Automatic vectorization can also often be impeded by earlier manual optimization attempts, for example, manual loop unrolling in the source code, or complex array accesses. For optimal results, it is best to write code using simple loops, enabling the compiler to perform the optimization. For hand-optimized legacy code, it can be easier to rewrite critical portions of the code based on the original algorithm using simple loops.

By coding in vectorizable loops using NEON extensions instead of writing in explicit NEON instructions, code portability is preserved between processors. Performance levels similar to that of hand coded vectorization are achieved with less effort.

### Related concepts

- [3.8 Stride patterns and data accesses on page 3-80.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts on page 3-90.](#)
- [3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `\_\_promise\(expr\)` on page 3-92.](#)
- [3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization on page 3-94.](#)
- [3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths on page 3-95.](#)
- [3.22 Nonvectorization of function calls to non-inline functions from within loops on page 3-96.](#)
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization on page 3-97.](#)
- [3.25 Vectorizable code example on page 3-100.](#)
- [3.26 DSP vectorizable code example on page 3-102.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 `--vectorize`, `--no\_vectorize` on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop on page 3-79.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization on page 3-104.](#)

## 3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop

To vectorize, the compiler has to identify variables with a vector access pattern. It also has to ensure that there are no data dependencies between different iterations of the loop.

Data references in your code can be classified as one of three types:

### Scalar

A single value that does not change throughout all of the loop iterations.

### Index

An integer quantity that increments by a constant amount each pass through the loop.

### Vector

A range of memory locations with a constant stride between consecutive elements.

The following example shows the classification of variables in a loop:

i,j  
index variables  
a,b  
vectors  
n,x  
scalar

```
float *a, *b;  
int i, j, n, x;  
...  
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)  
{  
    *(a+j) = x + b[i];  
    j += 2;  
};
```

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

[3.8 Stride patterns and data accesses on page 3-80.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

## 3.8 Stride patterns and data accesses

The stride pattern of data accesses in a loop is the pattern of accesses to data elements between sequential loop iterations.

For example, a loop that linearly accesses each element of an array has a stride pattern, or a stride, of one. A loop that accesses an array with a constant offset between each element used has a constant stride.

```
float *a, *b;
int i, j=0, n;
...
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
{
    /* a is accessed with a stride of 2. */
    /* b is accessed with a stride of 1. */
    *(a+j) = x + b[i];
    j += 2;
};
```

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

### Related references

[3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop on page 3-79.](#)



## 3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance

The automatic vectorization process and performance of the generated code is affected by a number of criteria:

### **The way loops are organized**

For best performance, the innermost loop in a loop nest must access arrays with a stride of one.

### **The way the data is structured**

The data type dictates how many data elements can be held in a NEON register, and therefore how many operations can be performed in parallel.

### **The iteration counts of loops**

Longer iteration counts are generally better, because the loop overhead is reduced over more iterations. Tiny iteration counts, such as two or three elements, can be faster to process with nonvector instructions.

### **The data type of arrays**

For example, NEON does not improve performance when double precision floating point arrays are used.

### **The use of memory hierarchy**

Most current processors are relatively unbalanced between memory bandwidth and processor capacity. For example, performing relatively few arithmetic operations on large data sets retrieved from main memory is limited by the memory bandwidth of the system.

### **Related concepts**

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)

### **Related references**

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals

Most applications require tuning to gain the best performance from vectorization. There is always some overhead so the theoretical maximum performance cannot be reached.

For example, the NEON unit can process four single-precision floats at one time. This means that the theoretical maximum performance for a floating-point application is a factor of four over the original scalar nonvectorized code.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)

## 3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization

The overall structure of a loop is important for obtaining the best performance from vectorization.

Generally, it is best to write simple loops with iteration counts that are fixed at the start of the loop, and that do not contain complex conditional statements or conditional exits. You might have to rewrite your loops to improve the vectorization performance of the code.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
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- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization on page 3-97.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code

A loop that has results from one iteration feeding back into a future iteration of the same loop is said to have a data dependency conflict.

The conflicting values might be array elements or a scalar such as an accumulated sum.

Loops containing data dependency conflicts might not be completely optimized. Detecting data dependencies involving arrays or pointers requires extensive analysis of the arrays used in each loop nest. It also involves examination of the offset and stride of accesses to elements along each dimension of arrays that are both used and stored in a loop. If there is a possibility of the usage and storage of arrays overlapping on different iterations of a loop, then there is a data dependency problem. A loop cannot be safely vectorized if the vector order of operations can change the results. In these cases, the compiler detects the problem and leaves the loop in its original form or carries out a partial vectorization of the loop. This type of data dependency must be avoided in your code to achieve the best performance.

In the loop shown below, the reference to `a[i-2]` at the top of the loop conflicts with the store into `a[i]` at the bottom. Performing vectorization on this loop gives a result that differs from the result that is obtained without vectorization, so it is left in its original form.

```
float a[99], b[99], t;
int i;
for (i = 3; i < 99; i++)
{
    t = a[i-1] + a[i-2];
    b[i] = t + 3.0 + a[i];
    a[i] = sqrt(b[i]) - 5.0;
};
```

Information from other array subscripts is used as part of the analysis of dependencies. The loop in the following example vectorizes because the nonvector subscripts of the references to array `a` can never be equal. They can never be equal because `n` is not equal to `n+1` and so gives no feedback between iterations. The references to array `a` use two different pieces of the array, so they do not share data.

```
float a[99][99], b[99], c[99];
int i, n;
...
for (i = 1; i < 99; i++)
{
    a[n][i] = a[n+1][i-1] * b[i] + c[i];
}
```

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization

Scalar variables that are used and then set in a loop can cause problems for vectorization.

A scalar variable that is used but not set in a loop is replicated in each position in a vector register and the replication is used in the vector calculation.

A scalar that is set and then used in a loop is *promoted* to a vector. These variables generally hold temporary scalar values in a loop that now has to hold temporary vector values. In the following example, *x* is a *used* scalar and *y* is a *promoted* scalar.

Vectorizable loop:

```
float a[99], b[99], x, y;
int i, n;
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
{
    y = x + b[i];
    a[i] = y + 1/y;
};
```

A scalar that is used and then set in a loop is called a *carry-around* scalar. These variables are a problem for vectorization because the value computed in one pass of the loop is carried forward into the next pass. In the following example, *x* is a carry-around scalar.

Nonvectorizable loop

```
float a[99], b[99], x;
int i, n;
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
{
    a[i] = x + b[i];
    x = a[i] + 1/x;
};
```

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar

A special category of scalar use within loops is reduction operations. This category involves the reduction of a vector of values down to a scalar result.

The most common reduction is the summation of all elements of a vector. Other reductions include:

- The dot product of two vectors.
- The maximum value in a vector.
- The minimum value in a vector.
- The product of all vector elements.
- The index of the maximum or minimum element of a vector.

The following example shows a dot product reduction where x is a reduction scalar.

```
float a[99], b[99], x;
int i, n;
...
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) x += a[i] * b[i];
```

Reduction operations are worth vectorizing because they occur so often. In general, reduction operations are vectorized by creating a vector of partial reductions that is then reduced into the final resulting scalar.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers

When accessing arrays, the compiler can often prove that memory accesses do not overlap. When using pointers, this is less likely to be possible, and either requires a runtime test, or requires you to use the **restrict** keyword.

The compiler is able to vectorize loops containing pointers if it can determine that the loop is safe. Both array references and pointer references in loops are analyzed to see if there is any vector access to memory. In some cases, the compiler creates a run-time test, and executes a vector version or scalar version of the loop depending on the result of the test.

Often, function arguments are passed as pointers. If several pointer variables are passed to a function, it is possible that pointing to overlapping sections of memory can occur. Often, at runtime, this is not the case but the compiler always follows the safe method and avoids optimizing loops that involve pointers appearing on both the left and right sides of an assignment operator. For example, consider the following function.

```
void func (int *pa, int *pb, int x)
{
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < 100; i++)
    {
        *(pa + i) = *(pb + i) + x;
    }
};
```

In this example, if *pa* and *pb* overlap in memory in a way that causes results from one loop pass to feed back to a subsequent loop pass, then vectorization of the loop can give incorrect results. If the function is called with the following arguments, vectorization might be ambiguous:

```
int *a;
func (a, a-1);
```

The compiler performs a runtime test to see if pointer aliasing occurs. If pointer aliasing does not occur, it executes a vectorized version of the code. If pointer aliasing occurs, the original nonvectorized code executes instead. This leads to a small cost in runtime efficiency and code size.

In practice, it is very rare for data dependence to exist because of function arguments. Programs that pass overlapping pointers are very hard to understand and debug, apart from any vectorization concerns.

In the example above, adding **restrict** to *pa* is sufficient to avoid the runtime test.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)
- [8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict on page 8-506.](#)
- [9.13 restrict on page 9-570.](#)

## 3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing

Indirect addressing is not vectorizable with the NEON unit.

Indirect addressing occurs when an array is accessed by a vector of values. If the array is being fetched from memory, the operation is called a *gather*. If the array is being stored into memory, the operation is called a *scatter*.

In the following example, *a* is being scattered and *b* is being gathered.

```
float a[99], b[99];
int ia[99], ib[99], i, n, j;
...
for (i = 0; i < n; i++) a[ia[i]] = b[j + ib[i]];
```

Indirect addressing is not vectorizable with the NEON unit because it can only deal with vectors that are stored consecutively in memory. If there is indirect addressing and significant calculations in a loop, it might be more efficient for you to move the indirect addressing into a separate non vector loop. This enables the calculations to vectorize efficiently.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)



## 3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits

For vectorization purposes, it is best to write loops that do not contain conditional exits from the loop.

The following example is nonvectorizable because it contains a conditional exit from the loop. In cases like this, you must rewrite the loop, if possible, for vectorization to succeed.

```
int a[99], b[99], c[99], i, n;
...
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
{
    a[i] = b[i] + c[i];
    if (a[i] > 5) break;
};
```

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.15 Vectorization on loops containing pointers on page 3-87.](#)
- [3.14 Reduction of a vector to a scalar on page 3-86.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization on page 3-97.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [3.10 NEON vectorization performance goals on page 3-82.](#)

## 3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts

If a loop has a fixed iteration count, automatic vectorization is possible. The iteration count must occur at the start of the loop.

In the example vectorizable loop below, the iteration count is *n*. The value of *n* does not change throughout the course of the loop, so this loop can be automatically vectorized.

If a loop does not have a fixed iteration count, automatic vectorization is not possible.

In the example nonvectorizable loop below, the value of *i* changes throughout the course of the loop, so this loop cannot be automatically vectorized.

**Table 3-4 Vectorizable and nonvectorizable loops**

Vectorizable loop	Nonvectorizable loop
<pre>/* myprog1.c */ int a[99], b[99], c[99], i, n; ... for (i = 0; i &lt; n; i++) {     a[i] = b[i] + c[i]; }</pre>	<pre>/* myprog2.c */ int a[99], b[99], c[99], i, n; ... while (i &lt; n) {     a[i] = b[i] + c[i];     i += a[i]; };</pre>
armcc --cpu=Cortex-A8 -O3 -Otime --vectorize myprog1.c -o-	armcc --cpu=Cortex-A8 -O3 -Otime --vectorize myprog2.c -o-
ARM REQUIRE8 PRESERVE8	ARM REQUIRE8 PRESERVE8
AREA   .text  , CODE, READONLY, ALIGN=2	AREA   .text  , CODE, READONLY, ALIGN=2
<pre>f PROC     PUSH    {r4-r6}     MOV     r0,#0     LDR     r4, L1.160      STR     r0,[r4,#0] ; i     LDR     r12,[r4,#4] ; n     CMP     r12,#0     BLE      L1.152      ASR     r0,r12,#31     LDR     r1, L1.164      ADD     r0,r12,r0,LSR #30     ADD     r2,r1,#0x18c     ASRS    r0,r0,#2     SUB     r3,r2,#0x318     BEQ      L1.80 </pre>	<pre>  foo   PROC     LDR     r3, L1.76      LDR     r0,[r3,#0] ; i, n     LDR     r2,[r3,#4]     CMP     r0,r2     BXGE    lr     PUSH    {r4-r6}     LDR     r12, L1.80      ADD     r4,r12,#0x18c     SUB     r5,r12,#0x18c</pre>
<pre> L1.56      VLD1.32 {d0,d1},[r1]!     SUBS    r0,r0,#1     VLD1.32 {d2,d3},[r2]!     VADD.I32 q0,q0,q1     VST1.32 {d0,d1},[r3]!     BNE      L1.56 </pre>	<pre> L1.36      LDR     r1,[r12,r0,LSL #2]     LDR     r6,[r4,r0,LSL #2]     ADD     r1,r1,r6     STR     r1,[r5,r0,LSL #2]     ADD     r0,r0,r1     CMP     r0,r2     STR     r0,[r3,#0] ; i     BLT      L1.36      POP     {r4-r6}     BX      lr     ENDP</pre>

**Table 3-4 Vectorizable and nonvectorizable loops (continued)**

Vectorizable loop	Nonvectorizable loop
<pre> L1.80      AND    r0,r12,#3     CMP    r0,#0     BLE     L1.144      SUB    r0,r12,r0     CMP    r0,r12     BGE     L1.144      LDR    r1, L1.164      ADD    r2,r1,#0x18c     SUB    r3,r2,#0x318</pre>	
<pre> L1.116      LDR    r5,[r1,r0,LSL #2]     LDR    r6,[r2,r0,LSL #2]     ADD    r5,r5,r6     STR    r5,[r3,r0,LSL #2]     ADD    r0,r0,#1     CMP    r0,r12     BLT     L1.116 </pre>	
<pre> L1.144      LDR    r0,[r4,#4]    ; n     STR    r0,[r4,#0]    ; i</pre>	
<pre> L1.152      POP    {r4-r6}     BX     lr     ENDP</pre>	

#### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization](#) on page 3-78.

[3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `\_\_promise\(expr\)`](#) on page 3-92.

#### Related references

[8.191 `--vectorize`, `--no\_vectorize`](#) on page 8-541.

### 3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `__promise(expr)`

The `__promise` intrinsic lets you indicate to the compiler that a loop iteration count is, for example, always divisible by 8. This enables the compiler to generate smaller and faster code by reducing the overhead of runtime iteration count tests.

The NEON unit can operate on elements in groups of 2, 4, 8, or 16. Where the iteration count at the start of the loop is unknown, the compiler might add a runtime test to check if the iteration count is not a multiple of the lanes that can be used for the appropriate data type in a NEON register. This increases code size because additional nonvectorized code is generated to execute any additional loop iterations.

The overhead added by the runtime test is typically insignificant compared with the performance increase that arises from the vectorized code, although corner cases do exist. For example, an iteration count of 17 gives a group of 16 elements to operate on in parallel, with 1 iteration left over as nonvectorized code, whereas an iteration count of 3 gives a group of only 2 elements to operate on in parallel. In the latter case, the overhead of the runtime test is proportionally greater in comparison with the vectorized code.

If you know that the iteration count is divisible by the number of elements that the NEON unit can operate on in parallel, you can indicate this to the compiler using the `__promise` intrinsic, for example:

```
/* Promise the compiler that the loop iteration count is divisible by 16 */
__promise((k % 16) == 0);
for (i = 0; i < k; i++)
{
    ...
}
```

The `__promise` intrinsic is required to enable vectorization if the loop iteration count at the start of the loop is unknown, providing you can make the promise that you claim to make.

This reduces the size of the generated code and can give a performance improvement.

The disassembled output of the example code below illustrates the difference that `__promise` makes. The disassembly is reduced to a simple vectorized loop with the removal of nonvectorized code that would otherwise have been required for possible additional loop iterations. That is, loop iterations beyond those that are a multiple of the lanes that can be used for the appropriate data type in a NEON register. (The additional nonvectorized code is known as a scalar fix-up loop. With the use of the `__promise(expr)` intrinsic, the scalar fix-up loop is removed.)

```
/* promise.c */
void f(int *x, int n)
{
    int i;
    __promise((n > 0) && ((n & 7) == 0));
    for (i=0; i < n; i++) x[i]++;
}
```

When compiling for a processor that supports NEON, the disassembled output might be similar to the following, for example:

```
ARM
REQUIRE8
PRESERVE8
AREA ||.text||, CODE, READONLY, ALIGN=2
f PROC
    VMOV.I32 q0,#0x1
    ASR     r1,r1,#2
|L0.8|
    VLD1.32 {d2,d3},[r0]
    SUBS    r1,r1,#1
    VADD.I32 q1,q1,q0
    VST1.32 {d2,d3},[r0]!
    BNE     |L0.8|
    BX      lr
ENDP
```

**Related concepts**

[3.6 Automatic vectorization](#) on page 3-78.

[3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts](#) on page 3-90.

**Related references**

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize](#) on page 8-541.

[8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict](#) on page 8-506.

[9.13 restrict](#) on page 9-570.

[10.125 \\_\\_promise intrinsic](#) on page 10-744.

## 3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization

Writing loops to use all parts of a structure together is important for vectorization. Each part of the structure must be accessed within the same loop.

The following examples show how loop organization can affect vectorization.

Structure access resulting in a nonvectorizable loop:

```
for (...) { buffer[i].a = ....; }  
for (...) { buffer[i].b = ....; }  
for (...) { buffer[i].c = ....; }
```

Structure access resulting in a vectorizable loop

```
for (...)  
{  
    buffer[i].a = ....;  
    buffer[i].b = ....;  
    buffer[i].c = ....;  
}
```

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

[3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths on page 3-95.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

## 3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths

NEON structure loads require that all members of a structure are of the same length.

In the example code below, the compiler does not attempt to use vector loads because of the inconsistent structure member lengths.

```
struct foo
{
    short a;
    int b;
    short c;
} n[10];
```

This code could be rewritten for vectorization by using the same data type throughout the structure. For example, if the variable `b` is to be of type `int`, consider making variables `a` and `c` of type `int` rather than `short`.

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

[3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization on page 3-94.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

## 3.22 Nonvectorization of function calls to non-inline functions from within loops

Calls to non-inline functions from within a loop inhibit vectorization.

Splitting complex operations into several functions to aid clarity is common practice. However, if such functions are to be considered for vectorization, they must be marked with the `__inline` or `__forceinline` keywords if they are called from within any loops. These functions are then expanded inline for vectorization to take place.

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

[10.8 \\_\\_inline on page 10-615.](#)

[10.6 \\_\\_forceinline on page 10-612.](#)



## 3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization

For efficient vectorization, loops must contain mostly assignment statements and must limit the use of **if** and **switch** statements.

Loop invariant conditions are simple conditions that do not change between iterations of the loop. The compiler can move loop invariant conditions before the loop so that they are executed once, rather than on each loop iteration.

The compiler can vectorize more complex conditional operations by computing all pathways in vector mode and merging the results. If there is significant conditional computation, then performance might suffer.

The following example uses conditional statements in a way that is acceptable for vectorization.

```
float a[99], b[99], c[99];
int i, n;
for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
{
    if (c[i] > 0) a[i] = b[i] - 5.0f;
    else a[i] = b[i] * 2.0;
};
```

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

[3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

[3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)

## 3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance

The compiler can provide diagnostic information to indicate where vectorization optimizations were successfully applied and where it failed to apply vectorization.

The command-line options that provide this information are `--diag_warning=optimizations` and `--remarks`.

The following example shows two functions that implement a simple sum operation on an array. This code does not vectorize.

```
int addition(int a, int b)
{
    return a + b;
}
void add_int(int *pa, int *pb, unsigned int n, int x)
{
    unsigned int i;
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++) *(pa + i) = addition(*(pb + i),x);
    /* Function calls cannot be vectorized */
}
```

Using the `--diag_warning=optimizations` option produces an optimization warning message for the `addition()` function:

```
armcc -O3 -Otime --vectorize --diag_warning=optimizations test.c
```

Using the `--remarks` option produces the same messages.

Adding the `__inline` qualifier to the definition of `addition()` enables this code to vectorize. However, it is still not optimal. Using the `--diag_warning=optimizations` option again produces optimization warning messages to indicate that the loop vectorizes but there might be a potential pointer aliasing problem.

The compiler must generate a runtime test for aliasing and output both vectorized and scalar copies of the code. If you know that the pointers are not aliased, you can use the `restrict` keyword to reduce the runtime test overhead and improve vectorization performance:

```
__inline int addition(int a, int b)
{
    return a + b;
}
void add_int(int * __restrict pa, int * __restrict pb, unsigned int n, int x)
{
    unsigned int i;
    for(i = 0; i < n; i++) *(pa + i) = addition(*(pb + i),x);
}
```

The final improvement you can make is to indicate the number of loop iterations. In the previous example, the number of iterations is not fixed and might not be a multiple that can fit exactly into a NEON register. This means that the compiler must test for remaining iterations to execute using nonvectorized code. If you know that your iteration count is divisible by the number of elements that the NEON unit can operate on in parallel, you can indicate this to the compiler using the `__promise` intrinsic. The following example shows the final code that obtains the best performance from vectorization.

```
__inline int addition(int a, int b)
{
    return a + b;
}
void add_int(int * __restrict pa, int * __restrict pb, unsigned int n, int x)
{
    unsigned int i;
    __promise((n % 4) == 0);
    /* n is a multiple of 4 */
    for(i = 0; i < (n & ~3); i++) *(pa + i) = addition(*(pb + i),x);
}
```

**Related concepts**

[3.25 Vectorizable code example](#) on page 3-100.

[3.26 DSP vectorizable code example](#) on page 3-102.

**Related references**

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize](#) on page 8-541.

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

[8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict](#) on page 8-506.

[9.13 restrict](#) on page 9-570.

## 3.25 Vectorizable code example

The following example shows a complete example that uses vectorizable code.

The options required to build this example are listed within the introductory source code comments. The `--cpu=name` option must name a processor that has NEON technology, such as Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A12, or Cortex-A15.

You can use `--diag_warning=optimizations` to view where vectorization optimization is applied.

The use of `__promise` enables the compiler to generate smaller and faster code. The code still works and vectorizes without these promises, but is then larger and slower.

```
/*
 * Vectorizable example code.
 * Copyright 2006 ARM. All rights reserved.
 *
 * Includes embedded assembly to initialize cpu; link using '--entry=init_cpu'.
 *
 * Build using:
 *   armcc --vectorize -c vector_example.c --cpu Cortex-A8 -Otime -O3 -DNDEBUG
 *   armlink -o vector_example.axf vector_example.o --entry=init_cpu
 */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <assert.h> /* for __promise() */
void fir(short *__restrict y, const short *x, const short *h, int n_out, int n_coefs)
{
    int n;
    /* I promise 'n_out is always a positive multiple of 8' */
    __promise(0 < n_out && (n_out % 8) == 0);
    for (n = 0; n < n_out; n++)
    {
        int k, sum = 0;
        /* I promise 'n_coefs is always a positive multiple of 4' */
        __promise(0 < n_coefs && (n_coefs % 4) == 0);
        for (k = 0; k < n_coefs; k++)
        {
            sum += h[k] * x[n - n_coefs + 1 + k];
        }
        y[n] = ((sum>>15) + 1) >> 1;
    }
}

int main()
{
    static const short x[128+7] =
    {
        0x0000, 0x0647, 0x0c8b, 0x12c8, 0x18f8, 0x1f19, 0x2528, 0x2b1f,
        0x30fb, 0x36ba, 0x3c56, 0x41ce, 0x471c, 0x4c3f, 0x5133, 0x55f5,
        0x5a82, 0x5ed7, 0x62f2, 0x66cf, 0x6a6d, 0x6dca, 0x70e2, 0x73b5,
        0x7641, 0x7884, 0x7a7d, 0x7c29, 0x7d8a, 0x7e9d, 0x7f62, 0x7fd8,
        0x8000, 0x7fd8, 0x7f62, 0x7e9d, 0x7d8a, 0x7c29, 0x7a7d, 0x7884,
        0x7641, 0x73b5, 0x70e2, 0x6dca, 0x6a6d, 0x66cf, 0x62f2, 0x5ed7,
        0x5a82, 0x55f5, 0x5133, 0x4c3f, 0x471c, 0x41ce, 0x3c56, 0x36ba,
        0x30fb, 0x2b1f, 0x2528, 0x1f19, 0x18f8, 0x12c8, 0x0c8b, 0x0647,
        0x0000, 0xf9b9, 0xf375, 0xed38, 0xe708, 0xe0e7, 0xdad8, 0xd4e1,
        0xcfc05, 0xc946, 0xc3aa, 0xbe32, 0xb8e4, 0xb3c1, 0xaecd, 0xaa0b,
        0xa57e, 0xa129, 0x9d0e, 0x9931, 0x9593, 0x9236, 0x8f1e, 0x8c4b,
        0x89bf, 0x877c, 0x8583, 0x83d7, 0x8276, 0x8163, 0x809e, 0x8028,
        0x8000, 0x8028, 0x809e, 0x8163, 0x8276, 0x83d7, 0x8583, 0x877c,
        0x89bf, 0x8c4b, 0x8f1e, 0x9236, 0x9593, 0x9931, 0x9d0e, 0xa129,
        0xa57e, 0xaa0b, 0xaecd, 0xb3c1, 0xb8e4, 0xbe32, 0xc3aa, 0xc946,
        0xcfc05, 0xd4e1, 0xdad8, 0xe0e7, 0xe708, 0xed38, 0xf375, 0xf9b9,
        0x0000, 0x0647, 0x0c8b, 0x12c8, 0x18f8, 0x1f19, 0x2528
    };
    static const short coeffs[8] =
    {
        0x0800, 0x1000, 0x2000, 0x4000,
        0x4000, 0x2000, 0x1000, 0x0800
    };
    short y[128];
    static const short expected[128] =
    {
        0x1474, 0x1a37, 0x1fe9, 0x2588, 0x2b10, 0x307d, 0x35cc, 0x3afa,
        0x4003, 0x44e5, 0x499d, 0x4e27, 0x5281, 0x56a9, 0x5a9a, 0x5e54,
        0x61d4, 0x6517, 0x681c, 0x6ae1, 0x6d63, 0x6fa3, 0x719d, 0x7352,
        0x74bf, 0x6de5, 0x66c1, 0x5755, 0x379e, 0x379e, 0x5755, 0x66c1,
        0x6de5, 0x74bf, 0x7352, 0x719d, 0x6fa3, 0x6d63, 0x6ae1, 0x681c,
        0x6517, 0x61d4, 0x5e54, 0x5a9a, 0x56a9, 0x5281, 0x4e27, 0x499d,
        0x44e5, 0x4003, 0x3afa, 0x35cc, 0x307d, 0x2b10, 0x2588, 0x1fe9,
    }
}
```

```

    0x1a37, 0x1474, 0x0ea5, 0x08cd, 0x02f0, 0xfd10, 0xf733, 0xf15b,
    0xeb8c, 0xe5c9, 0xe017, 0xda78, 0xd4f0, 0xcf83, 0xca34, 0xc506,
    0xbffd, 0xbb1b, 0xb663, 0xb1d9, 0xad7f, 0xa957, 0xa566, 0xa1ac,
    0x9e2c, 0x9ae9, 0x97e4, 0x951f, 0x929d, 0x905d, 0x8e63, 0x8cae,
    0x8b41, 0x8a1b, 0x893f, 0x88ab, 0x8862, 0x8862, 0x88ab, 0x893f,
    0x8a1b, 0x8b41, 0x8cae, 0x8e63, 0x905d, 0x929d, 0x951f, 0x97e4,
    0x9ae9, 0x9e2c, 0xa1ac, 0xa566, 0xa957, 0xad7f, 0xb1d9, 0xb663,
    0xbb1b, 0xbffd, 0xc506, 0xca34, 0xcf83, 0xd4f0, 0xda78, 0xe017,
    0xe5c9, 0xeb8c, 0xf15b, 0xf733, 0xfd10, 0x02f0, 0x08cd, 0x0ea5,
};
int i, ok = 1;
fir(y, x + 7, coeffs, 128, 8);
for (i = 0; i < sizeof(y)/sizeof(*y); ++i)
{
    if (y[i] != expected[i])
    {
        printf("mismatch: y[%d] = 0x%04x; expected[%d] = 0x%04x\n", i, y[i], i,
expected[i]);
        ok = 0;
        break;
    }
}
if (ok) printf("*** TEST PASSED OK **\n");
return ok ? 0 : 1;
}
#ifdef __TARGET_ARCH_7_A
__asm void init_cpu() {
    // Set up processor state
    MRC p15,0,r4,c1,c0,0
    ORR r4,r4,#0x00400000 // enable unaligned mode (U=1)
    BIC r4,r4,#0x00000002 // disable alignment faults (A=0)
    // MMU not enabled: no page tables
    MCR p15,0,r4,c1,c0,0
#ifdef __BIG_ENDIAN
    SETEND BE
#endif
    MRC p15,0,r4,c1,c0,2 // Enable VFP access in the CAR -
    ORR r4,r4,#0x00f00000 // must be done before any VFP instructions
    MCR p15,0,r4,c1,c0,2
    MOV r4,#0x40000000 // Set EN bit in FPEXC
    MSR FPEXC,r4
    IMPORT __main
    B __main
}
#endif

```

## Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.26 DSP vectorizable code example on page 3-102.](#)
- [3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance on page 3-98.](#)
- [7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)
- [3.25 Vectorizable code example on page 3-100.](#)

## Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\] on page 8-395.](#)
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\] on page 8-397.](#)
- [10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)
- [8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict on page 8-506.](#)
- [9.13 restrict on page 9-570.](#)

## Related information

- [--entry=location linker option.](#)

## 3.26 DSP vectorizable code example

The following example shows a complete Digital Signal Processing (DSP) example that uses vectorizable code.

The options required to build this example are listed within the introductory source code comments. The `--cpu=name` option must name a processor that has NEON technology, such as Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A12, or Cortex-A15.

You can use `--diag_warning=optimizations` to view where vectorization optimization is applied.

```
/*
 * DSP Vectorizable example code.
 * Copyright 2006 ARM. All rights reserved.
 *
 * Includes embedded assembly to initialize cpu; link using '--entry=init_cpu'.
 *
 * Build using:
 *   armcc -c dsp_vector_example.c --cpu Cortex-A8 -O3 -Otime --vectorize -DNDEBUG
 *   armlink -o dsp_vector_example.axf dsp_vector_example.o --entry=init_cpu
 */
#include <stdio.h>
#include <dspfn.h>
#include <assert.h> /* for __promise() */
void fn(short *__restrict r, int n, const short *__restrict a, const short *__restrict b)
{
    int i;
    /* I promise 'n is always a positive multiple of 8' */
    __promise(0 < n && (n % 8) == 0);
    for (i = 0; i < n; ++i)
    {
        r[i] = add(a[i], b[i]);
    }
}

int main()
{
    static const short x[128] =
    {
        0x0000, 0x0647, 0x0c8b, 0x12c8, 0x18f8, 0x1f19, 0x2528, 0x2b1f,
        0x30fb, 0x36ba, 0x3c56, 0x41ce, 0x471c, 0x4c3f, 0x5133, 0x55f5,
        0x5a82, 0x5ed7, 0x62f2, 0x66cf, 0x6a6d, 0x6dca, 0x70e2, 0x73b5,
        0x7641, 0x7884, 0x7a7d, 0x7c29, 0x7d8a, 0x7e9d, 0x7f62, 0x7fd8,
        0x8000, 0x7fd8, 0x7f62, 0x7e9d, 0x7d8a, 0x7c29, 0x7a7d, 0x7884,
        0x7641, 0x73b5, 0x70e2, 0x6dca, 0x6a6d, 0x66cf, 0x62f2, 0x5ed7,
        0x5a82, 0x55f5, 0x5133, 0x4c3f, 0x471c, 0x41ce, 0x3c56, 0x36ba,
        0x30fb, 0x2b1f, 0x2528, 0x1f19, 0x18f8, 0x12c8, 0x0c8b, 0x0647,
        0x0000, 0xf9b9, 0xf375, 0xed38, 0xe708, 0xe0e7, 0xdad8, 0xd4e1,
        0xcf05, 0xc946, 0xc3aa, 0xbe32, 0xb8e4, 0xb3c1, 0xaecd, 0xaa0b,
        0xa57e, 0xa129, 0x9d0e, 0x9931, 0x9593, 0x9236, 0x8f1e, 0x8c4b,
        0x89bf, 0x877c, 0x8583, 0x83d7, 0x8276, 0x8163, 0x809e, 0x8028,
        0x8000, 0x8028, 0x809e, 0x8163, 0x8276, 0x83d7, 0x8583, 0x877c,
        0x89bf, 0x8c4b, 0x8f1e, 0x9236, 0x9593, 0x9931, 0x9d0e, 0xa129,
        0xa57e, 0xaa0b, 0xaecd, 0xb3c1, 0xb8e4, 0xbe32, 0xc3aa, 0xc946,
        0xcf05, 0xd4e1, 0xdad8, 0xe0e7, 0xe708, 0xed38, 0xf375, 0xf9b9,
    };
    static const short y[128] =
    {
        0x8000, 0x7fd8, 0x7f62, 0x7e9d, 0x7d8a, 0x7c29, 0x7a7d, 0x7884,
        0x7641, 0x73b5, 0x70e2, 0x6dca, 0x6a6d, 0x66cf, 0x62f2, 0x5ed7,
        0x5a82, 0x55f5, 0x5133, 0x4c3f, 0x471c, 0x41ce, 0x3c56, 0x36ba,
        0x30fb, 0x2b1f, 0x2528, 0x1f19, 0x18f8, 0x12c8, 0x0c8b, 0x0647,
        0x0000, 0xf9b9, 0xf375, 0xed38, 0xe708, 0xe0e7, 0xdad8, 0xd4e1,
        0xcf05, 0xc946, 0xc3aa, 0xbe32, 0xb8e4, 0xb3c1, 0xaecd, 0xaa0b,
        0xa57e, 0xa129, 0x9d0e, 0x9931, 0x9593, 0x9236, 0x8f1e, 0x8c4b,
        0x89bf, 0x877c, 0x8583, 0x83d7, 0x8276, 0x8163, 0x809e, 0x8028,
        0x8000, 0x8028, 0x809e, 0x8163, 0x8276, 0x83d7, 0x8583, 0x877c,
        0x89bf, 0x8c4b, 0x8f1e, 0x9236, 0x9593, 0x9931, 0x9d0e, 0xa129,
        0xa57e, 0xaa0b, 0xaecd, 0xb3c1, 0xb8e4, 0xbe32, 0xc3aa, 0xc946,
        0xcf05, 0xd4e1, 0xdad8, 0xe0e7, 0xe708, 0xed38, 0xf375, 0xf9b9,
        0x0000, 0x0647, 0x0c8b, 0x12c8, 0x18f8, 0x1f19, 0x2528, 0x2b1f,
        0x30fb, 0x36ba, 0x3c56, 0x41ce, 0x471c, 0x4c3f, 0x5133, 0x55f5,
        0x5a82, 0x5ed7, 0x62f2, 0x66cf, 0x6a6d, 0x6dca, 0x70e2, 0x73b5,
        0x7641, 0x7884, 0x7a7d, 0x7c29, 0x7d8a, 0x7e9d, 0x7f62, 0x7fd8,
    };
    short r[128];
    static const short expected[128] =
    {
        0x8000, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff,
        0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff,
        0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff,
    };
}
```

```

0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff, 0x7fff,
0x8000, 0x7991, 0x72d7, 0x6bd5, 0x6492, 0x5d10, 0x5555, 0x4d65,
0x4546, 0x3cfb, 0x348c, 0x2bfc, 0x2351, 0x1a90, 0x11bf, 0x08e2,
0x0000, 0xf71e, 0xee41, 0xe570, 0xdc4f, 0xd404, 0xcb74, 0xc305,
0xbaba, 0xb29b, 0xaaab, 0xa2f0, 0x9b6e, 0x942b, 0x8d29, 0x866f,
0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000,
0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000,
0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000,
0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000, 0x8000,
0x8000, 0x866f, 0x8d29, 0x942b, 0x9b6e, 0xa2f0, 0xaaab, 0xb29b,
0xbaba, 0xc305, 0xcb74, 0xd404, 0xdc4f, 0xe570, 0xee41, 0xf71e,
0x0000, 0x08e2, 0x11bf, 0x1a90, 0x2351, 0x2bfc, 0x348c, 0x3cfb,
0x4546, 0x4d65, 0x5555, 0x5d10, 0x6492, 0x6bd5, 0x72d7, 0x7991,
};
int i, ok = 1;
fn(r, sizeof(r)/sizeof(*r), x, y);
for (i = 0; i < sizeof(r)/sizeof(*r); ++i)
{
    if (r[i] != expected[i])
    {
        printf("mismatch: r[%d] = 0x%04x; expected[%d] = 0x%04x\n", i, r[i], i,
expected[i]);
        ok = 0;
        break;
    }
}
if (ok) printf("** TEST PASSED OK **\n");
return ok ? 0 : 1;
}
#ifdef __TARGET_ARCH_7_A
__asm void init_cpu()
{
    // Set up processor state
    MRC p15,0,r4,c1,c0,0
    ORR r4,r4,#0x00400000 // enable unaligned mode (U=1)
    BIC r4,r4,#0x00000002 // disable alignment faults (A=0)
    // MMU not enabled: no page tables
    MCR p15,0,r4,c1,c0,0
#ifdef __BIG_ENDIAN
    SETEND BE
#endif
    MRC p15,0,r4,c1,c0,2 // Enable VFP access in the CAR -
    ORR r4,r4,#0x00f00000 // must be done before any VFP instructions
    MCR p15,0,r4,c1,c0,2
    MOV r4,#0x40000000 // Set EN bit in FPEXC
    MSR FPEXC,r4
    IMPORT __main
    B __main
}
#endif

```

## Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.26 DSP vectorizable code example on page 3-102.](#)
- [3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance on page 3-98.](#)
- [7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)
- [3.25 Vectorizable code example on page 3-100.](#)

## Related references

- [8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)
- [8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\] on page 8-395.](#)
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\] on page 8-397.](#)
- [10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)
- [8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict on page 8-506.](#)
- [9.13 restrict on page 9-570.](#)

## Related information

- [--entry=location linker option.](#)

## 3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization

The following table summarizes what can limit or prevent automatic vectorization of loops.

**Table 3-5 Factors that limit or prevent automatic vectorization**

Inhibiting factor	Extent to which it applies
Not having a valid NEON compiler license.	You might require a valid NEON compiler license to generate NEON instructions, depending on your compiler version.  RVCT 3.1 or later, and ARM Compiler 4.1, require a valid NEON compiler license.  ARM Compiler 5.01 and later do not require a separate NEON compiler license.
Source code without loops.	Automatic vectorization involves loop analysis. Without loops, automatic vectorization cannot apply.
Target processor.	The target processor ( <code>--cpu</code> ) must have NEON capability if NEON instructions are to be generated. For example, Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A12, or Cortex-A15.
Floating-point code.	Vectorization of floating-point code does not always occur automatically. For example, loops that require re-association only vectorize when compiled with <code>--fpmode fast</code> .
<code>--no_vectorize</code> by default.	By default, generation of NEON vector instructions directly from C or C++ code is disabled, and must be enabled with <code>--vectorize</code> .
<code>-Otime</code> not specified.	<code>-Otime</code> must be specified to reduce execution time and enable loops to vectorize.
<code>-Onum</code> not set high enough.	The optimization level you set must be <code>-O2</code> or <code>-O3</code> . Loops do not vectorize at <code>-O0</code> or <code>-O1</code> .
Risk of incorrect results.	If there is a <i>risk</i> of an incorrect result, vectorization is not applied where that risk occurs. You might have to manually tune your code to make it more suitable for automatic vectorization.
Earlier manual optimization attempts.	Automatic vectorization can be impeded by earlier manual optimization attempts. For example, manual loop unrolling in the source code, or complex array accesses.
No vector access pattern.	If variables in a loop lack a vector access pattern, the compiler cannot automatically vectorize the loop.
Data dependencies between different iterations of a loop.	Where there is a possibility of the use and storage of arrays overlapping on different iterations of a loop, there is a data dependency problem. A loop cannot be safely vectorized if the vector order of operations can change the results, so the compiler leaves the loop in its original form or only partially vectorizes the loop.
Memory hierarchy.	Performing relatively few arithmetic operations on large data sets retrieved from main memory is limited by the memory bandwidth of the system. Most processors are relatively unbalanced between memory bandwidth and processor capacity. This can adversely affect the automatic vectorization process.
Iteration count not fixed at start of loop.	For automatic vectorization, it is generally best to write simple loops with iterations that are fixed at the start of the loop. If a loop does not have a fixed iteration count, automatic addressing is not possible.
Conditional loop exits.	It is best to write loops that do not contain conditional exits from the loop.
Carry-around scalar variables.	Carry-around scalar variables are a problem for automatic vectorization because the value computed in one pass of the loop is carried forward into the next pass.



**Table 3-5 Factors that limit or prevent automatic vectorization (continued)**

Inhibiting factor	Extent to which it applies
<code>__promise(expr)</code> not used.	Failure to use <code>__promise(expr)</code> where it could make a difference to automatic vectorization can limit automatic vectorization.
Pointer aliasing.	Pointer aliasing prevents the use of automatically vectorized code.
Indirect addressing.	Indirect addressing is not vectorizable because the NEON unit can only deal with vectors stored consecutively in memory.
Separating access to different parts of a structure into separate loops.	Each part of a structure must be accessed within the same loop for automatic vectorization to occur.
Inconsistent length of members within a structure.	If members of a structure are not all the same length, the compiler does not attempt to use vector loads.
Calls to non-inline functions.	Calls to non-inline functions from within a loop inhibits vectorization. If such functions are to be considered for vectorization, they must be marked with the <code>__inline</code> or <code>__forceinline</code> keywords.
<code>if</code> and <code>switch</code> statements.	Extensive use of <code>if</code> and <code>switch</code> statements can affect the efficiency of automatic vectorization.

You can use `--diag_warning=optimizations` to obtain compiler diagnostics on what can and cannot be vectorized.

### Related concepts

- [3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)
- [3.9 Factors affecting NEON vectorization performance on page 3-81.](#)
- [3.12 Data dependency conflicts when vectorizing code on page 3-84.](#)
- [3.17 Nonvectorization on conditional loop exits on page 3-89.](#)
- [3.13 Carry-around scalar variables and vectorization on page 3-85.](#)
- [3.16 Nonvectorization on loops containing pointers and indirect addressing on page 3-88.](#)
- [3.18 Vectorizable loop iteration counts on page 3-90.](#)
- [3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with `\_\_promise\(expr\)` on page 3-92.](#)
- [3.20 Grouping structure accesses for vectorization on page 3-94.](#)
- [3.21 Vectorization and struct member lengths on page 3-95.](#)
- [3.22 Nonvectorization of function calls to non-inline functions from within loops on page 3-96.](#)
- [3.23 Conditional statements and efficient vectorization on page 3-97.](#)
- [3.24 Vectorization diagnostics to tune code for improved performance on page 3-98.](#)

### Related references

- [8.191 `--vectorize`, `--no\_vectorize` on page 8-541.](#)
- [3.7 Data references within a vectorizable loop on page 3-79.](#)
- [3.11 Recommended loop structure for vectorization on page 3-83.](#)
- [9.13 `restrict` on page 9-570.](#)
- [8.40 `--cpu=list` on page 8-371.](#)
- [8.41 `--cpu=name` compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [8.86 `--fpmode=model` on page 8-421.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)

- 8.139 *-Onum* on page 8-480.
- 8.143 *-Otime* on page 8-486.
- 8.163 *--restrict, --no\_restrict* on page 8-506.
- 10.125 *\_\_promise intrinsic* on page 10-744.

# Chapter 4

## Compiler Features

Provides an overview of ARM-specific features of the compiler.

It contains the following sections:

- [4.1 Compiler intrinsics on page 4-109.](#)
- [4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics on page 4-110.](#)
- [4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics on page 4-111.](#)
- [4.4 Generic intrinsics on page 4-112.](#)
- [4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts on page 4-113.](#)
- [4.6 Compiler intrinsics for inserting optimization barriers on page 4-114.](#)
- [4.7 Compiler intrinsics for inserting native instructions on page 4-115.](#)
- [4.8 Compiler intrinsics for Digital Signal Processing \(DSP\) on page 4-116.](#)
- [4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations on page 4-117.](#)
- [4.10 Overflow and carry status flags for C and C++ code on page 4-119.](#)
- [4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code on page 4-120.](#)
- [4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler on page 4-121.](#)
- [4.13 Using NEON intrinsics on page 4-122.](#)
- [4.14 Compiler support for accessing registers using named register variables on page 4-124.](#)
- [4.15 Pragmas recognized by the compiler on page 4-127.](#)
- [4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding on page 4-129.](#)
- [4.17 Compiler type attribute, `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)` on page 4-130.](#)
- [4.18 `--bitband` compiler command-line option on page 4-131.](#)
- [4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions on page 4-132.](#)
- [4.20 Compiler support for thread-local storage on page 4-133.](#)

- *4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.*
- *4.22 Compiler eight-byte alignment features on page 4-135.*
- *4.23 Using compiler and linker support for symbol versions on page 4-136.*
- *4.24 Precompiled Header (PCH) files on page 4-137.*
- *4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing on page 4-139.*
- *4.26 Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.*
- *4.27 Precompiled Header (PCH) file creation requirements on page 4-141.*
- *4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header (PCH) files on page 4-143.*
- *4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header (PCH) files on page 4-144.*
- *4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header (PCH) file on page 4-145.*
- *4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing on page 4-146.*
- *4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing on page 4-147.*
- *4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header (PCH) processing on page 4-148.*
- *4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header (PCH) files on page 4-149.*
- *4.35 Default compiler options that are affected by optimization level on page 4-150.*

## 4.1 Compiler intrinsics

Compiler intrinsics are functions provided by the compiler. They enable you to easily incorporate domain-specific operations in C and C++ source code without resorting to complex implementations in assembly language.

The C and C++ languages are suited to a wide variety of tasks but they do not provide in-built support for specific areas of application, for example, *Digital Signal Processing* (DSP).

Within a given application domain, there is usually a range of domain-specific operations that have to be performed frequently. However, often these operations cannot be efficiently implemented in C or C++. A typical example is the saturated add of two 32-bit signed two's complement integers, commonly used in DSP programming. The following example shows a C implementation of saturated add operation

```
#include <limits.h>
int L_add(const int a, const int b)
{
    int c;
    c = a + b;
    if (((a ^ b) & INT_MIN) == 0)
    {
        if ((c ^ a) & INT_MIN)
        {
            c = (a < 0) ? INT_MIN : INT_MAX;
        }
    }
    return c;
}
```

Using compiler intrinsics, you can achieve more complete coverage of target architecture instructions than you would from the instruction selection of the compiler.

An intrinsic function has the appearance of a function call in C or C++, but is replaced during compilation by a specific sequence of low-level instructions. When implemented using an intrinsic, for example, the saturated add function previous example has the form:

```
#include <dspfns.h> /* Include ETSI intrinsics */
...
int a, b, result;
...
result = L_add(a, b); /* Saturated add of a and b */
```

### Related concepts

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts on page 4-113.](#)

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler on page 4-121.](#)

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations on page 4-117.](#)

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code on page 4-120.](#)

### Related references

[4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics on page 4-110.](#)

[4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics on page 4-111.](#)

[10.148 ETSI basic operations on page 10-770.](#)

[10.103 Instruction intrinsics on page 10-718.](#)

[10.149 C55x intrinsics on page 10-772.](#)

[18 Using NEON Support on page 18-929.](#)

## 4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics

The use of compiler intrinsics offers a number of performance benefits:

- The low-level instructions substituted for an intrinsic might be more efficient than corresponding implementations in C or C++, resulting in both reduced instruction and cycle counts. To implement the intrinsic, the compiler automatically generates the best sequence of instructions for the specified target architecture. For example, the `L_add` intrinsic maps directly to the ARM assembly language instruction `qadd`:  

```
QADD r0, r0, r1    /* Assuming r0 = a, r1 = b on entry */
```
- More information is given to the compiler than the underlying C and C++ language is able to convey. This enables the compiler to perform optimizations and to generate instruction sequences that it could not otherwise have performed.

These performance benefits can be significant for real-time processing applications. However, care is required because the use of intrinsics can decrease code portability.

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-109.

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts](#) on page 4-113.

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler](#) on page 4-121.

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations](#) on page 4-117.

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code](#) on page 4-120.

## 4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics

The compiler provides a range of instruction intrinsics for generating ARM assembly language instructions from within your C or C++ code.

Collectively, these intrinsics enable you to emulate inline assembly code using a combination of C code and instruction intrinsics.

ARM provides the following types of compiler intrinsics:

- Generic intrinsics.
- Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts.
- Compiler intrinsics for inserting optimization barriers.
- Compiler intrinsics for inserting native instructions.
- Compiler intrinsics for Digital Signal Processing (DSP).

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-109.

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts](#) on page 4-113.

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler](#) on page 4-121.

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations](#) on page 4-117.

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code](#) on page 4-120.

[4.6 Compiler intrinsics for inserting optimization barriers](#) on page 4-114.

[4.8 Compiler intrinsics for Digital Signal Processing \(DSP\)](#) on page 4-116.

### Related references

[4.4 Generic intrinsics](#) on page 4-112.

[4.7 Compiler intrinsics for inserting native instructions](#) on page 4-115.

## 4.4 Generic intrinsics

The compiler provides a number of generic intrinsics, that is, intrinsics not targeted towards any particular area of application.

The following generic intrinsics are ARM language extensions to the ISO C and C++ standards:

- `__breakpoint` intrinsic.
- `__current_pc` intrinsic.
- `__current_sp` intrinsic.
- `__nop` intrinsic.
- `__return_address` intrinsic.
- `__semihost` intrinsic.

Implementations of these intrinsics are available across all architectures.

### Related references

- [10.104 `\_\_breakpoint` intrinsic on page 10-719.](#)
- [10.108 `\_\_current\_pc` intrinsic on page 10-723.](#)
- [10.109 `\_\_current\_sp` intrinsic on page 10-724.](#)
- [10.121 `\_\_nop` intrinsic on page 10-739.](#)
- [10.131 `\_\_return\_address` intrinsic on page 10-750.](#)
- [10.134 `\_\_semihost` intrinsic on page 10-753.](#)
- [10.154 GNU built-in functions on page 10-780.](#)



## 4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts

The intrinsics `__disable_irq`, `__enable_irq`, `__disable_fiq` and `__enable_fiq` control IRQ and FIQ interrupts.

You cannot use these intrinsics to change any other CPSR bits, including the mode, state, and imprecise data abort setting. This means that the intrinsics can be used only if the processor is already in a privileged mode, because the control bits of the CPSR and SPSR cannot be changed in User mode.

These intrinsics are available for all processor architectures in both ARM and Thumb state, as follows:

- If you are compiling for processors that support ARMv6 (or later), a CPS instruction is generated inline for these functions, for example:

```
CPSID i
```

- If you are compiling for processors that support ARMv4 or ARMv5 in ARM state, the compiler inlines a sequence of MRS and MSR instructions, for example:

```
MRS r0, CPSR
ORR r0, r0, #0x80
MSR CPSR_c, r0
```

- If you are compiling for processors that support ARMv4 or ARMv5 in Thumb state, or if `--compatible` is being used, the compiler calls a helper function, for example:

```
BL __ARM_disable_irq
```

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics on page 4-109.](#)

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler on page 4-121.](#)

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations on page 4-117.](#)

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code on page 4-120.](#)

### Related references

[4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics on page 4-110.](#)

[4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics on page 4-111.](#)

[10.110 \\_\\_disable\\_fiq intrinsic on page 10-725.](#)

[10.111 \\_\\_disable\\_irq intrinsic on page 10-726.](#)

[10.112 \\_\\_enable\\_fiq intrinsic on page 10-728.](#)

[10.113 \\_\\_enable\\_irq intrinsic on page 10-729.](#)

## 4.6 Compiler intrinsics for inserting optimization barriers

The optimization barrier intrinsics `__schedule_barrier`, `__force_stores` and `__memory_changed` let you override compiler optimizations by disabling instruction re-ordering and forcing memory updates.

The compiler can perform a range of optimizations, including re-ordering instructions and merging some operations. In some cases, such as system level programming where memory is being accessed concurrently by multiple processes, it might be necessary to disable instruction re-ordering and force memory to be updated.

The optimization barrier intrinsics `__schedule_barrier`, `__force_stores` and `__memory_changed` do not generate code, but they can result in slightly increased code size and additional memory accesses.

---

**Note**

On some systems the memory barrier intrinsics might not be sufficient to ensure memory consistency. For example, the `__memory_changed` intrinsic forces values held in registers to be written out to memory. However, if the destination for the data is held in a region that can be buffered it might wait in a write buffer. In this case you might also have to write to CP15 or use a memory barrier instruction to drain the write buffer. See the Technical Reference Manual for your ARM processor for more information.

---

### Related references

[10.116 `\_\_force\_stores` intrinsic on page 10-732.](#)

[10.120 `\_\_memory\_changed` intrinsic on page 10-738.](#)

[10.133 `\_\_schedule\_barrier` intrinsic on page 10-752.](#)

## 4.7 Compiler intrinsics for inserting native instructions

The compiler provides a number of intrinsics that insert ARM processor instructions into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

### Related references

- [10.105 \\_\\_cdp intrinsic on page 10-720.](#)
- [10.106 \\_\\_clrex intrinsic on page 10-721.](#)
- [10.117 \\_\\_ldrex intrinsic on page 10-733.](#)
- [10.119 \\_\\_ldrt intrinsic on page 10-736.](#)
- [10.122 \\_\\_pld intrinsic on page 10-741.](#)
- [10.124 \\_\\_pli intrinsic on page 10-743.](#)
- [10.129 \\_\\_rbit intrinsic on page 10-748.](#)
- [10.130 \\_\\_rev intrinsic on page 10-749.](#)
- [10.132 \\_\\_ror intrinsic on page 10-751.](#)
- [10.135 \\_\\_sev intrinsic on page 10-755.](#)
- [10.139 \\_\\_strex intrinsic on page 10-759.](#)
- [10.141 \\_\\_strt intrinsic on page 10-762.](#)
- [10.142 \\_\\_swp intrinsic on page 10-764.](#)
- [10.144 \\_\\_wfe intrinsic on page 10-766.](#)
- [10.145 \\_\\_wfi intrinsic on page 10-767.](#)
- [10.146 \\_\\_yield intrinsic on page 10-768.](#)

## 4.8 Compiler intrinsics for Digital Signal Processing (DSP)

The compiler provides intrinsics that assist in the implementation of DSP algorithms.

These intrinsics introduce the appropriate target instructions for:

- ARM, on architectures from ARMv5TE onwards.
- Thumb, on architectures with Thumb-2 technology.

Not every instruction has its own intrinsic. The compiler can combine several intrinsics, or combinations of intrinsics and C operators to generate more powerful instructions. For example, the ARMv5TE QDADD instruction is generated by a combination of `__qadd` and `__qdbl`.

### Related references

- [10.107 `\_\_clz` intrinsic on page 10-722.](#)
- [10.114 `\_\_fabs` intrinsic on page 10-730.](#)
- [10.115 `\_\_fabsf` intrinsic on page 10-731.](#)
- [10.126 `\_\_qadd` intrinsic on page 10-745.](#)
- [10.127 `\_\_qdbl` intrinsic on page 10-746.](#)
- [10.128 `\_\_qsub` intrinsic on page 10-747.](#)
- [10.136 `\_\_sqrt` intrinsic on page 10-756.](#)
- [10.137 `\_\_sqrtf` intrinsic on page 10-757.](#)
- [10.138 `\_\_ssat` intrinsic on page 10-758.](#)
- [10.143 `\_\_usat` intrinsic on page 10-765.](#)
- [10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

## 4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) basic operations

ARM Compiler 4.1 and later provide support for the ETSI basic operations to help implement coding of speech.

ETSI has produced several recommendations for the coding of speech, for example, the G.723.1 and G.729 recommendations. These recommendations include source code and test sequences for reference implementations of the codecs.

Model implementations of speech codecs supplied by ETSI are based on a collection of C functions known as the *ETSI basic operations*. The ETSI basic operations include 16-bit, 32-bit and 40-bit operations for saturated arithmetic, 16-bit and 32-bit logical operations, and 16-bit and 32-bit operations for data type conversion.

---

### Note

Version 2.0 of the ETSI collection of basic operations, as described in the *ITU-T Software Tool Library 2005 User's manual*, introduces new 16-bit, 32-bit and 40 bit-operations. These operations are not supported in the ARM compilation tools.

---

The ETSI basic operations serve as a set of primitives for developers publishing codec algorithms, rather than as a library for use by developers implementing codecs in C or C++.

ARM Compiler 4.1 and later provide support for the ETSI basic operations through the header file `dspfns.h`. The `dspfns.h` header file contains definitions of the ETSI basic operations as a combination of C code and intrinsics.

See `dspfns.h` for a complete list of the ETSI basic operations supported in ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.

ARM Compiler 4.1 and later support the original ETSI family of basic operations as described in the ETSI G.729 recommendation *Coding of speech at 8 kbit/s using conjugate-structure algebraic-code-excited linear prediction (CS-ACELP)*, including:

- 16-bit and 32-bit saturated arithmetic operations, such as `add` and `sub`. For example, `add(v1, v2)` adds two 16-bit numbers `v1` and `v2` together, with overflow control and saturation, returning a 16-bit result.
- 16-bit and 32-bit multiplication operations, such as `mult` and `L_mult`. For example, `mult(v1, v2)` multiplies two 16-bit numbers `v1` and `v2` together, returning a scaled 16-bit result.
- 16-bit arithmetic shift operations, such as `shl` and `shr`. For example, the saturating left shift operation `shl(v1, v2)` arithmetically shifts the 16-bit input `v1` left `v2` positions. A negative shift count shifts `v1` right `v2` positions.
- 16-bit data conversion operations, such as `extract_l`, `extract_h`, and `round`. For example, `round(L_v1)` rounds the lower 16 bits of the 32-bit input `L_v1` into the most significant 16 bits with saturation.

---

### Note

Beware that both the `dspfns.h` header file and the ISO C99 header file `math.h` both define (different versions of) the function `round()`. Take care to avoid this potential conflict.

---

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics on page 4-109.](#)

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts on page 4-113.](#)

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler on page 4-121.](#)

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code on page 4-120.](#)

[4.10 Overflow and carry status flags for C and C++ code on page 4-119.](#)

**Related references**

*4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics on page 4-110.*

*4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics on page 4-111.*

*10.148 ETSI basic operations on page 10-770.*

## 4.10 Overflow and carry status flags for C and C++ code

The implementation of the *European Telecommunications Standards Institute* (ETSI) basic operations in `dspfns.h` exposes the status flags `Overflow` and `Carry`.

These flags are available as global variables for use in your own C or C++ programs. For example:

```
#include <dspfns.h>          /* include ETSI intrinsics */
#include <stdio.h>
...
const int BUFLen=255;
int a[BUFLen], b[BUFLen], c[BUFLen];
...
Overflow = 0;                /* clear overflow flag */
for (i = 0; i < BUFLen; ++i) {
    c[i] = L_add(a[i], b[i]); /* saturated add of a[i] and b[i] */
}
if (Overflow)
{
    fprintf(stderr, "Overflow on saturated addition\n");
}
```

Generally, saturating functions have a sticky effect on overflow. That is, the overflow flag remains set until it is explicitly cleared.

### Related concepts

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations](#) on page 4-117.

## 4.11 Texas Instruments (TI) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code

The ARM compilation tools support the emulation of selected TI C55x intrinsics.

The TI C55x compiler recognizes a number of intrinsics for the optimization of C code. The ARM compilation tools support the emulation of selected TI C55x intrinsics through the header file, `c55x.h`.

`c55x.h` gives a complete list of the TI C55x intrinsics that are emulated by the ARM compilation tools.

TI C55x intrinsics that are emulated in `c55x.h` include:

- Intrinsics for addition, subtraction, negation and absolute value, such as `_sadd` and `_ssub`. For example, `_sadd(v1, v2)` returns the 16-bit saturated sum of `v1` and `v2`.
- Intrinsics for multiplication and shifting, such as `_smpy` and `_ssh1`. For example, `_smpy(v1, v2)` returns the saturated fractional-mode product of `v1` and `v2`.
- Intrinsics for rounding, saturation, bitcount and extremum, such as `_round` and `_count`. For example, `_round(v1)` returns the value `v1` rounded by adding 215 using unsaturated arithmetic, clearing the lower 16 bits.
- Associative variants of intrinsics for addition and multiply-and-accumulate. This includes all TI C55x intrinsics prefixed with `_a_`, for example, `_a_sadd` and `_a_smac`.
- Rounding variants of intrinsics for multiplication and shifting, for example, `_smacr` and `_smasr`.

The following TI C55x intrinsics are not supported in `c55x.h`:

- All **long long** variants of intrinsics. This includes all TI C55x intrinsics prefixed with `_ll`, for example, `_llsadd` and `_llsh1`. **long long** variants of intrinsics are not supported in the ARM compilation tools because they operate on 40-bit data.
- All arithmetic intrinsics with side effects. For example, the TI C55x intrinsics `_firs` and `_lms` are not defined in `c55x.h`.
- Intrinsics for ETSI support functions, such as `L_add_c` and `L_sub_c`.

### ———— Note ————

An exception is the ETSI support function for saturating division, `divs`. This intrinsic is supported in `c55x.h`.

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-109.

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts](#) on page 4-113.

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler](#) on page 4-121.

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations](#) on page 4-117.

### Related references

[4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-110.

[4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics](#) on page 4-111.

### Related information

Texas Instruments, <http://www.ti.com>.



## 4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler

As an alternative to automatic compiler vectorization, NEON intrinsics provide an intermediate step between a vectorizing compiler and writing assembly language for SIMD code generation.

This feature makes it easier to write code that takes advantage of the NEON architecture when compared to writing assembly language directly.

NEON intrinsics are defined in the header file `arm_neon.h`. The header file defines both the intrinsics and a set of vector types.

### Related concepts

[4.1 Compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-109.

[4.5 Compiler intrinsics for controlling IRQ and FIQ interrupts](#) on page 4-113.

[4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\) basic operations](#) on page 4-117.

[4.11 Texas Instruments \(TI\) C55x intrinsics for optimizing C code](#) on page 4-120.

[3.2 The NEON unit](#) on page 3-73.

[3.3 Methods of writing code for NEON](#) on page 3-75.

### Related tasks

[4.13 Using NEON intrinsics](#) on page 4-122.

### Related references

[4.2 Performance benefits of compiler intrinsics](#) on page 4-110.

[4.3 ARM assembler instruction intrinsics](#) on page 4-111.

[18 Using NEON Support](#) on page 18-929.

## 4.13 Using NEON intrinsics

Describes how to build an example program that uses NEON intrinsics.

### Procedure

1. Create the following example C program source code:

```

/* neon_example.c - Neon intrinsics example program */
#include <stdint.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include <arm_neon.h>
/* fill array with increasing integers beginning with 0 */
void fill_array(int16_t *array, int size)
{
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < size; i++)
    {
        array[i] = i;
    }
}
/* return the sum of all elements in an array. This works by calculating 4 totals (one
for each lane) and adding those at the end to get the final total */
int sum_array(int16_t *array, int size)
{
    /* initialize the accumulator vector to zero */
    int16x4_t acc = vdup_n_s16(0);
    int32x2_t acc1;
    int64x1_t acc2;
    /* this implementation assumes the size of the array is a multiple of 4 */
    assert((size % 4) == 0);
    /* counting backwards gives better code */
    for (; size != 0; size -= 4)
    {
        int16x4_t vec;
        /* load 4 values in parallel from the array */
        vec = vld1_s16(array);
        /* increment the array pointer to the next element */
        array += 4;
        /* add the vector to the accumulator vector */
        acc = vadd_s16(acc, vec);
    }
    /* calculate the total */
    acc1 = vpaddl_s16(acc);
    acc2 = vpaddl_s32(acc1);
    /* return the total as an integer */
    return (int)vget_lane_s64(acc2, 0);
}
/* main function */
int main()
{
    int16_t my_array[100];
    fill_array(my_array, 100);
    printf("Sum was %d\n", sum_array(my_array, 100));
    return 0;
}

```

2. Compile the example source code with the following options:

```
armcc -c --debug --cpu=Cortex-A8 neon_example.c
```

3. Link the resulting object file using the following command:

```
armlink neon_example.o -o neon_example.axf
```

4. Use a compatible debugger to load and run the resulting image `neon_example.axf`.

### Related concepts

[4.12 NEON intrinsics provided by the compiler on page 4-121.](#)

### Related references

[8.21 -c on page 8-350.](#)

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

8.45 *--debug, --no\_debug* on page 8-379.  
18 *Using NEON Support* on page 18-929.

## 4.14 Compiler support for accessing registers using named register variables

You can use named register variables to access registers of an ARM architecture-based processor.

Named register variables are declared by combining the **register** keyword with the `__asm` keyword. The `__asm` keyword takes one parameter, a character string, that names the register. For example, the following declaration declares `R0` as a named register variable for the register `r0`:

```
register int R0 __asm("r0");
```

Any type of the same size as the register being named can be used in the declaration of a named register variable. The type can be a structure, but bitfield layout is sensitive to endianness.

You must declare core registers as global rather than local named register variables. Your program might still compile if you declare them locally, but you risk unexpected runtime behavior if you do. There is no restriction on the scope of named register variables for other registers.

### ————— Note —————

A global named register variable is global to the source file in which it is declared, not global to the program. It has no effect on other files, unless you use multifile compilation or you declare it in a header file.

A typical use of named register variables is to access bits in the *Application Program Status Register* (APSR). The following example shows how to use named register variables to set the saturation flag `Q` in the APSR.

```
#ifndef __BIG_ENDIAN // bitfield layout of APSR is sensitive to endianness
typedef union
{
    struct
    {
        int mode:5;
        int T:1;
        int F:1;
        int I:1;
        int _dnm:19;
        int Q:1;
        int V:1;
        int C:1;
        int Z:1;
        int N:1;
    } b;
    unsigned int word;
} PSR;
#else /* __BIG_ENDIAN */
typedef union
{
    struct
    {
        int N:1;
        int Z:1;
        int C:1;
        int V:1;
        int Q:1;
        int _dnm:19;
        int I:1;
        int F:1;
        int T:1;
        int mode:5;
    } b;
    unsigned int word;
} PSR;
#endif /* __BIG_ENDIAN */
/* Declare PSR as a register variable for the "apsr" register */
register PSR apsr __asm("apsr");
void set_Q(void)
{
    apsr.b.Q = 1;
}
```

The following example shows how to use a named register variable to clear the Q flag in the APSR.

```
register unsigned int _apsr __asm("apsr");
void ClearQFlag(void)
{
    _apsr = _apsr & ~0x08000000; // clear Q flag
}
```

Compiling this example using `--cpu=7-M` results in the following assembly code:

```
ClearQFlag
    MRS     r0,APSR ; formerly CPSR
    BIC     r0,r0,#0x80000000
    MSR     APSR_nzcvq,r0; formerly CPSR_f
    BX      lr
```

The following example shows how to use named register variables to set up stack pointers.

```
register unsigned int _control __asm("control");
register unsigned int _msp __asm("msp");
register unsigned int _psp __asm("psp");
void init(void)
{
    _msp = 0x30000000; // set up Main Stack Pointer
    _control = _control | 3; // switch to User Mode with Process Stack
    _psp = 0x40000000; // set up Process Stack Pointer
}
```

Compiling this example using `--cpu=7-M` results in the following assembly code:

```
init
    MOV     r0,0x30000000
    MSR     MSP,r0
    MRS     r0,CONTROL
    ORR     r0,r0,#3
    MSR     CONTROL,r0
    MOV     r0,#0x40000000
    MSR     PSP,r0
    BX      lr
```

You can also use named register variables to access registers within a coprocessor. The string syntax within the declaration corresponds to how you intend to use the variable. For example, to declare a variable that you intend to use with the MCR instruction, look up the instruction syntax for this instruction and use this syntax when you declare your variable. The following example shows how to use a named register variable to set bits in a coprocessor register.

```
register unsigned int PMCR __asm("cp15:0:c9:c12:0");
void __reset_cycle_counter(void)
{
    PMCR = 4;
}
```

Compiling this example using `--cpu=7-M` results in the following assembly code:

```
__reset_cycle_counter PROC
    MOV     r0,#4
    MCR     p15,#0x0,r0,c9,c12,#0      ; move from r0 to c9
    BX      lr
ENDP
```

In the above example, PMCR is declared as a register variable of type **unsigned int**, that is associated with the cp15 coprocessor, with CRn = c9, CRm = c12, opcode1 = 0, and opcode2 = 0 in an MCR or MRC instruction. The MCR encoding in the disassembly corresponds with the register variable declaration.

The physical coprocessor register is specified with a combination of the two register numbers, CRn and CRm, and two opcode numbers. This maps to a single physical register.

The same principle applies if you want to manipulate individual bits in a register, but you write normal variable arithmetic in C, and the compiler does a read-modify-write of the coprocessor register. The following example shows how to manipulate bits in a coprocessor register using a named register variable

```
register unsigned int SCTLR __asm("cp15:0:c1:c0:0");
/* Set bit 11 of the system control register */
```

```
void __enable_branch_prediction(void)
{
    SCTLRLR |= (1 << 11);
}
```

Compiling this example using `--cpu=7-M` results in the following assembly code:

```
__enable_branch_prediction PROC
MRC      p15,#0x0,r0,c1,c0,#0
ORR      r0,r0,#0x800
MCR      p15,#0x0,r0,c1,c0,#0
BX       lr
ENDP
```

### Related references

[10.5 `\_\_asm` on page 10-611.](#)

[10.153 Named register variables on page 10-776.](#)

### Related information

[Application Program Status Register.](#)

[MRC and MRC2.](#)

## 4.15 Pragmas recognized by the compiler

The compiler recognizes a number of pragmas, used to instruct the compiler to use particular features.

The compiler recognizes the following pragmas:

### Pragmas for saving and restoring the pragma state

- `#pragma pop`
- `#pragma push`

### Pragmas controlling optimization goals

- `#pragma Onum`
- `#pragma Ospace`
- `#pragma Otime`

### Pragmas controlling code generation

- `#pragma arm`
- `#pragma thumb`
- `#pragma exceptions_unwind`, `#pragma no_exceptions_unwind`

### Pragmas controlling loop unrolling

- `#pragma unroll [(n)]`
- `#pragma unroll_completely`

### Pragmas controlling Precompiled Header (PCH) processing

- `#pragma hdrstop`
- `#pragma no_pch`

### Pragmas controlling anonymous structures and unions

- `#pragma anon_unions`, `#pragma no_anon_unions`

### Pragmas controlling diagnostic messages

- `#pragma diag_default tag[,tag,...]`
- `#pragma diag_error tag[,tag,...]`
- `#pragma diag_remark tag[,tag,...]`
- `#pragma diag_suppress tag[,tag,...]`
- `#pragma diag_warning tag[, tag, ...]`

### Miscellaneous pragmas

- `#pragma arm section [section_type_list]`
- `#pragma import(__use_full_stdio)`
- `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no_inline`
- `#pragma once`
- `#pragma pack(n)`
- `#pragma softfp_linkage`, `#pragma no_softfp_linkage`
- `#pragma import symbol_name`

### Related references

[10.75 `#pragma anon\_unions`, `#pragma no\_anon\_unions` on page 10-687.](#)

[10.76 `#pragma arm` on page 10-688.](#)

[10.77 `#pragma arm section \[section\_type\_list\]` on page 10-689.](#)

- 10.78 `#pragma diag_default tag[,tag,...]` on page 10-691.
- 10.79 `#pragma diag_error tag[,tag,...]` on page 10-692.
- 10.80 `#pragma diag_remark tag[,tag,...]` on page 10-693.
- 10.81 `#pragma diag_suppress tag[,tag,...]` on page 10-694.
- 10.82 `#pragma diag_warning tag[, tag, ...]` on page 10-695.
- 10.83 `#pragma exceptions_unwind`, `#pragma no_exceptions_unwind` on page 10-696.
- 10.84 `#pragma GCC system_header` on page 10-697.
- 10.85 `#pragma hdrstop` on page 10-698.
- 10.86 `#pragma import symbol_name` on page 10-699.
- 10.87 `#pragma import(__use_full_stdio)` on page 10-700.
- 10.88 `#pragma import(__use_smaller_memcpy)` on page 10-701.
- 10.89 `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no_inline` on page 10-702.
- 10.90 `#pragma no_pch` on page 10-703.
- 10.91 `#pragma Onum` on page 10-704.
- 10.92 `#pragma once` on page 10-705.
- 10.93 `#pragma Ospace` on page 10-706.
- 10.94 `#pragma Otime` on page 10-707.
- 10.95 `#pragma pack(n)` on page 10-708.
- 10.96 `#pragma pop` on page 10-710.
- 10.97 `#pragma push` on page 10-711.
- 10.98 `#pragma softfp_linkage`, `#pragma no_softfp_linkage` on page 10-712.
- 10.99 `#pragma thumb` on page 10-713.
- 10.100 `#pragma unroll [(n)]` on page 10-714.
- 10.101 `#pragma unroll_completely` on page 10-716.
- 10.102 `#pragma weak symbol`, `#pragma weak symbol1 = symbol2` on page 10-717.



## 4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding

The compiler supports bit-banding for processors that provide the feature.

The compiler supports bit-banding in the following ways:

- `__attribute__((bitband))` language extension.
- `--bitband` command-line option.

Bit-banding is a feature of the Cortex-M3 and Cortex-M4 processors (`--cpu=Cortex-M3` and `--cpu=Cortex-M4`) and some derivatives (for example, `--cpu=Cortex-M3-rev0`). This functionality is not available on other ARM processors.

### Related concepts

[4.17 Compiler type attribute, `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)` on page 4-130.](#)

[4.18 `--bitband` compiler command-line option on page 4-131.](#)

[4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions on page 4-132.](#)

### Related references

[10.56 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)` type attribute on page 10-668.](#)

[10.62 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-674.](#)

[8.17 `--bitband` on page 8-345.](#)

[8.17 `--bitband` on page 8-345.](#)

## 4.17 Compiler type attribute, `__attribute__((bitband))`

`__attribute__((bitband))` is a type attribute that lets you bit-band type definitions of structures.

In the following example, the unplaced bit-banded objects must be relocated into the bit-band region. This can be achieved by either using an appropriate scatter-loading description file or by using the `--rw_base` linker command-line option.

```
/* foo.c */
typedef struct {
    int i : 1;
    int j : 2;
    int k : 3;
} BB __attribute__((bitband));
BB value; // Unplaced object
void update_value(void)
{
    value.i = 1;
    value.j = 0;
}
/* end of foo.c */
```

Alternatively, you can use `__attribute__((at()))` to place bit-banded objects at a particular address in the bit-band region, as in the following example:

```
/* foo.c */
typedef struct {
    int i : 1;
    int j : 2;
    int k : 3;
} BB __attribute__((bitband));
BB value __attribute__((at(0x20000040))); // Placed object
void update_value(void)
{
    value.i = 1;
    value.j = 0;
}
/* end of foo.c */
```

### Related concepts

[4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding on page 4-129.](#)

[4.18 `--bitband` compiler command-line option on page 4-131.](#)

[4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions on page 4-132.](#)

### Related references

[10.56 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)` type attribute on page 10-668.](#)

[10.62 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-674.](#)

[8.17 `--bitband` on page 8-345.](#)

### Related information

[Scatter-loading Features.](#)

[--rw\\_base=address linker option.](#)

## 4.18 --bitband compiler command-line option

The --bitband command-line option bit-bands all non **const** global structure objects.

In the following example, when --bitband is applied to foo.c, the write to value.i is bit-banded. That is, the value 0x00000001 is written to the bit-band alias word that value.i maps to in the bit-band region.

Accesses to value.j and value.k are not bit-banded.

```
/* foo.c */
typedef struct {
    int i : 1;
    int j : 2;
    int k : 3;
} BB;
BB value __attribute__((at(0x20000040))); // Placed object
void update_value(void)
{
    value.i = 1;
    value.j = 0;
}
/* end of foo.c */
```

armcc supports the bit-banding of objects accessed through absolute addresses. When --bitband is applied to foo.c in the following example, the access to rts is bit-banded.

```
/* foo.c */
typedef struct {
    int rts : 1;
    int cts : 1;
    unsigned int data;
} uart;
#define com2 (*((volatile uart *)0x20002000))
void put_com2(int n)
{
    com2.rts = 1;
    com2.data = n;
}
/* end of foo.c */
```

### Related concepts

- [4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding](#) on page 4-129.
- [4.17 Compiler type attribute, \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(bitband\)\)](#) on page 4-130.
- [4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions](#) on page 4-132.

### Related references

- [10.56 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(bitband\)\) type attribute](#) on page 10-668.
- [10.62 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-674.
- [8.17 --bitband](#) on page 8-345.

## 4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions

Bit-band objects must not be placed outside bit-band regions.

If you do inadvertently place a bit-band object outside a bit-band region, either using the `at` attribute, or using an integer pointer to a particular address, the compiler responds as follows:

- If the `bitband` attribute is applied to an object type and `--bitband` is not specified on the command line, the compiler generates an error.
- If the `bitband` attribute is applied to an object type and `--bitband` is specified on the command line, the compiler generates a warning, and ignores the request to bit-band.
- If the `bitband` attribute is not applied to an object type and `--bitband` is specified on the command line, the compiler ignores the request to bit-band.

### Related concepts

[4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding](#) on page 4-129.

[4.17 Compiler type attribute, `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)`](#) on page 4-130.

[4.18 `--bitband` compiler command-line option](#) on page 4-131.

### Related references

[10.56 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(bitband\)\)` type attribute](#) on page 10-668.

[10.62 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-674.

[8.17 `--bitband`](#) on page 8-345.

## 4.20 Compiler support for thread-local storage

Thread-local storage is a class of static storage that, like the stack, is private to each thread of execution.

Each thread in a process is given a location where it can store thread-specific data. Variables are allocated so that there is one instance of the variable for each existing thread.

Before each thread terminates, it releases its dynamic memory and any pointers to thread-local variables in that thread become invalid.

### Related references

[10.29 `\_\_declspec\(thread\)` on page 10-639.](#)

## 4.21 Compiler support for literal pools

Literal pools are areas of constant data in a code section.

No single instruction can generate a 4 byte constant, so the compiler generates code that loads these constants from a literal pool.

In the following example, the compiler generates code that loads the integer constant 0xdeadbeef from a literal pool (marked with \*\*\*).

```

int f(void) {
    return 0xdeadbeef;
}

** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
   Size   : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
   Address: 0x00000000

   $a
   .text
   f
   0x00000000: e59f0000    .... LDR    r0,[pc,#0] ; [0x8] = 0xdeadbeef
   0x00000004: e12fff1e    ../. BX    lr
   $d
   0x00000008: deadbeef    .... DCD   3735928559          ***

```

An alternative to using literal pools is to generate the constant in a register with a MOVW/MOVT instruction pair:

```

** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
   Size   : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
   Address: 0x00000000

   $a
   .text
   f
   0x00000000: e30b0eef    .... MOV    r0,#0xbeef
   0x00000004: e34d0ead    ..M. MOVT   r0,#0xdead
   0x00000008: e12fff1e    ../. BX    lr

```

In most cases, generating literal pools improves performance and code size. However, in some specific cases you might prefer to generate code without literal pools.

The following compiler options control literal pools:

- `--integer_literal_pools.`
- `--string_literal_pools.`
- `--branch_tables.`
- `--float_literal_pools.`

### Related references

[8.108 --integer\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_integer\\_literal\\_pools](#) on page 8-446.

[8.177 --string\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_string\\_literal\\_pools](#) on page 8-522.

[8.18 --branch\\_tables, --no\\_branch\\_tables](#) on page 8-346.

[8.82 --float\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_float\\_literal\\_pools](#) on page 8-417.

## 4.22 Compiler eight-byte alignment features

The compiler has the following eight-byte alignment features:

- The *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture* (AAPCS) requires that the stack is eight-byte aligned at all external interfaces. The compiler and C libraries preserve the eight-byte alignment of the stack. In addition, the default C library memory model maintains eight-byte alignment of the heap.
- Code is compiled in a way that requires and preserves the eight-byte alignment constraints at external interfaces.
- If you have assembly language files, or legacy objects, or libraries in your project, it is your responsibility to check that they preserve eight-byte stack alignment, and correct them if required.
- In RVCT v2.0 and later, and in ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, **double** and **long long** data types are eight-byte aligned for compliance with the *Application Binary Interface for the ARM Architecture* (AEABI). This enables efficient use of the LDRD and STRD instructions in ARMv5TE and later.
- The default implementations of `malloc()`, `realloc()`, and `calloc()` maintain an eight-byte aligned heap.
- The default implementation of `alloca()` returns an eight-byte aligned block of memory.

### Related information

*Alignment restrictions in load and store element and structure instructions.*

*Section alignment with the linker.*

*alloca().*

*Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.*

*Application Binary Interface (ABI) for the ARM Architecture.*

## 4.23 Using compiler and linker support for symbol versions

The compiler and the linker both support the GNU-extended symbol versioning model.

To create a function with a symbol version in C or C++ code, you must use the assembly label GNU extension. Use this extension to rename the function symbol into a symbol that has either of the following names:

- *function@@ver* for a default *ver* of *function*.
- *function@ver* for a nondefault *ver* of *function*.

For example, to define a default version:

```
int new_function(void) __asm__("versioned_fun@@ver2");
int new_function(void)
{
    return 2;
}
```

To define a nondefault version:

```
int old_function(void) __asm__("versioned_fun@ver1");
int old_function(void)
{
    return 1;
}
```

### Related references

[9.36 Assembler labels](#) on page 9-593.

### Related information

[Symbol versioning for BPABI models.](#)



## 4.24 Precompiled Header (PCH) files

Precompiled Header files can help reduce compilation time when the same header file is used by multiple source files.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

When you compile source files, the included header files are also compiled. If a header file is included in more than one source file, it is recompiled when each source file is compiled. Also, you might include header files that introduce many lines of code, but the primary source files that include them are relatively small. Therefore, it is often desirable to avoid recompiling a set of header files by precompiling them. These are referred to as PCH files.

The compiler can precompile and use PCH files automatically with the `--pch` option, or you can use the `--create_pch` and `--use_pch` options to manually control the use of PCH files.

By default, when the compiler creates a PCH file, it:

- Takes the name of the primary source file and replaces the suffix with `.pch`.
- Creates the file in the same directory as the primary source file.

---

### Note

Support for PCH processing is not available when you specify multiple source files in a single compilation. In such a case, the compiler issues an error message and aborts the compilation.

---



---

### Note

Do not assume that if a PCH file is available, it is used by the compiler. In some cases, system configuration issues mean that the compiler might not always be able to use the PCH file. Address Space Randomization on *Red Hat Enterprise Linux 3* (RHE3) is one example of a possible system configuration issue.

---

### Related concepts

- [2.4 Order of compiler command-line options](#) on page 2-46.
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing](#) on page 4-139.
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point](#) on page 4-140.
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements](#) on page 4-141.
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-143.
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-144.
- [4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file](#) on page 4-145.
- [4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing](#) on page 4-146.
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing](#) on page 4-147.
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing](#) on page 4-148.
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-149.

### Related references

- [8.147 --pch](#) on page 8-490.
- [8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir](#) on page 8-491.
- [8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages](#) on page 8-492.
- [8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose](#) on page 8-493.

*10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.*

*10.90 #pragma no\_pch on page 10-703.*

## 4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing

The `--pch` command-line option enables automatic PCH file processing.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

Automatic PCH file processing means that the compiler automatically looks for a qualifying PCH file, and reads it if found. Otherwise, the compiler creates one for use on a subsequent compilation.

When the compiler creates a PCH file, it takes the name of the primary source file and replaces the suffix with `.pch`. The PCH file is created in the directory of the primary source file unless the `--pch_dir` option is specified.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-143.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
- [4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file on page 4-145.](#)
- [4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-146.](#)
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-147.](#)
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [8.147 `--pch` on page 8-490.](#)
- [8.148 `--pch\_dir=dir` on page 8-491.](#)

## 4.26 Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing and the header stop point

The PCH file contains a snapshot of all the code that precedes a *header stop point*.

### ———— Note ————

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

Typically, the header stop point is the first token in the primary source file that does not belong to a preprocessing directive. In the following example, the header stop point is `int` and the PCH file contains a snapshot that reflects the inclusion of `xxx.h` and `yyy.h`:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#include "yyy.h"
int i;
```

You can manually specify the header stop point with `#pragma hdrstop`. If you use this pragma, it must appear before the first token that does not belong to a preprocessing directive. In this example, it must be placed before `int`, as follows:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#include "yyy.h"
#pragma hdrstop
int i;
```

If a conditional directive block (`#if`, `#ifdef`, or `#ifndef`) encloses the first non-preprocessor token or `#pragma hdrstop`, the header stop point is the outermost enclosing conditional directive.

For example:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#ifndef YYY_H
#define YYY_H 1
#include "yyy.h"
#endif
#if TEST /* Header stop point lies immediately before #if TEST */
int i;
#endif
```

In this example, the first token that does not belong to a preprocessing directive is `int`, but the header stop point is the start of the `#if` block containing it. The PCH file reflects the inclusion of `xxx.h` and, conditionally, the definition of `YYY_H` and inclusion of `yyy.h`. It does not contain the state produced by `#if TEST`.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-143.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
- [4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file on page 4-145.](#)
- [4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-146.](#)
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-147.](#)
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [8.147 --pch on page 8-490.](#)
- [8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir on page 8-491.](#)
- [10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)

## 4.27 Precompiled Header (PCH) file creation requirements

A PCH file is produced only if the header stop point and the code preceding it, mainly the header files, meet specific requirements.

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

These requirements are as follows:

- The header stop point must appear at file scope. It must not be within an unclosed scope established by a header file. For example, a PCH file is not created in this case:

```
// xxx.h
class A
{
    // xxx.c
    #include "xxx.h"
    int i;
};
```

- The header stop point must not be inside a declaration that is started within a header file. Also, in C++, it must not be part of a declaration list of a linkage specification. For example, in the following case the header stop point is `int`, but because it is not the start of a new declaration, no PCH file is created:

```
// yyy.h
static
// yyy.c
#include "yyy.h"
int i;
```

- The header stop point must not be inside a `#if` block or a `#define` that is started within a header file.
- The processing that precedes the header stop point must not have produced any errors.

### Note

Warnings and other diagnostics are not reproduced when the PCH file is reused.

- No references to predefined macros `__DATE__` or `__TIME__` must appear.
- No instances of the `#line` preprocessing directive must appear.
- `#pragma no_pch` must not appear.
- The code preceding the header stop point must have introduced a sufficient number of declarations to justify the overhead associated with precompiled headers.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-143.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
- [4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file on page 4-145.](#)
- [4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-146.](#)
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-147.](#)
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [8.147 `--pch` on page 8-490.](#)

8.148 `--pch_dir=dir` on page 8-491.

8.149 `--pch_messages`, `--no_pch_messages` on page 8-492.

8.150 `--pch_verbose`, `--no_pch_verbose` on page 8-493.

10.85 `#pragma hdrstop` on page 10-698.

10.90 `#pragma no_pch` on page 10-703.

## 4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header (PCH) files

More than one PCH file might apply to a given compilation. If so, the compiler uses the largest PCH file.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

That is, the compiler uses the PCH file representing the most preprocessing directives from the primary source file.

For example, a primary source file might begin with:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#include "yyy.h"
#include "zzz.h"
```

If there is one PCH file for `xxx.h` and a second for `xxx.h` and `yyy.h`, the latter PCH file is selected, assuming that both apply to the current compilation. Additionally, after the PCH file for the first two headers is read in and the third is compiled, a new PCH file for all three headers is created if the requirements for PCH file creation are met.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
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- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

## 4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header (PCH) files

In automatic PCH processing mode the compiler identifies and deletes obsolete PCH files.

---

### Note

---

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

The compiler indicates that a PCH file is obsolete, and deletes it, under the following circumstances:

- If the PCH file is based on at least one out-of-date header file but is otherwise applicable for the current compilation.
- If the PCH file has the same base name as the source file being compiled, for example, `xxx.pch` and `xxx.c`, but is not applicable for the current compilation, for example, because you have used different command-line options.

These describe some common cases. You must delete other PCH files as required.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)

[4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)

[4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)

[4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)

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[4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)

[4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)



## 4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header (PCH) file

You can manually specify the filename and location of PCH files for the compiler to create and use.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

Use the following compiler command-line options to specify PCH filenames and locations:

- `--create_pch=filename`
- `--pch_dir=directory`
- `--use_pch=filename`

If you use `--create_pch` or `--use_pch` with the `--pch_dir` option, the indicated filename is appended to the directory name, unless the filename is an absolute path name.

---

### Note

If multiple options are specified on the same command line, the following rules apply:

- `--use_pch` takes precedence over `--pch`.
  - `--create_pch` takes precedence over all other PCH file options.
- 

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-143.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
- [4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-146.](#)
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-147.](#)
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [8.42 `--create\_pch=filename` on page 8-375.](#)
- [8.147 `--pch` on page 8-490.](#)
- [8.148 `--pch\_dir=dir` on page 8-491.](#)
- [8.189 `--use\_pch=filename` on page 8-539.](#)

## 4.31 Selectively applying Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing

You can selectively include and exclude header files for PCH file processing, even if you are using automatic PCH file processing.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

Use the `#pragma hdrstop` directive to insert a manual header stop point in the primary source file. Insert it before the first token that does not belong to a preprocessing directive. This enables you to specify where the set of header files that is subject to precompilation ends. For example,

```
#include "xxx.h"
#include "yyy.h"
#pragma hdrstop
#include "zzz.h"
```

In this example, the PCH file includes the processing state for `xxx.h` and `yyy.h` but not for `zzz.h`. This is useful if you decide that the information following the `#pragma hdrstop` does not justify the creation of another PCH file.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
- [4.28 Compilation with multiple Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-143.](#)
- [4.29 Obsolete Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-144.](#)
- [4.30 Manually specifying the filename and location of a Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file on page 4-145.](#)
- [4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-147.](#)
- [4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)
- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)
- [10.90 #pragma no\\_pch on page 10-703.](#)

## 4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header (PCH) file processing

To suppress PCH file processing, use the `#pragma no_pch` directive in the primary source file.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

You do not have to place this directive at the beginning of the file for it to take effect. For example, no PCH file is created if you compile the following source code with `armcc --create_pch=foo.pch myprog.c`:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#pragma no_pch
#include "zzz.h"
```

If you want to selectively enable PCH processing, for example, subject `xxx.h` to PCH file processing, but not `zzz.h`, replace `#pragma no_pch` with `#pragma hdrstop`, as follows:

```
#include "xxx.h"
#pragma hdrstop
#include "zzz.h"
```

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
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### Related references

- [10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)
- [10.90 #pragma no\\_pch on page 10-703.](#)

## 4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header (PCH) processing

Whenever the compiler creates or uses a PCH file, it displays a message. You can suppress these messages or make them more verbose.

---

### Note

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

When the compiler creates or uses a PCH file, it displays the following kind of message:

```
test.c: creating precompiled header file test.pch
```

You can suppress this message with the compiler command-line option `--no_pch_messages`.

The `--pch_verbose` option enables verbose mode. In verbose mode, the compiler displays a message for each PCH file that it considers but does not use, giving the reason why it cannot be used.

### Related concepts

- [4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)
- [4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)
- [4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)
- [4.27 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file creation requirements on page 4-141.](#)
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- [4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-149.](#)

### Related references

- [8.149 `--pch\_messages`, `--no\_pch\_messages` on page 8-492.](#)
- [8.150 `--pch\_verbose`, `--no\_pch\_verbose` on page 8-493.](#)

## 4.34 Performance issues with Precompiled Header (PCH) files

Typically, the overhead of creating and reading a PCH file is small, even for reasonably large header files. If the PCH file is used, there is typically a significant decrease in compilation time. However, PCH files can range in size from about 250KB to several megabytes or more, so you might not want to create many PCH files.

---

### **Note**

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

PCH processing might not always be appropriate, for example, where you have an arbitrary set of files with non-uniform initial sequences of preprocessing directives.

The benefits of PCH processing occur when several source files can share the same PCH file. The more sharing, the less disk space is consumed. Sharing minimizes the disadvantage of large PCH files, without giving up the advantage of a significant decrease in compilation times.

Therefore, to take full advantage of header file precompilation, you might have to re-order the `#include` sections of your source files, or group `#include` directives within a commonly used header file.

Different environments and different projects might have differing requirements. Be aware, however, that making the best use of PCH support might require some experimentation and probably some minor changes to source code.

### **Related concepts**

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)

[4.25 Automatic Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing on page 4-139.](#)

[4.26 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing and the header stop point on page 4-140.](#)

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[4.33 Message output during Precompiled Header \(PCH\) processing on page 4-148.](#)

## 4.35 Default compiler options that are affected by optimization level

In general, optimization levels are independent from the default behavior of command-line options. However, there are a small number of exceptions where the level of optimization you use changes the default option.

These exceptions are:

- `--autoinline`, `--no_autoinline`.
- `--data_reorder`, `--no_data_reorder`.

Depending on the value of `-Onum` you use (`-O0`, `-O1`, `-O2`, or `-O3`), the default option changes as specified. See the individual command-line option reference descriptions for more information.

### Related references

[8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)

[8.44 `--data\_reorder`, `--no\_data\_reorder` on page 8-378.](#)

[8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)

# Chapter 5

## Compiler Coding Practices

Describes programming techniques and practices to help you increase the portability, efficiency and robustness of your C and C++ source code.

It contains the following sections:

- *5.1 The compiler as an optimizing compiler on page 5-154.*
- *5.2 Compiler optimization for code size versus speed on page 5-155.*
- *5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view on page 5-156.*
- *5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time on page 5-159.*
- *5.5 Enabling NEON and FPU for bare-metal on page 5-160.*
- *5.6 Optimization of loop termination in C code on page 5-161.*
- *5.7 Loop unrolling in C code on page 5-163.*
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- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
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- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
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- [5.30 Types of data alignment on page 5-191.](#)
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- [5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code on page 5-195.](#)
- [5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code on page 5-196.](#)
- [5.36 Unaligned fields in structures on page 5-197.](#)
- [5.37 Performance penalty associated with marking whole structures as packed on page 5-198.](#)
- [5.38 Unaligned pointers in C and C++ code on page 5-199.](#)
- [5.39 Unaligned Load Register \(LDR\) instructions generated by the compiler on page 5-200.](#)
- [5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `\_\_packed` struct, and a struct with individually `\_\_packed` fields, and of a `\_\_packed` struct and a `#pragma packed` struct on page 5-201.](#)
- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
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- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)
- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
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- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
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- *5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90 on page 5-243.*
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- *5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99 on page 5-246.*
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- *5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.*
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- *5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.*
- *5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.*
- *5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.*
- *5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.*
- *5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.*
- *5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.*
- *5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.*
- *5.82 How to prevent uninitialized data from being initialized to zero on page 5-257.*

## 5.1 The compiler as an optimizing compiler

The compiler is highly optimizing for small code size and high performance, performing a range of optimization techniques.

The compiler performs optimizations common to other optimizing compilers, for example, data-flow optimizations such as common sub-expression elimination and loop optimizations such as loop combining and distribution.

In addition, the compiler performs a range of optimizations specific to ARM architecture-based processors.

Although the compiler performs a number of architecture independent optimizations, you can often significantly improve the performance of your C or C++ code by selecting correct optimization criteria, and the correct target processor and architecture.

---

**Note**

Optimization options can limit debug information generated by the compiler.

---

### Related concepts

- [5.2 Compiler optimization for code size versus speed on page 5-155.](#)
- [5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view on page 5-156.](#)
- [5.6 Optimization of loop termination in C code on page 5-161.](#)
- [5.8 Compiler optimization and the volatile keyword on page 5-165.](#)

### Related tasks

- [5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time on page 5-159.](#)

### Related references

- [8.15 --autoinline, --no\\_autoinline on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.44 --data\\_reorder, --no\\_data\\_reorder on page 8-378.](#)
- [8.84 --forceinline on page 8-419.](#)
- [8.86 --fpmode=model on page 8-421.](#)
- [8.107 --inline, --no\\_inline on page 8-445.](#)
- [8.114 --library\\_interface=lib on page 8-452.](#)
- [8.115 --library\\_type=lib on page 8-454.](#)
- [8.126 --lower\\_ropi, --no\\_lower\\_ropi on page 8-466.](#)
- [8.127 --lower\\_rwpi, --no\\_lower\\_rwpi on page 8-467.](#)
- [8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile on page 8-474.](#)
- [8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)
- [8.142 -Ospace on page 8-485.](#)
- [8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)
- [8.164 --retain=option on page 8-507.](#)

## 5.2 Compiler optimization for code size versus speed

The compiler can optimize for either code size or performance.

The following options control whether the compiler optimizes for code size or performance:

`-Ospace`

This option causes the compiler to optimize mainly for code size. This is the default option.

`-Otime`

This option causes the compiler to optimize mainly for speed.

For best results, you must build your application using the most appropriate command-line option.

---

**Note**

These command-line options instruct the compiler to use optimizations that deliver the effect wanted in the vast majority of cases. However, it is not guaranteed that `-Otime` always generates faster code, or that `-Ospace` always generates smaller code.

---

### Related references

[8.142 -Ospace on page 8-485.](#)

[8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)

## 5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view

The precise optimizations performed by the compiler depend both on the level of optimization chosen, and whether you are optimizing for performance or code size.

The compiler supports the following optimization levels:

**0**

Minimum optimization. Turns off most optimizations. When debugging is enabled, this option gives the best possible debug view because the structure of the generated code directly corresponds to the source code. All optimization that interferes with the debug view is disabled. In particular:

- Breakpoints can be set on any reachable point, including dead code.
- The value of a variable is available everywhere within its scope, except where it is uninitialized.
- Backtrace gives the stack of open function activations that is expected from reading the source.

---

**Note**

Although the debug view produced by `-O0` corresponds most closely to the source code, users might prefer the debug view produced by `-O1` because this improves the quality of the code without changing the fundamental structure.

---

**Note**

Dead code includes reachable code that has no effect on the result of the program, for example an assignment to a local variable that is never used. Unreachable code is specifically code that cannot be reached via any control flow path, for example code that immediately follows a return statement.

**1**

Restricted optimization. The compiler only performs optimizations that can be described by debug information. Removes unused inline functions and unused static functions. Turns off optimizations that seriously degrade the debug view. If used with `--debug`, this option gives a generally satisfactory debug view with good code density.

The differences in the debug view from `-O0` are:

- Breakpoints cannot be set on dead code.
- Values of variables might not be available within their scope after they have been initialized. For example if their assigned location has been reused.
- Functions with no side-effects might be called out of sequence, or might be omitted if the result is not needed.
- Backtrace might not give the stack of open function activations that is expected from reading the source because of the presence of tailcalls.

The optimization level `-O1` produces good correspondence between source code and object code, especially when the source code contains no dead code. The generated code can be significantly smaller than the code at `-O0`, which can simplify analysis of the object code.

2

High optimization. If used with `--debug`, the debug view might be less satisfactory because the mapping of object code to source code is not always clear. The compiler might perform optimizations that cannot be described by debug information.

This is the default optimization level.

The differences in the debug view from `-O1` are:

- The source code to object code mapping might be many to one, because of the possibility of multiple source code locations mapping to one point of the file, and more aggressive instruction scheduling.
- Instruction scheduling is allowed to cross sequence points. This can lead to mismatches between the reported value of a variable at a particular point, and the value you might expect from reading the source code.
- The compiler automatically inlines functions.

3

Maximum optimization. When debugging is enabled, this option typically gives a poor debug view. ARM recommends debugging at lower optimization levels.

If you use `-O3` and `-Otime` together, the compiler performs extra optimizations that are more aggressive, such as:

- High-level scalar optimizations, including loop unrolling. This can give significant performance benefits at a small code size cost, but at the risk of a longer build time.
- More aggressive inlining and automatic inlining.

These optimizations effectively rewrite the input source code, resulting in object code with the lowest correspondence to source code and the worst debug view. The `--loop_optimization_level=option` controls the amount of loop optimization performed at `-O3 -Otime`. The higher the amount of loop optimization the worse the correspondence between source and object code.

Use of the `--vectorize` option also lowers the correspondence between source and object code.

For extra information about the high level transformations performed on the source code at `-O3 -Otime` use the `--remarks` command-line option.

Because optimization affects the mapping of object code to source code, the choice of optimization level with `-Ospace` and `-Otime` generally impacts the debug view.

The option `-O0` is the best option to use if a simple debug view is required. Selecting `-O0` typically increases the size of the ELF image by 7 to 15%. To reduce the size of your debug tables, use the `--remove_unneeded_entities` option.

## Related concepts

[5.12 Benefits of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-171.](#)

## Related references

[5.13 Methods of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-172.](#)

[8.45 --debug, --no\\_debug on page 8-379.](#)

[8.46 --debug\\_macros, --no\\_debug\\_macros on page 8-380.](#)

[8.67 --dwarf2 on page 8-402.](#)

[8.68 --dwarf3 on page 8-403.](#)

[8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)

[8.142 -Ospace on page 8-485.](#)

[8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)

[8.162 --remove\\_unneeded\\_entities, --no\\_remove\\_unneeded\\_entities on page 8-505.](#)

## Related information

*[ELF for the ARM Architecture.](#)*

## 5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time

You can often significantly improve the performance of your C or C++ code by selecting the appropriate target processor at compile time.

Each new version of the ARM architecture typically supports extra instructions, extra modes of operation, pipeline differences, and register renaming.

### Procedure

1. Decide whether the compiled program is to run on a specific ARM architecture-based processor or on different ARM processors.
2. Obtain the name, or names, of the target processors recognized by the compiler using the following compiler command-line option:

```
--cpu=list
```

3. If the compiled program is to run on a specific ARM architecture-based processor, having obtained the name of the processor with the `--cpu=list` option, select the target processor using the `--cpu=name` compiler command-line option.

For example, to compile code to run on a Cortex-A9 processor:

```
armcc --cpu=Cortex-A9 myprog.c
```

Alternatively, if the compiled program is to run on different ARM processors, choose the lowest common denominator architecture appropriate for the application and then specify that architecture in place of the processor name. For example, to compile code for processors supporting the ARMv6 architecture:

```
armcc --cpu=6 myprog.c
```

Selecting the target processor using the `--cpu=name` command-line option lets the compiler:

- Make full use of all available instructions for that particular processor.
- Perform processor-specific optimizations such as instruction scheduling.

`--cpu=list` lists all the processors and architectures that the compiler supports.

### Related references

[8.40 --cpu=list on page 8-371.](#)

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

## 5.5 Enabling NEON and FPU for bare-metal

If the compiler knows that an FPU or NEON is available, for example if you use the `--cpu` option to specify a processor with an FPU, then the compiler might introduce FPU or NEON instructions into your code.

These instructions can be introduced even if you are not deliberately performing any floating-point operations.

If you want to build an image that does not use any FPU or NEON instructions, and does not require that the FPU and NEON be enabled, you can use the `--fpu=none` option when building all your source files.

When targeting bare-metal and compiling for a processor with an FPU or NEON, you must enable the FPU and NEON in your startup code before you can execute FPU or NEON instructions. See the *Technical Reference Manual* for your processor.

For example, the following startup code enables NEON and FPU hardware for a Cortex A8 processor:

```
__asm void StartHere(void)
{
    MRC p15,0,r0,c1,c0,2    // Read CP Access register
    ORR r0,r0,#0x00f00000   // Enable full access to NEON/VFP (Coprocessors 10 and 11)
    MCR p15,0,r0,c1,c0,2    // Write CP Access register
    ISB
    MOV r0,#0x40000000       // Switch on the VFP and NEON hardware
    MSR FPEXC,r0            // Set EN bit in FPEXC
    IMPORT __main
    B __main                // Enter normal C run-time environment & library start-up
}
```

To compile this code:

```
armcc -c --cpu=Cortex-A8 main.c
armlink --entry=StartHere main.o
```

### Related tasks

[5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time on page 5-159.](#)

[3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code on page 3-76.](#)

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

[8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

### Related information

[--startup=symbol, --no\\_startup linker option.](#)



## 5.6 Optimization of loop termination in C code

Loops are a common construct in most programs. Because a significant amount of execution time is often spent in loops, it is worthwhile paying attention to time-critical loops.

The loop termination condition can cause significant overhead if written without caution. Where possible:

- Use simple termination conditions.
- Write count-down-to-zero loops.
- Use counters of type **unsigned int**.
- Test for equality against zero.

Following any or all of these guidelines, separately or in combination, is likely to result in better code.

The following table shows two sample implementations of a routine to calculate  $n!$  that together illustrate loop termination overhead. The first implementation calculates  $n!$  using an incrementing loop, while the second routine calculates  $n!$  using a decrementing loop.

**Table 5-1 C code for incrementing and decrementing loops**

Incrementing loop	Decrementing loop
<pre>int fact1(int n) {     int i, fact = 1;     for (i = 1; i &lt;= n; i++)         fact *= i;     return (fact); }</pre>	<pre>int fact2(int n) {     unsigned int i, fact = 1;     for (i = n; i != 0; i--)         fact *= i;     return (fact); }</pre>

The following table shows the corresponding disassembly of the machine code produced by the compiler for each of the sample implementations above, where the C code for both implementations has been compiled using the options `-O2 -Otime`.

**Table 5-2 C Disassembly for incrementing and decrementing loops**

Incrementing loop	Decrementing loop
<pre>fact1 PROC     MOV     r2, r0     MOV     r0, #1     CMP     r2, #1     MOV     r1, r0     BXLT    lr  L1.20      MUL     r0, r1, r0     ADD     r1, r1, #1     CMP     r1, r2     BLE      L1.20      BX      lr     ENDP</pre>	<pre>fact2 PROC     MOVS    r1, r0     MOV     r0, #1     BXEQ    lr  L1.12      MUL     r0, r1, r0     SUBS    r1, r1, #1     BNE      L1.12      BX      lr     ENDP</pre>

Comparing the disassemblies shows that the ADD and CMP instruction pair in the incrementing loop disassembly has been replaced with a single SUBS instruction in the decrementing loop disassembly. This is because a compare with zero can be used instead.

In addition to saving an instruction in the loop, the variable `n` does not have to be saved across the loop, so the use of a register is also saved in the decrementing loop disassembly. This eases register allocation. It is even more important if the original termination condition involves a function call. For example:

```
for (...; i < get_limit(); ...);
```

The technique of initializing the loop counter to the number of iterations required, and then decrementing down to zero, also applies to **while** and **do** statements.

**Related concepts**

[5.7 Loop unrolling in C code on page 5-163.](#)

## 5.7 Loop unrolling in C code

Loops are a common construct in most programs. Because a significant amount of execution time is often spent in loops, it is worthwhile paying attention to time-critical loops.

Small loops can be unrolled for higher performance, with the disadvantage of increased code size. When a loop is unrolled, a loop counter needs to be updated less often and fewer branches are executed. If the loop iterates only a few times, it can be fully unrolled so that the loop overhead completely disappears. The compiler unrolls loops automatically at `-O3 -Otime`. Otherwise, any unrolling must be done in source code.

---

**Note**

---

Manual unrolling of loops might hinder the automatic re-rolling of loops and other loop optimizations by the compiler.

---

The advantages and disadvantages of loop unrolling can be illustrated using the two sample routines shown in the following table. Both routines efficiently test a single bit by extracting the lowest bit and counting it, after which the bit is shifted out.

The first implementation uses a loop to count bits. The second routine is the first implementation unrolled four times, with an optimization applied by combining the four shifts of `n` into one shift.

Unrolling frequently provides new opportunities for optimization.

**Table 5-3 C code for rolled and unrolled bit-counting loops**

Bit-counting loop	Unrolled bit-counting loop
<pre>int countbit1(unsigned int n) {     int bits = 0;     while (n != 0)     {         if (n &amp; 1) bits++;         n &gt;&gt;= 1;     }     return bits; }</pre>	<pre>int countbit2(unsigned int n) {     int bits = 0;     while (n != 0)     {         if (n &amp; 1) bits++;         if (n &amp; 2) bits++;         if (n &amp; 4) bits++;         if (n &amp; 8) bits++;         n &gt;&gt;= 4;     }     return bits; }</pre>

The following table shows the corresponding disassembly of the machine code produced by the compiler for each of the sample implementations above, where the C code for each implementation has been compiled using the option `-O2`.

Table 5-4 Disassembly for rolled and unrolled bit-counting loops

Bit-counting loop	Unrolled bit-counting loop
<pre>countbit1 PROC     MOV     r1, #0     B        L1.20   L1.8      TST     r0, #1     ADDNE   r1, r1, #1     LSR     r0, r0, #1  L1.20      CMP     r0, #0     BNE      L1.8      MOV     r0, r1     BX      lr ENDP</pre>	<pre>countbit2 PROC     MOV     r1, r0     MOV     r0, #0     B        L1.48   L1.12      TST     r1, #1     ADDNE   r0, r0, #1     TST     r1, #2     ADDNE   r0, r0, #1     TST     r1, #4     ADDNE   r0, r0, #1     TST     r1, #8     ADDNE   r0, r0, #1     LSR     r1, r1, #4  L1.48      CMP     r1, #0     BNE      L1.12      BX      lr ENDP</pre>

On the ARM9 processor, checking a single bit takes six cycles in the disassembly of the bit-counting loop shown in the leftmost column. The code size is only nine instructions. The unrolled version of the bit-counting loop checks four bits at a time per loop iteration, taking on average only three cycles per bit. However, the cost is the larger code size of fifteen instructions.

Related concepts

[5.6 Optimization of loop termination in C code on page 5-161.](#)

## 5.8 Compiler optimization and the volatile keyword

Higher optimization levels can reveal problems in some programs that are not apparent at lower optimization levels, for example, missing **volatile** qualifiers.

This can manifest itself in a number of ways. Code might become stuck in a loop while polling hardware, multi-threaded code might exhibit strange behavior, or optimization might result in the removal of code that implements deliberate timing delays. In such cases, it is possible that some variables are required to be declared as **volatile**.

The declaration of a variable as **volatile** tells the compiler that the variable can be modified at any time externally to the implementation, for example, by the operating system, by another thread of execution such as an interrupt routine or signal handler, or by hardware. Because the value of a **volatile**-qualified variable can change at any time, the actual variable in memory must always be accessed whenever the variable is referenced in code. This means the compiler cannot perform optimizations on the variable, for example, caching its value in a register to avoid memory accesses. Similarly, when used in the context of implementing a sleep or timer delay, declaring a variable as **volatile** tells the compiler that a specific type of behavior is intended, and that such code must not be optimized in such a way that it removes the intended functionality.

In contrast, when a variable is not declared as **volatile**, the compiler can assume its value cannot be modified in unexpected ways. Therefore, the compiler can perform optimizations on the variable.

The use of the **volatile** keyword is illustrated in the two sample routines of the following table. Both of these routines loop reading a buffer until a status flag `buffer_full` is set to true. The state of `buffer_full` can change asynchronously with program flow.

The two versions of the routine differ only in the way that `buffer_full` is declared. The first routine version is incorrect. Notice that the variable `buffer_full` is not qualified as **volatile** in this version. In contrast, the second version of the routine shows the same loop where `buffer_full` is correctly qualified as **volatile**.

**Table 5-5 C code for nonvolatile and volatile buffer loops**

Nonvolatile version of buffer loop	Volatile version of buffer loop
<pre>int buffer_full; int read_stream(void) {     int count = 0;     while (!buffer_full)     {         count++;     }     return count; }</pre>	<pre>volatile int buffer_full; int read_stream(void) {     int count = 0;     while (!buffer_full)     {         count++;     }     return count; }</pre>

The following table shows the corresponding disassembly of the machine code produced by the compiler for each of the examples above, where the C code for each implementation has been compiled using the option `-O2`.

**Table 5-6 Disassembly for nonvolatile and volatile buffer loop**

Nonvolatile version of buffer loop	Volatile version of buffer loop
<pre> read_stream PROC     LDR    r1,  L1.28      MOV    r0, #0     LDR    r1, [r1, #0]  L1.12      CMP    r1, #0     ADDEQ  r0, r0, #1     BEQ     L1.12       ; infinite loop     BX     lr ENDP  L1.28      DCD      .data       AREA    .data  , DATA, ALIGN=2 buffer_full     DCD    0x00000000 </pre>	<pre> read_stream PROC     LDR    r1,  L1.28      MOV    r0, #0  L1.8      LDR    r2, [r1, #0]; ; buffer_full     CMP    r2, #0     ADDEQ  r0, r0, #1     BEQ     L1.8      BX     lr ENDP  L1.28      DCD      .data       AREA    .data  , DATA, ALIGN=2 buffer_full     DCD    0x00000000 </pre>

In the disassembly of the nonvolatile version of the buffer loop in the above table, the statement `LDR r0, [r0, #0]` loads the value of `buffer_full` into register `r0` outside the loop labeled `|L1.12|`. Because `buffer_full` is not declared as **volatile**, the compiler assumes that its value cannot be modified outside the program. Having already read the value of `buffer_full` into `r0`, the compiler omits reloading the variable when optimizations are enabled, because its value cannot change. The result is the infinite loop labeled `|L1.12|`.

In contrast, in the disassembly of the volatile version of the buffer loop, the compiler assumes the value of `buffer_full` can change outside the program and performs no optimizations. Consequently, the value of `buffer_full` is loaded into register `r0` inside the loop labeled `|L1.8|`. As a result, the loop `|L1.8|` is implemented correctly in assembly code.

To avoid optimization problems caused by changes to program state external to the implementation, you must declare variables as **volatile** whenever their values can change unexpectedly in ways unknown to the implementation.

In practice, you must declare a variable as **volatile** whenever you are:

- Accessing memory-mapped peripherals.
- Sharing global variables between multiple threads.
- Accessing global variables in an interrupt routine or signal handler.

The compiler does not optimize the variables you have declared as **volatile**.

## 5.9 Code metrics

Code metrics provide a means of objectively evaluating code quality. The compiler and linker provide several facilities for generating simple code metrics and improving code quality.

In particular, you can:

- Measure code and data sizes.
- Generate dynamic callgraphs.
- Measure stack use.

### Related concepts

[5.10 Code metrics for measurement of code size and data size](#) on page 5-168.

[5.11 Stack use in C and C++](#) on page 5-169.

### Related information

[--info=topic\[,topic,...\]](#) linker option.

[--map, --no\\_map](#) linker option.

[--callgraph, --no\\_callgraph](#) linker option.

[--info=topic\[,topic,...\]](#) fromelf option.

## 5.10 Code metrics for measurement of code size and data size

The compiler, linker, and fromelf image converter let you measure code and data size.

Use the following command-line options:

- `--info=sizes` (armlink and fromelf).
- `--info=totals` (armcc, armlink, and fromelf).
- `--map` (armlink).

### Related references

[8.106 `--info=totals` on page 8-444.](#)

### Related information

[--info=topic\[,topic,...\] linker option.](#)

[--map, --no\\_map linker option.](#)

[--info=topic\[,topic,...\] fromelf option.](#)



## 5.11 Stack use in C and C++

C and C++ both use the stack intensively.

For example, the stack holds:

- The return address of functions.
- Registers that must be preserved, as determined by the *ARM Architecture Procedure Call Standard* (AAPCS), for instance, when register contents are saved on entry into subroutines.
- Local variables, including local arrays, structures, unions, and in C++, classes.

Some stack usage is not obvious, such as:

- Local integer or floating point variables are allocated stack memory if they are spilled (that is, not allocated to a register).
- Structures are normally allocated to the stack. A space equivalent to `sizeof(struct)` padded to a multiple of four bytes is reserved on the stack. The compiler tries to allocate structures to registers instead.
- If the size of an array is known at compile time, the compiler allocates memory on the stack. Again, a space equivalent to `sizeof(struct)` padded to a multiple of four bytes is reserved on the stack.

### ———— Note ————

Memory for variable length arrays is allocated at runtime, on the heap.

- Several optimizations can introduce new temporary variables to hold intermediate results. The optimizations include: CSE elimination, live range splitting and structure splitting. The compiler tries to allocate these temporary variables to registers. If not, it spills them to the stack.
- Generally, code compiled for processors that support only 16-bit encoded Thumb instructions makes more use of the stack than ARM code and code compiled for processors that support 32-bit encoded Thumb instructions. This is because 16-bit encoded Thumb instructions have only eight registers available for allocation, compared to fourteen for ARM code and 32-bit encoded Thumb instructions.
- The AAPCS requires that some function arguments are passed through the stack instead of the registers, depending on their type, size, and order.

## Methods of estimating stack usage

Stack use is difficult to estimate because it is code dependent, and can vary between runs depending on the code path that the program takes on execution. However, it is possible to manually estimate the extent of stack utilization using the following methods:

- Link with `--callgraph` to produce a static callgraph. This shows information on all functions, including stack use.
- Link with `--info=stack` or `--info=summarystack` to list the stack usage of all global symbols.
- Use the debugger to set a watchpoint on the last available location in the stack and see if the watchpoint is ever hit.

### ———— Note ————

Running your program under a debug monitor like a *Real-Time System Model* (RTSM), in DS-5 Debugger or RealView Debugger, has a severe performance penalty, because the watched address is checked for every instruction. Using DSTREAM or RealView ICE and RealView Trace has no such penalty.

- Use the debugger, and:
  1. Allocate space in memory for the stack that is much larger than you expect to require.
  2. Fill the stack space with copies of a known value, for example, `0xDEADDEAD`.

3. Run your application, or a fixed portion of it. Aim to use as much of the stack space as possible in the test run. For example, try to execute the most deeply nested function calls and the worst case path found by the static analysis. Try to generate interrupts where appropriate, so that they are included in the stack trace.
4. After your application has finished executing, examine the stack space of memory to see how many of the known values have been overwritten. The space has garbage in the used part and the known values in the remainder.
5. Count the number of garbage values and multiply by four, to give their size, in bytes.

The result of the calculation shows how the size of the stack has grown, in bytes.

- Use RTSM, and define a region of memory where access is not allowed directly below your stack in memory, with a map file. If the stack overflows into the forbidden region, a data abort occurs, which can be trapped by the debugger.

### Methods of reducing stack usage

In general, you can lower the stack requirements of your program by:

- Writing small functions that only require a small number of variables.
- Avoiding the use of large local structures or arrays.
- Avoiding recursion, for example, by using an alternative algorithm.
- Minimizing the number of variables that are in use at any given time at each point in a function.
- Using C block scope and declaring variables only where they are required, so overlapping the memory used by distinct scopes.

The use of C block scope involves declaring variables only where they are required. This minimizes use of the stack by overlapping memory required by distinct scopes.

#### ————— Note —————

Code performance is optimized by locating the stack in fast (zero wait-state), on-chip, 32-bit RAM. The ARM (LDMFD and STMFD) and Thumb (PUSH and POP) stack access instructions both push and pop a number of 32-bit registers on or off the stack. If the stack is in 32-bit memory, each register access takes one cycle. However, if the stack is in 16-bit memory then each register access takes two cycles, reducing overall performance.

### Related information

*--info=topic[,topic,...] linker option.*

*--callgraph, --no\_callgraph linker option.*

*--info=topic[,topic,...] fromelf option.*

*ARM DS-5 Using the Debugger.*

*Getting Started with DS-5, ARM DS-5 Product Overview, About Fixed Virtual Platform (FVP).*

*ARM DS-5 EB FVP Reference Guide.*

*Fixed Virtual Platforms VE and MPS FVP Reference Guide.*

*Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.*

## 5.12 Benefits of reducing debug information in objects and libraries

Reducing the amount of debug information in objects and libraries has a number of code size and performance benefits.

Reducing the level of debug information:

- Reduces the size of objects and libraries, thereby reducing the amount of disk space required to store them.
- Speeds up link time. In the compilation cycle, most of the link time is consumed by reading in all the debug sections and eliminating the duplicates.
- Minimizes the size of the final image. This facilitates the fast loading and processing of debug symbols by a debugger.

### Related concepts

[5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view on page 5-156.](#)

### Related references

[5.13 Methods of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-172.](#)

## 5.13 Methods of reducing debug information in objects and libraries

There are a number of ways to reduce the amount of debug information being generated per source file.

For example, you can:

- Avoid conditional use of `#define` in header files. This might make it more difficult for the linker to eliminate duplicate information.
- Modify your C or C++ source files so that header files are `#included` in the same order.
- Partition header information into smaller blocks. That is, use a larger number of smaller header files rather than a smaller number of larger header files. This helps the linker to eliminate more of the common blocks.
- Only include a header file in a C or C++ source file if it is really required.
- Guard against the multiple inclusion of header files. Place multiple-inclusion guards inside the header file, rather than around the `#include` statement. For example, if you have a header file `foo.h`, add:

```
#ifndef foo_h
#define foo_h
...
// rest of header file as before
...
#endif /* foo_h */
```

You can use the compiler option `--remarks` to warn about unguarded header files.

- Compile your code with the `--no_debug_macros` command-line option to discard preprocessor macro definitions from debug tables.
- Consider using (or not using) `--remove_unneeded_entities`.

### Caution

Although `--remove_unneeded_entities` can help to reduce the amount of debug information generated per file, it has the disadvantage of reducing the number of debug sections that are common to many files. This reduces the number of common debug sections that the linker is able to remove at final link time, and can result in a final debug image that is larger than necessary. For this reason, use `--remove_unneeded_entities` only when necessary.

### Related concepts

[2.18 Compilation build time on page 2-63.](#)

[5.12 Benefits of reducing debug information in objects and libraries on page 5-171.](#)

[5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view on page 5-156.](#)

### Related tasks

[2.19 Minimizing compilation build time on page 2-64.](#)

### Related references

[8.46 --debug\\_macros, --no\\_debug\\_macros on page 8-380.](#)

[8.161 --remarks on page 8-504.](#)

[8.162 --remove\\_unneeded\\_entities, --no\\_remove\\_unneeded\\_entities on page 8-505.](#)

## 5.14 Guarding against multiple inclusion of header files

Guarding against multiple inclusion of header files has a number of benefits.

Specifically, guarding against multiple inclusion of header files:

- Improves compilation time.
- Reduces the size of object files generated using the `-g` compiler command-line option, which can speed up link time.
- Avoids compilation errors that arise from including the same code multiple times.

For example:

```
/* foo.h */
#ifndef FOO_H
#define FOO_H 1
...
#endif
/* bar.c */
#ifndef FOO_H
#include "foo.h"
#endif
```

### Related references

[8.90 -g on page 8-428.](#)

## 5.15 Methods of minimizing function parameter passing overhead

There are a number of ways in which you can minimize the overhead of passing parameters to functions.

For example:

- Ensure that functions take four or fewer arguments if each argument is a word or less in size. In C++, ensure that nonstatic member functions take three or fewer arguments because of the implicit `this` pointer argument that is usually passed in `R0`.
- Ensure that a function does a significant amount of work if it requires more than four arguments, so that the cost of passing the stacked arguments is outweighed.
- Put related arguments in a structure, and pass a pointer to the structure in any function call. This reduces the number of parameters and increases readability.
- Minimize the number of **long long** parameters, because these take two argument words that have to be aligned on an even register index.
- Minimize the number of **double** parameters when using software floating-point.
- Avoid functions with a variable number of parameters. Functions taking a variable number of arguments effectively pass all their arguments on the stack.

### Related concepts

[5.16 Returning structures from functions through registers on page 5-175.](#)

## 5.16 Returning structures from functions through registers

The compiler allows functions to return structures containing multiple values through the registers, rather than the stack.

In C and C++, one way of returning multiple values from a function is to use a structure. Normally, structures are returned on the stack, with all the associated expense this entails.

To reduce memory traffic and reduce code size, the compiler enables functions to return multiple values through the registers. A function can return up to four words in a **struct** by qualifying the function with `__value_in_regs`. For example:

```
typedef struct s_coord { int x; int y; } coord;  
coord reflect(int x1, int y1) __value_in_regs;
```

You can use `__value_in_regs` anywhere where multiple values have to be returned from a function. Examples include:

- Returning multiple values from C and C++ functions.
- Returning multiple values from embedded assembly language functions.
- Making supervisor calls.
- Re-implementing `__user_initial_stackheap`.

### Related concepts

[5.15 Methods of minimizing function parameter passing overhead](#) on page 5-174.

### Related references

[10.19 `\_\_value\_in\_regs`](#) on page 10-627.

## 5.17 Functions that return the same result when called with the same arguments

A function that always returns the same result when called with the same arguments, and does not change any global data, is referred to as a pure function.

By definition, it is sufficient to evaluate any particular call to a pure function only once. Because the result of a call to the function is guaranteed to be the same for any identical call, each subsequent call to the function in code can be replaced with the result of the original call.

Using the keyword `__pure` when declaring a function indicates that the function is a pure function.

By definition, pure functions cannot have side effects. For example, a pure function cannot read or write global state by using global variables or indirecting through pointers, because accessing global state can violate the rule that the function must return the same value each time when called twice with the same parameters. Therefore, you must use `__pure` carefully in your programs. Where functions can be declared `__pure`, however, the compiler can often perform powerful optimizations, such as *Common Subexpression Eliminations* (CSEs).

### Related references

[5.18 Comparison of pure and impure functions on page 5-177.](#)

[10.13 `\_\_pure` on page 10-621.](#)

[10.47 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(pure\)\)` function attribute on page 10-659.](#)

[10.33 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(const\)\)` function attribute on page 10-645.](#)



## 5.18 Comparison of pure and impure functions

The two sample routines in the following table illustrate the use of the `__pure` keyword.

Both routines call a function `fact()` to calculate the sum of  $n!$  and  $n!$ . `fact()` depends only on its input argument  $n$  to compute  $n!$ . Therefore, `fact()` is a pure function.

The first routine shows a naive implementation of the function `fact()`, where `fact()` is not declared `__pure`. In the second implementation, `fact()` is qualified as `__pure` to indicate to the compiler that it is a pure function.

Table 5-7 C code for pure and impure functions

A pure function not declared <code>__pure</code>	A pure function declared <code>__pure</code>
--	--

<pre>int fact(int n) {     int f = 1;     while (n &gt; 0)         f *= n--;     return f; } int foo(int n) {     return fact(n)+fact(n); }</pre>	<pre>int fact(int n) __pure {     int f = 1;     while (n &gt; 0)         f *= n--;     return f; } int foo(int n) {     return fact(n)+fact(n); }</pre>
---	--

The following table shows the corresponding disassembly of the machine code produced by the compiler for each of the sample implementations above, where the C code for each implementation has been compiled using the option `-O2`, and inlining has been suppressed.

Table 5-8 Disassembly for pure and impure functions

A pure function not declared <code>__pure</code>	A pure function declared <code>__pure</code>
--	--

<pre>fact PROC ... foo PROC     MOV     r3, r0     PUSH    {lr}     BL      fact     MOV     r2, r0     MOV     r0, r3     BL      fact     ADD     r0, r0, r2     POP     {pc}     ENDP</pre>	<pre>fact PROC ... foo PROC     PUSH    {lr}     BL      fact     LSL     r0, r0, #1     POP     {pc}     ENDP</pre>
--	--

In the disassembly where `fact()` is not qualified as `__pure`, `fact()` is called twice because the compiler does not know that the function is a candidate for *Common Subexpression Elimination* (CSE). In contrast, in the disassembly where `fact()` is qualified as `__pure`, `fact()` is called only once, instead of twice, because the compiler has been able to perform CSE when adding `fact(n) + fact(n)`.

### Related concepts

[5.17 Functions that return the same result when called with the same arguments](#) on page 5-176.

### Related references

[10.13 `\_\_pure`](#) on page 10-621.

## 5.19 Recommendation of postfix syntax when qualifying functions with ARM function modifiers

You can use function modifiers such as `__pure` either prefix or postfix, that is before the function declaration or after the parameter list. ARM recommends using the more precise postfix syntax.

Many ARM keyword extensions modify the behavior or calling sequence of a function. For example, `__pure`, `__irq`, `__swi`, `__swi_indirect`, `__softfp`, and `__value_in_regs` all behave in this way.

These function modifiers all have a common syntax. A function modifier such as `__pure` can qualify a function declaration either:

- Before the function declaration. For example:

```
__pure int foo(int);
```

- After the closing parenthesis on the parameter list. For example:

```
int foo(int) __pure;
```

For simple function declarations, each syntax is unambiguous. However, for a function whose return type or arguments are function pointers, the prefix syntax is imprecise. For example, the following function returns a function pointer, but it is not clear whether `__pure` modifies the function itself or its returned pointer type:

```
__pure int (*foo(int)) (int); /* declares 'foo' as a (pure?) function
                             that returns a pointer to a (pure?)
                             function.
                             It is ambiguous which of the two
                             function types is pure. */
```

In fact, the single `__pure` keyword at the front of the declaration of `foo` modifies both `foo` itself *and* the function pointer type returned by `foo`.

In contrast, the postfix syntax enables clear distinction between whether `__pure` applies to the argument, the return type, or the base function, when declaring a function whose argument and return types are function pointers. For example:

```
int (*foo1(int) __pure) (int); /* foo1 is a pure function
                               returning a pointer to
                               a normal function */
int (*foo2(int)) (int) __pure; /* foo2 is a function
                               returning a pointer to
                               a pure function */
int (*foo3(int) __pure) (int) __pure; /* foo3 is a pure function
                                       returning a pointer to
                                       a pure function */
```

In this example:

- `foo1` and `foo3` are modified themselves.
- `foo2` and `foo3` return a pointer to a modified function.
- The functions `foo3` and `foo` are identical.

Because the postfix syntax is more precise than the prefix syntax, ARM recommends that, where possible, you make use of the postfix syntax when qualifying functions with ARM function modifiers.

### Related references

- [10.11 `\_\_irq` on page 10-618.](#)
- [10.13 `\_\_pure` on page 10-621.](#)
- [10.15 `\_\_softfp` on page 10-623.](#)
- [10.16 `\_\_svc` on page 10-624.](#)
- [10.17 `\_\_svc\_indirect` on page 10-625.](#)
- [10.19 `\_\_value\_in\_regs` on page 10-627.](#)

## 5.20 Inline functions

Inline functions offer a trade-off between code size and performance. By default, the compiler decides for itself whether to inline code or not.

As a general rule, when compiling with `-Ospace`, the compiler makes sensible decisions about inlining with a view to producing code of minimal size. This is because code size for embedded systems is of fundamental importance. When compiling with `-Otime`, the compiler inlines in most cases, but still avoids large code growth. On NEON, calls to non-inline functions from within a loop inhibit vectorization, and require explicit indication that they are to be inlined for vectorization to take place.

In most circumstances, the decision to inline a particular function is best left to the compiler. However, you can give the compiler a hint that a function is required to be inlined by using the appropriate inline keyword.

Functions that are qualified with the `__inline`, `inline`, or `__forceinline` keywords are called inline functions. In C++, member functions that are defined inside a class, struct, or union, are also inline functions.

The compiler also offers a range of other facilities for modifying its behavior with respect to inlining. There are several factors you must take into account when deciding whether to use these facilities, or more generally, whether to inline a function at all.

The linker is able to apply some degree of function inlining to functions that are very short.

### Related concepts

- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)

### Related information

- [--inline, --no\\_inline linker option.](#)

## 5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining

When function inlining is enabled, the compiler uses a complex decision tree to decide if a function is to be inlined.

The following simplified algorithm is used:

1. If the function is qualified with `__forceinline`, the function is inlined if it is possible to do so.
2. If the function is qualified with `__inline` and the option `--forceinline` is selected, the function is inlined if it is possible to do so.

If the function is qualified with `__inline` and the option `--forceinline` is not selected, the function is inlined if it is practical to do so.

3. If the optimization level is `-O2` or higher, or `--autoinline` is specified, the compiler automatically inlines functions if it is practical to do so, even if you do not explicitly give a hint that function inlining is wanted.

When deciding if it is practical to inline a function, the compiler takes into account several other criteria, such as:

- The size of the function, and how many times it is called.
- The current optimization level.
- Whether it is optimizing for speed (`-Otime`) or size (`-Ospace`).
- Whether the function has external or static linkage.
- How many parameters the function has.
- Whether the return value of the function is used.

Ultimately, the compiler can decide not to inline a function, even if the function is qualified with `__forceinline`. As a general rule:

- Smaller functions stand a better chance of being inlined.
- Compiling with `-Otime` increases the likelihood that a function is inlined.
- Large functions are not normally inlined because this can adversely affect code density and performance.

A recursive function is inlined into itself only once, even if `__forceinline` is used.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
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### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)
- [8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)

[8.142 -Ospace](#) on page 8-485.

[8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.

## 5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions

At -O2 and -O3 levels of optimization, or when `--autoinline` is specified, the compiler can automatically inline functions if it is practical and possible to do so, even if the functions are not declared as `__inline` or `inline`.

This works best for static functions, because if all use of a static function can be inlined, no out-of-line copy is required. Unless a function is explicitly declared as **static** (or `__inline`), the compiler has to retain the out-of-line version of it in the object file in case it is called from some other module.

It is best to mark all non-inline functions as static if they are not used outside the translation unit where they are defined (a translation unit being the preprocessed output of a source file together with all of the headers and source files included as a result of the `#include` directive). Typically, you do not want to place definitions of non-inline functions in header files.

If you fail to declare functions that are never called from outside a module as **static**, code can be adversely affected. In particular, you might have:

- A larger code size, because out-of-line versions of functions are retained in the image.  
When a function is automatically inlined, both the in-line version *and* an out-of-line version of the function might end up in the final image, unless the function is declared as **static**. This might increase code size.
- An unnecessarily complicated debug view, because there are both inline versions and out-of-line versions of functions to display.

Retaining both inline and out-of-line copies of a function in code can sometimes be confusing when setting breakpoints or single-stepping in a debug view. The debugger has to display both in-line and out-of-line versions in its interleaved source view so that you can see what is happening when stepping through either the in-line or out-of-line version.

Because of these problems, declare non-inline functions as **static** when you are sure that they can never be called from another module.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)

## 5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time

The linker cannot remove unused out-of-line functions from an object unless you place the unused out-of-line functions in their own sections.

Use one of the following methods to place unused out-of-line functions in their own sections:

- `--split_sections`.
- `__attribute__((section("name")))`.
- `#pragma arm section [section_type_list]`.
- Linker feedback.

`--feedback` is typically an easier method of enabling unused function removal.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions](#) on page 5-179.
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining](#) on page 5-180.
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions](#) on page 5-182.
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation](#) on page 5-184.
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions](#) on page 5-186.
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode](#) on page 5-187.
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode](#) on page 5-188.
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging](#) on page 5-190.

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining](#) on page 5-185.
- [8.81 `--feedback=filename`](#) on page 8-416.
- [8.174 `--split\_sections`](#) on page 8-518.
- [10.67 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-679.
- [10.77 `#pragma arm section \[section\_type\_list\]`](#) on page 10-689.

## 5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation

If you are compiling with the `--multifile` option, the compiler can perform automatic inlining for calls to functions that are defined in other translation units.

In RVCT 4.0 the `--multifile` option is enabled by default at `-O3` level.

In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later the `--multifile` option is disabled by default, regardless of the optimization level.

For `--multifile`, both translation units must be compiled in the same invocation of the compiler.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)
- [8.134 `--multifile`, `--no\_multifile` on page 8-474.](#)
- [8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)



## 5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining

You can enable and disable function inlining, but you cannot override decisions the compiler makes about when it is practical to inline a function.

For example, you cannot force a function to be inlined if the compiler thinks it is not sensible to do so. Even if you use `--forceinline` or `__forceinline`, the compiler only inlines functions if it is possible to do so.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)

## 5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions

Compiler modes affect the behavior of inline functions.

ARM provides information about inline functions in C++, C90, and C99 modes.

The GNU Compiler Collection (GCC) web site provides information about inline functions in GNU C90 mode.

### Related concepts

*5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.*

*5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.*

*5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.*

*5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.*

*5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.*

*5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.*

*5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.*

*5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.*

*5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.*

*5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.*

### Related references

*5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.*

### Related information

*GNU Compiler Collection, <http://gcc.gnu.org>.*

## 5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode

The **inline** keyword is not available in C90. The effect of **\_\_inline** in C90, and **\_\_inline** and **inline** in C++, is identical.

When declaring an **extern** function to be inline, you must define it in every translation unit that it is used in. You must ensure that you use the same definition in each translation unit.

The requirement of defining the function in every translation unit applies even though it has external linkage.

If an inline function is used by more than one translation unit, its definition is typically placed in a header file.

ARM does not recommend placing definitions of non-inline functions in header files, because this can result in the creation of a separate function in each translation unit. If the non-inline function is an **extern** function, this leads to duplicate symbols at link time. If the non-inline function is **static**, this can lead to unwanted code duplication.

Member functions defined within a C++ structure, class, or union declaration, are implicitly inline. They are treated as if they are declared with the **inline** or **\_\_inline** keyword.

Inline functions have **extern** linkage unless they are explicitly declared **static**. If an inline function is declared to be static, any out-of-line copies of the function must be unique to their translation unit, so declaring an inline function to be static could lead to unwanted code duplication.

The compiler generates a regular call to an out-of-line copy of a function when it cannot inline the function, and when it decides not to inline it.

The requirement of defining a function in every translation unit it is used in means that the compiler is not required to emit out-of-line copies of all **extern** inline functions. When the compiler does emit out-of-line copies of an **extern** inline function, it uses Common Groups, so that the linker eliminates duplicates, keeping at most one copy in the same out-of-line function from different object files.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.107 --inline, --no\\_inline on page 8-445.](#)
- [10.8 \\_\\_inline on page 10-615.](#)

### Related information

- [Elimination of common groups or sections.](#)

## 5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode

The rules for C99 inline functions with external linkage differ from those of C++.

C99 distinguishes between inline definitions and external definitions. Within a given translation unit where the inline function is defined, if the inline function is always declared with **inline** and never with **extern**, it is an inline definition. Otherwise, it is an external definition. These inline definitions do not generate out-of-line copies, even when `--no_inline` is used.

Each use of an inline function might be inlined using a definition from the same translation unit (that might be an inline definition or an external definition), or it might become a call to an external definition. If an inline function is used, it must have exactly one external definition in some translation unit. This is the same rule that applies to using any external function. In practise, if all uses of an inline function are inlined, no error occurs if the external definition is missing. If you use `--no_inline`, only external definitions are used.

Typically, you put inline functions with external linkage into header files as inline definitions, using **inline**, and not using **extern**. There is also an external definition in one source file. For example:

```

/* example_header.h */
inline int my_function (int i)
{
    return i + 42; // inline definition
}
/* file1.c */
#include "example_header.h"
... // uses of my_function()
/* file2.c */
#include "example_header.h"
... // uses of my_function()
/* myfile.c */
#include "example_header.h"
extern inline int my_function(int); // causes external definition.

```

This is the same strategy that is typically used for C++, but in C++ there is no special external definition, and no requirement for it.

The definitions of inline functions can be different in different translation units. However, in typical use, as in the above example, they are identical.

When compiling with `--multifile`, calls in one translation unit might be inlined using the external definition in another translation unit.

C99 places some restrictions on inline definitions. They cannot define modifiable local static objects. They cannot reference identifiers with static linkage.

In C99 mode, as with all other modes, the effects of **\_\_inline** and **inline** are identical.

Inline functions with static linkage have the same behavior in C99 as in C++.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.29 Inline functions and debugging on page 5-190.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)

8.134 `--multifile`, `--no_multifile` on page 8-474.  
10.8 `__inline` on page 10-615.

## 5.29 Inline functions and debugging

The debug view generated for inline functions is generally good. However, it is sometimes useful to avoid inlining functions because in some situations, debugging is clearer if they are not inlined.

You can enable and disable the inlining of functions using the `--no_inline`, `--inline`, `--autoinline` and `--no_autoinline` command-line options.

The debug view can also be adversely affected by retaining both inline and out-of-line copies of a function when out-of-line copies are not required. Functions that are never called from outside a module can be declared as static functions to avoid an unnecessarily complicated debug view.

### Related concepts

- [5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.](#)
- [5.21 Compiler decisions on function inlining on page 5-180.](#)
- [5.22 Automatic function inlining and static functions on page 5-182.](#)
- [5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.](#)
- [5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.](#)
- [5.26 Compiler modes and inline functions on page 5-186.](#)
- [5.27 Inline functions in C++ and C90 mode on page 5-187.](#)
- [5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.](#)

### Related references

- [5.25 Restriction on overriding compiler decisions about function inlining on page 5-185.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)
- [8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)

### Related information

- [--inline, --no\\_inline linker option.](#)

## 5.30 Types of data alignment

All access to data in memory can be classified into a number of different categories.

These categories are as follows:

- Natural alignment, for example, on a word boundary at 0x1004. The ARM compiler normally aligns variables and pads structures so that these items are accessed efficiently using LDR and STR instructions.
- Known but non-natural alignment, for example, a word at address 0x1001. This type of alignment commonly occurs when structures are packed to remove unnecessary padding. In C and C++, the `__packed` qualifier or the `#pragma pack(n)` pragma let you signify that a structure is packed.
- Unknown alignment, for example, a word at an arbitrary address. This type of alignment commonly occurs when defining a pointer that can point to a word at any address. In C and C++, the `__packed` qualifier or the `#pragma pack(n)` pragma let you signify that a pointer can access a word on a non-natural alignment boundary.

### Related concepts

[5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment](#) on page 5-192.

[5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-195.

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

### Related references

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment](#) on page 5-193.

[5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time](#) on page 5-194.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

## 5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment

The various C data types are aligned on specific byte boundaries to maximize storage potential and to provide for fast, efficient memory access with the ARM instruction set.

For example, the ARM architecture can access a four-byte variable using only one instruction when the object is stored at an address divisible by four, so four-byte objects are located on four-byte boundaries.

ARM and Thumb processors are designed to efficiently access *naturally aligned* data, that is, doublewords that lie on addresses that are multiples of eight, words that lie on addresses that are multiples of four, halfwords that lie on addresses that are multiples of two, and single bytes that lie at any byte address. Such data is located on its natural size boundary.

### Related concepts

[5.30 Types of data alignment on page 5-191.](#)

[5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code on page 5-195.](#)

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code on page 5-196.](#)

### Related references

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment on page 5-193.](#)

[5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time on page 5-194.](#)



## 5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment

C data types are aligned on specific byte boundaries, depending on their type.

By default, the compiler stores data objects by byte alignment as shown in the following table.

**Table 5-9 Compiler storage of data objects by byte alignment**

Type	Bytes	Alignment
char, bool, _Bool	1	Located at any byte address.
short, wchar_t	2	Located at any address that is evenly divisible by 2.
float, int, long, pointer	4	Located at an address that is evenly divisible by 4.
long long, double, long double	8	Located at an address that is evenly divisible by 8.

### Related concepts

[5.30 Types of data alignment](#) on page 5-191.

[5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment](#) on page 5-192.

[5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-195.

[5.35 The \\_\\_packed qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

### Related references

[5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time](#) on page 5-194.

## 5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time

Data alignment becomes relevant when the compiler allocates memory locations to variables.

For example, in the following structure, a three-byte gap is required between `bmem` and `cmem`.

```
struct example_st {  
    int amem;  
    char bmem;  
    int cmem;  
};
```

### Related concepts

[5.30 Types of data alignment](#) on page 5-191.

[5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment](#) on page 5-192.

[5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-195.

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

### Related references

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment](#) on page 5-193.

## 5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code

It can be necessary to access unaligned data in memory, for example, when porting legacy code from a CISC architecture where instructions are available to directly access unaligned data in memory.

On ARMv4 and ARMv5 architectures, and on the ARMv6 architecture depending on how it is configured, care is required when accessing unaligned data in memory, to avoid unexpected results. For example, when C or C++ source code uses a conventional pointer to read a word in C or C++ source code, the ARM compiler generates assembly language code that reads the word using an LDR instruction. This works as expected when the address is a multiple of four, for example if it lies on a word boundary. However, if the address is not a multiple of four, the LDR instruction returns a rotated result rather than performing a true unaligned word load. Generally, this rotation is not what the programmer expects.

On ARMv6 and later architectures, unaligned access is fully supported.

### Related concepts

[5.30 Types of data alignment on page 5-191.](#)

[5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment on page 5-192.](#)

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code on page 5-196.](#)

### Related references

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment on page 5-193.](#)

[5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time on page 5-194.](#)

## 5.35 The `__packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code

The `__packed` qualifier sets the alignment of any valid type to 1.

This enables objects of packed type to be read or written using unaligned access.

Examples of objects that can be packed include:

- Structures.
- Unions.
- Pointers.

### Related concepts

[5.30 Types of data alignment](#) on page 5-191.

[5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment](#) on page 5-192.

[5.34 Unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-195.

### Related references

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment](#) on page 5-193.

[5.33 Relevance of natural data alignment at compile time](#) on page 5-194.

[10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

## 5.36 Unaligned fields in structures

You can use the `__packed` qualifier to create unaligned fields in structures. This saves space because the compiler does not need to pad fields to their natural size boundary.

For efficiency, fields in a structure are positioned on their natural size boundary. This means that the compiler often inserts padding between fields to ensure that they are naturally aligned.

When space is at a premium, you can use the `__packed` qualifier to create structures without padding between fields. Structures can be packed in the following ways:

- The entire **struct** can be declared as `__packed`. For example:

```
__packed struct mystruct
{
    char c;
    short s;
} // not recommended
```

Each field of the structure inherits the `__packed` qualifier.

Declaring an entire **struct** as `__packed` typically incurs a penalty both in code size and performance.

- Individual non-aligned fields within the **struct** can be declared as `__packed`. For example:

```
struct mystruct
{
    char c;
    __packed short s; // recommended
}
```

This is the recommended approach to packing structures.

---

### Note

The same principles apply to unions. You can declare either an entire union as `__packed`, or use the `__packed` attribute to identify components of the union that are unaligned in memory.

---

### Related concepts

[5.37 Performance penalty associated with marking whole structures as packed](#) on page 5-198.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `\_\_packed` struct, and a struct with individually `\_\_packed` fields, and of a `\_\_packed` struct and a `#pragma packed` struct](#) on page 5-201.

### Related references

[10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

## 5.37 Performance penalty associated with marking whole structures as packed

Reading from and writing to whole structures qualified with `__packed` requires unaligned accesses and can therefore incur a performance penalty.

When optimizing a **struct** that is packed, the compiler tries to deduce the alignment of each field, to improve access. However, it is not always possible for the compiler to deduce the alignment of each field in a `__packed struct`. In contrast, when individual fields in a **struct** are declared as `__packed`, fast access is guaranteed to naturally aligned members within the **struct**. Therefore, when the use of a packed structure is required, ARM recommends that you always pack individual fields of the structure, rather than the entire structure itself.

---

### Note

Declaring individual non-aligned fields of a **struct** as `__packed` also has the advantage of making it clearer to the programmer which fields of the **struct** are not naturally aligned.

---

### Related concepts

[5.36 Unaligned fields in structures](#) on page 5-197.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `\_\_packed struct`, and a struct with individually `\_\_packed` fields, and of a `\_\_packed struct` and a `#pragma packed struct`](#) on page 5-201.

### Related references

[10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

## 5.38 Unaligned pointers in C and C++ code

If you want to define a pointer that can point to a word at any address, you must specify the `__packed` qualifier.

By default, the compiler expects conventional C and C++ pointers to point to naturally aligned words in memory because this enables the compiler to generate more efficient code.

For example, to specify an unaligned pointer:

```
__packed int *pi; // pointer to unaligned int
```

When a pointer is declared as `__packed`, the compiler generates code that correctly accesses the dereferenced value of the pointer, regardless of its alignment. The generated code consists of a sequence of byte accesses, or variable alignment-dependent shifting and masking instructions, rather than a simple LDR instruction. Consequently, declaring a pointer as `__packed` incurs a performance and code size penalty.

### Related references

[10.12 `\_\_packed` on page 10-619.](#)

[8.186 `--unaligned\_access`, `--no\_unaligned\_access` on page 8-535.](#)

## 5.39 Unaligned Load Register (LDR) instructions generated by the compiler

In some circumstances, where it is legal to do so, the compiler might intentionally generate unaligned LDR instructions.

In particular, the compiler can do this to load halfwords from memory, even where the architecture supports dedicated halfword load instructions.

For example, to access an unaligned **short** within a `__packed` structure, the compiler might load the required halfword into the top half of a register and then shift it down to the bottom half. This operation requires only one memory access, whereas performing the same operation using LDRB instructions requires two memory accesses, plus instructions to merge the two bytes.

### Related references

[10.12 `\_\_packed` on page 10-619.](#)

[8.186 `--unaligned\_access`, `--no\_unaligned\_access` on page 8-535.](#)



# 5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `__packed struct`, and a struct with individually `__packed` fields, and of a `__packed struct` and a `#pragma packed struct`

These comparisons illustrate the differences between the methods of packing structures.

## Comparison of an unpacked struct, a `__packed struct`, and a struct with individually `__packed` fields

The differences between not packing a **struct**, packing an entire **struct**, and packing individual fields of a **struct** are illustrated by the three implementations of a **struct** shown in the following table.

**Table 5-10 C code for an unpacked struct, a packed struct, and a struct with individually packed fields**

Unpacked struct	<code>__packed struct</code>	<code>__packed</code> fields
<pre>struct foo {     char one;     short two;     char three;     int four; } c;</pre>	<pre>__packed struct foo {     char one;     short two;     char three;     int four; } c;</pre>	<pre>struct foo {     char one;     __packed short two;     char three;     int four; } c;</pre>

In the first implementation, the **struct** is not packed. In the second implementation, the entire structure is qualified as `__packed`. In the third implementation, the `__packed` attribute is removed from the structure and the individual field that is not naturally aligned is declared as `__packed`.

The following table shows the corresponding disassembly of the machine code produced by the compiler for each of the sample implementations of the preceding table, where the C code for each implementation has been compiled using the option `-O2`.

**Table 5-11 Disassembly for an unpacked struct, a packed struct, and a struct with individually packed fields**

Unpacked struct	<code>__packed struct</code>	<code>__packed</code> fields
<pre>; r0 contains address of c ; char one LDRB    r1, [r0, #0] ; short two LDRSH   r2, [r0, #2] ; char three LDRB    r3, [r0, #4] ; int four LDR     r12, [r0, #8]</pre>	<pre>; r0 contains address of c ; char one LDRB    r1, [r0, #0] ; short two LDRB    r2, [r0, #1] LDRSB   r12, [r0, #2] ORR     r2, r12, r2, LSL #8 ; char three LDRB    r3, [r0, #3] ; int four ADD     r0, r0, #4 BL      __aeabi_uread4</pre>	<pre>; r0 contains address of c ; char one LDRB    r1, [r0, #0] ; short two LDRB    r2, [r0, #1] LDRSB   r12, [r0, #2] ORR     r2, r12, r2, LSL #8 ; char three LDRB    r3, [r0, #3] ; int four LDR     r12, [r0, #4]</pre>

### Note

The `-Ospace` and `-Otime` compiler options control whether accesses to unaligned elements are made inline or through a function call. Using `-Otime` results in inline unaligned accesses. Using `-Ospace` results in unaligned accesses made through function calls.

In the disassembly of the unpacked **struct** example above, the compiler always accesses data on aligned word or halfword addresses. The compiler is able to do this because the **struct** is padded so that every member of the **struct** lies on its natural size boundary.

In the disassembly of the `__packed struct` example above, fields one and three are aligned on their natural size boundaries by default, so the compiler makes aligned accesses. The compiler always carries out aligned word or halfword accesses for fields it can identify as being aligned. For the unaligned field two, the compiler uses multiple aligned memory accesses (LDR/STR/LDM/STM), combined with fixed shifting and masking, to access the correct bytes in memory. The compiler calls the *ARM Embedded Application Binary Interface* (AEABI) runtime routine `__aeabi_uread4` for reading an unsigned word at an unknown alignment to access field four because it is not able to determine that the field lies on its natural size boundary.

In the disassembly of the `struct` with individually packed fields example above, fields one, two, and three are accessed in the same way as in the case where the entire `struct` is qualified as `__packed`. In contrast to the situation where the entire `struct` is packed, however, the compiler makes a word-aligned access to the field four. This is because the presence of the `__packed` short within the structure helps the compiler to determine that the field four lies on its natural size boundary.

### Comparison of a `__packed` struct and a `#pragma packed` struct

The differences between a `__packed struct` and a `#pragma packed struct` are illustrated by the two implementations of a `struct` shown in the following table.

**Table 5-12 C code for a packed struct and a pragma packed struct**

<code>__packed</code> struct	<code>#pragma packed</code> struct
<pre>__packed struct foobar {     char x;     short y[10]; }; short get_y0(struct foobar *s) {     // Unaligned-capable load     return *s-&gt;y; } short *get_y(struct foobar *s) {     return s-&gt;y;    // Compile error }</pre>	<pre>#pragma push #pragma pack(1) struct foobar {     char x;     short y[10]; }; #pragma pop short get_y0(struct foobar *s) {     // Unaligned-capable load     return *s-&gt;y; } short *get_y(struct foobar *s) {     return s-&gt;y;    // No error     // Potentially illegal unaligned load,     // depending on use of result }</pre>

In the first implementation, taking the address of a field in a `__packed struct` or a `__packed` field in a `struct` yields a `__packed` pointer, and the compiler generates a type error if you try to implicitly cast this to a non-`__packed` pointer. In the second implementation, in contrast, taking the address of a field in a `#pragma packed struct` does not yield a `__packed`-qualified pointer. However, the field might not be properly aligned for its type, and dereferencing such an unaligned pointer results in Undefined behavior.

### Related concepts

[5.36 Unaligned fields in structures on page 5-197.](#)

[5.37 Performance penalty associated with marking whole structures as packed on page 5-198.](#)

### Related references

[8.142 -Ospace on page 8-485.](#)

[8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)

[10.12 `\_\_packed` on page 10-619.](#)

[10.58 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(packed\)\)` type attribute on page 10-670.](#)

[10.66 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(packed\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-678.](#)

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)` on page 10-708.](#)

5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `__packed struct`, and a struct with individually `__packed fields`, and of a `__packed struct` and a `#pragma packed struct`

**Related information**

*Application Binary Interface (ABI) for the ARM Architecture.*

## 5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic

The compiler provides many features for managing floating-point arithmetic both in hardware and in software.

For example, you can specify software or hardware support for floating-point, particular hardware architectures, and the level of conformance to IEEE floating-point standards.

The selection of floating-point options determines various trade-offs between floating-point performance, system cost, and system flexibility. To obtain the best trade-off between performance, cost, and flexibility, you have to make sensible choices in your selection of floating-point options.

Floating-point arithmetic can be supported, either:

- In software, through the floating-point library `fp11b`. This library provides functions that can be called to implement floating-point operations using no additional hardware.
- In hardware, using a hardware *Vector Floating Point* (VFP) coprocessor with the ARM processor to provide the required floating-point operations. VFP is a coprocessor architecture that implements IEEE floating-point and supports single and double precision, but not extended precision.

### ———— Note ————

In practice, floating-point arithmetic in the VFP is implemented using a combination of hardware, that executes the common cases, and software, that deals with the uncommon cases, and cases causing exceptions.

Code that uses hardware support for floating-point arithmetic is more compact and offers better performance than code that performs floating-point arithmetic in software. However, hardware support for floating-point arithmetic requires a VFP coprocessor.

### Related concepts

- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [10.98 `#pragma softfp\_linkage`, `#pragma no\_softfp\_linkage` on page 10-712.](#)
- [8.41 `--cpu=name` compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.56 `--device=name` on page 8-391.](#)
- [10.114 `\_\_fabs` intrinsic on page 10-730.](#)
- [8.85 `--fp16\_format=format` on page 8-420.](#)
- [8.86 `--fpmode=model` on page 8-421.](#)
- [8.87 `--fpu=list` on page 8-423.](#)
- [8.88 `--fpu=name` compiler option on page 8-424.](#)
- [10.136 `\_\_sqrt` intrinsic on page 10-756.](#)

*10.154 GNU built-in functions on page 10-780.*

*10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.*

*10.150 VFP status intrinsic on page 10-773.*

*9.14 Hexadecimal floats on page 9-571.*

*9.38 Hexadecimal floating-point constants on page 9-595.*

*17.3 Limits for floating-point numbers on page 17-927.*

#### **Related information**

*ARM and Thumb floating-point build options (ARMv6 and earlier).*

*ARM and Thumb floating-point build options (ARMv7 and later).*

*Floating-point Support.*

*Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.*

## 5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support

The default target FPU architecture is derived from use of the `--cpu` option.

If the processor specified with `--cpu` has a VFP coprocessor, the default target FPU architecture is the VFP architecture for that processor. For example, the option `--cpu ARM1136JF-S` implies the option `--fpu vfpv2`.

If you are building ARM Linux applications using `--arm_linux` or `--arm_linux_paths`, the default is always software floating-point linkage. Even if you specify a processor that implies an FPU (for example, `--cpu=ARM1136JF-S`), the compiler still defaults to `--fpu=softvfp+vfp`, not `--fpu=vfp`.

If a VFP coprocessor is present, VFP instructions are generated. If there is no VFP coprocessor, the compiler generates code that makes calls to the software floating-point library `fp11b` to carry out floating-point operations. `fp11b` is available as part of the standard distribution of the ARM compilation tools suite of C libraries.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)

### Related information

[Floating-point Support.](#)

## 5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic

This example shows how the compiler deals with floating-point arithmetic for different processors supporting either hardware or software floating-point arithmetic.

The following example shows a function implementing floating-point arithmetic in C code.

```
float foo(float num1, float num2)
{
    float temp, temp2;
    temp = num1 + num2;
    temp2 = num2 * num2;
    return temp2 - temp;
}
```

When the example C code is compiled with the command-line options `--cpu 5TE` and `--fpu softvfp`, the compiler produces machine code with the disassembly shown below. In this case, floating-point arithmetic is performed in software through calls to library routines such as `__aeabi_fmul`.

```
||foo|| PROC
    PUSH    {r4-r6, lr}
    MOV     r4, r1
    BL     __aeabi_fadd
    MOV     r5, r0
    MOV     r1, r4
    MOV     r0, r4
    BL     __aeabi_fmul
    MOV     r1, r5
    POP     {r4-r6, lr}
    B      __aeabi_fsub
    ENDP
```

However, when the example C code is compiled with the command-line option `--fpu vfp`, the compiler produces machine code with the disassembly shown below. In this case, floating-point arithmetic is performed in hardware through floating-point arithmetic instructions such as `VMUL.F32`.

```
||foo|| PROC
    VADD.F32 s2, s0, s1
    VMUL.F32 s0, s1, s1
    VSUB.F32 s0, s0, s2
    BX      lr
    ENDP
```

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [8.41 `--cpu=name` compiler option on page 8-372.](#)
- [8.40 `--cpu=list` on page 8-371.](#)
- [8.87 `--fpu=list` on page 8-423.](#)
- [8.88 `--fpu=name` compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

**Related information**

*Application Binary Interface (ABI) for the ARM Architecture.*



## 5.44 Vector Floating-Point (VFP) architectures

ARM supports several versions of the VFP architecture, implemented in different ARM architectures.

VFP architectures provide both single and double precision operations. Many operations can take place in either scalar form or in vector form. Several versions of the architecture are supported, including:

- VFPv2, implemented in:
  - VFP10 revision 1, as provided by the ARM10200E processor.
  - VFP9-S, available as a separately licensable option for the ARM926E, ARM946E and ARM966E processors.
  - VFP11, as provided in the ARM1136JF-S, ARM1176JZF-S and ARM11 MPCore processors.
- VFPv3, implemented on ARM architecture v7 and later, for example, the Cortex-A8 processor. VFPv3 is backwards compatible with VFPv2, except that it cannot trap floating point exceptions. It requires no software support code. VFPv3 has 32 double-precision registers.
- VFPv3\_fp16, VFPv3 with half-precision extensions. These extensions provide conversion functions between half-precision floating-point numbers and single-precision floating-point numbers, in both directions. They can be implemented with any Advanced SIMD and VFP implementation that supports single-precision floating-point numbers.
- VFPv3-D16, an implementation of VFPv3 that provides 16 double-precision registers. It is implemented on ARM architecture v7 processors that support VFP without NEON.
- VFPv3U, an implementation of VFPv3 that can trap floating-point exceptions. It requires software support code.
- VFPv4, implemented on ARM architecture v7 and later, for example, the Cortex-A7 processor. VFPv4 has 32 double-precision registers. VFPv4 adds both half-precision extensions and fused multiply-add instructions to the features of VFPv3.
- VFPv4-D16, an implementation of VFPv4 that provides 16 double-precision registers. It is implemented on ARM architecture v7 processors that support VFP without NEON.
- VFPv4U, an implementation of VFPv4 that can trap floating-point exceptions. It requires software support code.

### Note

Particular implementations of the VFP architecture might provide additional implementation-specific functionality. For example, the VFP coprocessor hardware might include extra registers for describing exceptional conditions. This extra functionality is known as *sub-architecture* functionality.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)

## Related information

*ARM Application Note 133 - Using VFP with RVDS.*

## 5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic

ARM *Vector Floating-Point* (VFP) coprocessors are optimized to process well-defined floating-point code in hardware. Arithmetic operations that occur too rarely, or that are too complex, are not handled in hardware.

Instead, processing of these cases must be handled in software. This approach minimizes the amount of coprocessor hardware required and reduces costs.

Code provided to handle cases the VFP hardware is unable to process is known as VFP support code. When the VFP hardware is unable to deal with a situation directly, it bounces the case to VFP support code for more processing. For example, VFP support code might be called to process any of the following:

- Floating-point operations involving NaNs.
- Floating-point operations involving denormals.
- Floating-point overflow.
- Floating-point underflow.
- Inexact results.
- Division-by-zero errors.
- Invalid operations.

When support code is in place, the VFP supports a fully IEEE 754-compliant floating-point model.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
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- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)

### Related information

*Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.*

## 5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point (VFP) support code

For convenience, an implementation of VFP support code that can be used in your system is provided with your installation of the ARM compilation tools.

The support code comprises:

- The libraries `vfpsupport.l` and `vfpsupport.b` for emulating VFP operations bounced by the hardware.

These files are located in the `\lib\armlib` subdirectory of your installation.

- C source code and assembly language source code implementing top-level, second-level and user-level interrupt handlers.

These files can be found in the `vfpsupport` subdirectory of the `Examples` directory of your ARM compilation tools distribution at `install_directory\Examples\...\vfpsupport`.

These files might require modification to integrate VFP support with your operating system.

- C source code and assembly language source code for accessing subarchitecture functionality of VFP coprocessors.

These files are located in the `vfpsupport` subdirectory of the `Examples` directory of your ARM compilation tools distribution at `install_directory\Examples\...\vfpsupport`.

When the VFP coprocessor bounces an instruction, an Undefined Instruction exception is signaled to the processor and the VFP support code is entered through the Undefined Instruction vector. The top-level and second-level interrupt handlers perform some initial processing of the signal, for example, ensuring that the exception is not caused by an illegal instruction. The user-level interrupt handler then calls the appropriate library function in the library `vfpsupport.l` or `vfpsupport.b` to emulate the VFP operation in software.

---

### Note

You do not have to use VFP support code:

- When building with `--fpmode=std`.
  - When no trapping of uncommon or exceptional cases is required.
  - When the VFP coprocessor is operating in RunFast mode.
  - When the hardware coprocessor is a VFPv3-based system.
- 

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
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- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [8.86 `--fpmode=model` on page 8-421.](#)

## Related information

*ARM Application Note 133 - Using VFP with RVDS.*

## 5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers

Half-precision is a floating-point format that occupies 16 bits.

Half-precision floating-point numbers are provided by:

- The *Vector Floating-Point* (VFP) Version 4 architecture.
- An optional extension to the VFPv3 architecture.

If a VFP coprocessor is not available, or if a VFPv3 coprocessor is used that does not have the extension, half-precision floating-point numbers are supported through the floating-point library `fp11b`.

Half-precision floating-point numbers can only be used when selected with the `--fp16_format=format` compiler command-line option.

The C++ name mangling for the half-precision data type is specified in the C++ generic *Application Binary Interface* (ABI).

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [8.85 `--fp16\_format=format` on page 8-420.](#)

### Related information

- [Floating-point Support.](#)
- [C++ ABI for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format

The half-precision floating-point formats available are `ieee` and `alternative`. In both formats, the basic layout of the 16-bit number is the same.

The half-precision floating-point format is as follows:

15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0
S	E					T									

Figure 5-1 Half-precision floating-point format

Where:

S (bit[15]): Sign bit  
E (bits[14:10]): Biased exponent  
T (bits[9:0]): Mantissa.

The meanings of these fields depend on the format that is selected.

The IEEE half-precision format is as follows:

```
IF E==31:
    IF T==0: Value = Signed infinity
    IF T!=0: Value = Nan
        T[9] determines Quiet or Signalling:
            0: Quiet NaN
            1: Signalling NaN
IF 0<E<31:
    Value = (-1)^S x 2^(E-15) x (1 + (2^(-10) x T))
IF E==0:
    IF T==0: Value = Signed zero
    IF T!=0: Value = (-1)^S x 2^(-14) x (0 + (2^(-10) x T))
```

The alternative half-precision format is as follows:

```
IF 0<E<32:
    Value = (-1)^S x 2^(E-15) x (1 + (2^(-10) x T))
IF E==0:
    IF T==0: Value = Signed zero
    IF T!=0: Value = (-1)^S x 2^(-14) x (0 + (2^(-10) x T))
```

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [8.85 `--fp16\_format=format` on page 8-420.](#)

### Related information

[Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.](#)

## 5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage

It is important to understand the difference between floating-point computations and floating-point linkage.

Floating-point computations are performed by hardware coprocessor instructions or by library functions.

Floating-point linkage is concerned with how arguments are passed between functions that use floating-point variables.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [10.46 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(pcs\("calling\_convention"\)\)\)` function attribute on page 10-658.](#)



## 5.50 Types of floating-point linkage

Different types of floating-point linkage provide different benefits.

The types of floating-point linkage are:

- Software floating-point linkage.
- Hardware floating-point linkage.

Software floating-point linkage means that the parameters and return value for a function are passed using the ARM integer registers `r0` to `r3` and the stack.

Hardware floating-point linkage uses the *Vector Floating-Point* (VFP) coprocessor registers to pass the arguments and return value.

The benefit of using software floating-point linkage is that the resulting code can be run on a processor with or without a VFP coprocessor. It is not dependent on the presence of a VFP hardware coprocessor, and it can be used with or without a VFP coprocessor present.

The benefit of using hardware floating-point linkage is that it is more efficient than software floating-point linkage, but you must have a VFP coprocessor.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)

### Related information

[Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations

Compiler options determine the type of floating-point linkage and floating-point computations.

By specifying the type of floating-point linkage and floating-point computations you require, you can determine, from the following table, the associated compiler command-line options that are available.

**Table 5-13 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and floating-point computations**

Linkage		Computations		Compiler options	
Hardware FP linkage	Software FP linkage	Hardware FP coprocessor	Software FP library (fplib)		
No	Yes	No	Yes	--fpu=softvfp	--apcs=/softfp
No	Yes	Yes	No	--fpu=softvfp+vfpv2 --fpu=softvfp+vfpv3 --fpu=softvfp+vfpv3_fp16 --fpu=softvfp+vfpv3_d16 --fpu=softvfp+vfp3_d16_fp16 --fpu=softvfp+vfpv4 --fpu=softvfp+vfpv4_d16 --fpu=softvfp+fpv4-sp	--apcs=/softfp
Yes	No	Yes	No	--fpu=vfp --fpu=vfpv2 --fpu=vfpv3 --fpu=vfpv3_fp16 --fpu=vfpv3_dp16 --fpu=vfpv3_d16_fp16 --fpu=vpfv4 --fpu=vfpv4_d16 --fpu=fpv4-sp	--apcs=/hardfp

softvfp specifies software floating-point linkage. When software floating-point linkage is used, either:

- The calling function and the called function must be compiled using one of the options --softvfp, --fpu softvfp+vfpv2, --fpu softvfp+vfpv3, --fpu softvfp+vfpv3\_fp16, softvfp+vfpv3\_d16, softvfp+vfpv3\_d16\_fp16, softvfp+vfpv4, softvfp+vfpv4\_d16, or softvfp+fpv4-sp.
- The calling function and the called function must be declared using the \_\_softfp keyword.

Each of the options --fpu softvfp, --fpu softvfp+vfpv2, --fpu softvfp+vfpv3, --fpu softvfp+vfpv3\_fp16, --fpu softvfpv3\_d16, --fpu softvfpv3\_d16\_fp16, --fpu softvfp+vfpv4, softvfp+vfpv4\_d16 and softvfp+fpv4-sp specify software floating-point linkage across the whole file. In contrast, the \_\_softfp keyword enables software floating-point linkage to be specified on a function by function basis.

---

**Note**

---

Rather than having separate compiler options to select the type of floating-point linkage you require and the type of floating-point computations you require, you use one compiler option, `--fpu`, to select both. For example, `--fpu=softvfp+vfvpv2` selects *software* floating-point linkage, and a *hardware* coprocessor for the computations. Whenever you use `softvfp`, you are specifying software floating-point linkage.

---

If you use the `--fpu` option, you must know the VFP architecture version implemented in the target processor. An alternative to `--fpu=softvfp+...` is `--apcs=/softfp`. This gives software linkage with whatever VFP architecture version is implied by `--cpu`. `--apcs=/softfp` and `--apcs=/hardfp` are alternative ways of requesting the integer or floating-point variant of the *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture* (AAPCS).

To use hardware floating-point linkage when targeting ARM Linux, you must explicitly specify a `--fpu` option that implies hardware floating-point linkage, for example, `--fpu=vfvpv3`, or compile with `--apcs=/hardfp`. The ARM Linux ABI does not support hardware floating-point linkage. The compiler issues a warning to indicate this.

### Related concepts

- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)
- [5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)
- [5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.](#)
- [5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)
- [5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)
- [5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) support code on page 5-212.](#)
- [5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)
- [5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.](#)
- [5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)
- [5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.](#)

### Related references

- [5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.](#)
- [5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\) on page 5-222.](#)
- [8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.](#)
- [8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)
- [8.114 --library\\_interface=lib on page 8-452.](#)
- [10.15 \\_\\_softfp on page 10-623.](#)
- [10.98 #pragma softfp\\_linkage, #pragma no\\_softfp\\_linkage on page 10-712.](#)

### Related information

[Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options

There are various valid combinations of FPU options and processors.

The following table sets out the FPU options, and their capabilities and requirements.

**Table 5-14 FPU-option capabilities and requirements**

FPU name	Hardware FP linkage	d0-d15 registers	d16-d31 registers	VFP instructions	Half precision	Single precision	Double precision
softvfp	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
softvfp+vfpv2	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv3	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv3_fp16	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv3_d16	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv3_d16_fp16	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv3_sp_d16	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
softvfp+vfpv4	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv4_d16	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
softvfp+vfpv4_sp_d16	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
softvfp+vfpv4-sp	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
vfp	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
vfpv2	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
vfpv3	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
vfpv3_fp16	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
vfpv3_d16	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
vfpv3_d16_fp16	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
vfpv3_sp_d16	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
vfpv4	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
vfpv4_d16	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
vfpv4_sp_d16	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
fpv4-sp	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No

———— **Note** ————

You can specify the floating-point linkage, independently of the VFP architecture, with `--apcs`.

## **Related concepts**

- 5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.*
- 5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.*
- 5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.*
- 5.44 Vector Floating-Point (VFP) architectures on page 5-209.*
- 5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.*
- 5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point (VFP) support code on page 5-212.*
- 5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.*
- 5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.*
- 5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.*
- 5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.*
- 5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.*

## **Related references**

- 5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs) on page 5-222.*
- 8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.*
- 8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.*

## 5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)

Not every ARM processor has an FPU, but every one has an implicit `--fpu` option.

The following table lists the implicit `--fpu` option for each processor `--cpu` option.

**Table 5-15 Implicit FPUs of processors**

Processor name	FPU name
<i>ARM processors designed by ARM Limited</i>	
ARM7EJ-S	SoftVFP
ARM7TDM	SoftVFP
ARM7TDMI	SoftVFP
ARM7TDMI-S	SoftVFP
ARM7TM	SoftVFP
ARM7TM-S	SoftVFP
ARM710T	SoftVFP
ARM720T	SoftVFP
ARM740T	SoftVFP
ARM810	SoftVFP
ARM9E-S	SoftVFP
ARM9EJ-S	SoftVFP
ARM9TDMI	SoftVFP
ARM920T	SoftVFP
ARM922T	SoftVFP
ARM926EJ-S	SoftVFP
ARM940T	SoftVFP
ARM946E-S	SoftVFP
ARM966E-S	SoftVFP
ARM968E-S	SoftVFP
ARM1020E	SoftVFP
ARM1022E	SoftVFP
ARM1026EJ-S	SoftVFP
ARM1136J-S	SoftVFP
ARM1136J-S-rev1	SoftVFP
ARM1136JF-S	VFPv2
ARM1136JF-S-rev1	VFPv2
ARM1156T2-S	SoftVFP
ARM1156T2F-S	VFPv2
ARM1176JZ-S	SoftVFP

**Table 5-15 Implicit FPUs of processors (continued)**

<b>Processor name</b>	<b>FPU name</b>
ARM1176JZF-S	VFPv2
Cortex-A5	SoftVFP
Cortex-A5.vfp	VFPv4_D16
Cortex-A5.neon	VFPv4
Cortex-A7	VFPv4
Cortex-A7.no_neon	VFPv4_D16
Cortex-A7.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
Cortex-A8	VFPv3
Cortex-A8.no_neon	SoftVFP
Cortex-A8NoNeon	SoftVFP
Cortex-A9	VFPv3_FP16
Cortex-A9.no_neon	VFPv3_D16_FP16
Cortex-A9.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
Cortex-A12	VFPv4
Cortex-A12.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
Cortex-A15	VFPv4
Cortex-A15.no_neon	VFPv4_D16
Cortex-A15.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
Cortex-A17	VFPv4
Cortex-A17.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
Cortex-M0	SoftVFP
Cortex-M0plus	SoftVFP
Cortex-M1	SoftVFP
Cortex-M1.os_extension	SoftVFP
Cortex-M1.no_os_extension	SoftVFP
Cortex-M3	SoftVFP
Cortex-M3-rev0	SoftVFP
Cortex-M4	SoftVFP
Cortex-M4.fp.sp	FPv4-SP
Cortex-M7	SoftVFP
Cortex-M7.fp.sp	FPv5-SP
Cortex-M7.fp.dp	FPv5-DP
Cortex-R4	SoftVFP
Cortex-R4F	VFPv3_D16

**Table 5-15 Implicit FPUs of processors (continued)**

<b>Processor name</b>	<b>FPU name</b>
Cortex-R5	SoftVFP
Cortex-R5-rev1	SoftVFP
Cortex-R5F	VFPv3_D16
Cortex-R5F-rev1	VFPv3_D16
Cortex-R5F-rev1.sp	VFPv3_SP_D16
Cortex-R7	VFPv3_D16_FP16
Cortex-R7.no_vfp	SoftVFP
MPCore	VFPv2
MPCore.no_vfp	SoftVFP
MPCoreNoVFP	SoftVFP
SC000	SoftVFP
SC300	SoftVFP
<i>ARM processors designed by ARM licensees</i>	
88FR101	SoftVFP
88FR101.hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR111	SoftVFP
88FR111.no_hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR121	SoftVFP
88FR121.hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR131	SoftVFP
88FR131.hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR301	SoftVFP
88FR301.hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR321	SoftVFP
88FR321.hw_divide	SoftVFP
88FR331	SoftVFP
88FR331.hw_divide	SoftVFP
PJ4	VFPv3_D16
PJ4.no_vfp	SoftVFP
QSP	VFPv3_FP16
QSP.no_neon	VFPv3_FP16
QSP.no_neon.no_vfp	SoftVFP
SA-110	SoftVFP
SA-1100	SoftVFP



---

**Note**

You can:

- Specify a different FPU with `--fpu`.
  - Specify the floating-point linkage, independently of the FPU architecture, with `--apcs`.
  - Display the complete expanded command line, including the FPU, with `--echo`.
- 

**Related concepts**

- 5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.*
- 5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.*
- 5.43 Example of hardware and software support differences for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-207.*
- 5.44 Vector Floating-Point (VFP) architectures on page 5-209.*
- 5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.*
- 5.46 Implementation of Vector Floating-Point (VFP) support code on page 5-212.*
- 5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.*
- 5.48 Half-precision floating-point number format on page 5-215.*
- 5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.*
- 5.50 Types of floating-point linkage on page 5-217.*
- 5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.*

**Related references**

- 5.52 Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options on page 5-220.*
- 8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.*
- 8.70 --echo on page 8-405.*
- 8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.*

## 5.54 Integer division-by-zero errors in C code

For targets that do not support the SDIV divide instruction, you can trap and identify integer division-by-zero errors with the appropriate C library helper functions, `__aeabi_idiv0()` and `__rt_raise()`.

### Trapping integer division-by-zero errors with `__aeabi_idiv0()`

You can trap integer division-by-zero errors with the C library helper function `__aeabi_idiv0()` so that division by zero returns some standard result, for example zero.

Integer division is implemented in code through the C library helper functions `__aeabi_idiv()` and `__aeabi_udiv()`. Both functions check for division by zero.

When integer division by zero is detected, a branch to `__aeabi_idiv0()` is made. To trap the division by zero, therefore, you only have to place a breakpoint on `__aeabi_idiv0()`.

The library provides two implementations of `__aeabi_idiv0()`. The default one does nothing, so if division by zero is detected, the division function returns zero. However, if you use signal handling, an alternative implementation is selected that calls `__rt_raise(SIGFPE, DIVBYZERO)`.

If you provide your own version of `__aeabi_idiv0()`, then the division functions call this function. The function prototype for `__aeabi_idiv0()` is:

```
int __aeabi_idiv0(void);
```

If `__aeabi_idiv0()` returns a value, that value is used as the quotient returned by the division function.

On entry into `__aeabi_idiv0()`, the link register LR contains the address of the instruction *after* the call to the `__aeabi_udiv()` division routine in your application code.

The offending line in the source code can be identified by looking up the line of C code in the debugger at the address given by LR.

If you want to examine parameters and save them for postmortem debugging when trapping `__aeabi_idiv0`, you can use the `$Super$$` and `$Sub$$` mechanism:

1. Prefix `__aeabi_idiv0()` with `$Super$$` to identify the original unpatched function `__aeabi_idiv0()`.
2. Use `__aeabi_idiv0()` prefixed with `$Super$$` to call the original function directly.
3. Prefix `__aeabi_idiv0()` with `$Sub$$` to identify the new function to be called in place of the original version of `__aeabi_idiv0()`.
4. Use `__aeabi_idiv0()` prefixed with `$Sub$$` to add processing before or after the original function `__aeabi_idiv0()`.

The following example shows how to intercept `__aeabi_idiv0` using the `$Super$$` and `$Sub$$` mechanism.

```
extern void $Super$$__aeabi_idiv0(void);
/* this function is called instead of the original __aeabi_idiv0() */
void $Sub$$__aeabi_idiv0()
{
    // insert code to process a divide by zero
    ...
    // call the original __aeabi_idiv0 function
    $Super$$__aeabi_idiv0();
}
```

### Trapping integer division-by-zero errors with `__rt_raise()`

By default, integer division by zero returns zero. If you want to intercept division by zero, you can re-implement the C library helper function `__rt_raise()`.

The function prototype for `__rt_raise()` is:

```
void __rt_raise(int signal, int type);
```

If you re-implement `__rt_raise()`, then the library automatically provides the signal-handling library version of `__aeabi_idiv0()`, which calls `__rt_raise()`, then that library version of `__aeabi_idiv0()` is included in the final image.

In that case, when a divide-by-zero error occurs, `__aeabi_idiv0()` calls `__rt_raise(SIGFPE, DIVBYZERO)`. Therefore, if you re-implement `__rt_raise()`, you must check `(signal == SIGFPE) && (type == DIVBYZERO)` to determine if division by zero has occurred.

### Related information

*[Run-time ABI for the ARM Architecture.](#)*

## 5.55 Software floating-point division-by-zero errors in C code

Floating-point division-by-zero errors in software can be trapped and identified using a combination of intrinsics and C library helper functions.

Specifically:

- The `__ieee_status` intrinsic lets you trap floating-point division-by-zero errors.
- Placing a breakpoint on `_fp_trapvener()` lets you identify software floating-point division-by-zero errors.
- Intercepting `_fp_trapvener()` using the `$Super$$` and `$Sub$$` mechanism lets you save parameters for debugging.

### Related concepts

[5.56 About trapping software floating-point division-by-zero errors on page 5-229.](#)

[5.57 Identification of software floating-point division-by-zero errors on page 5-230.](#)

[5.58 Software floating-point division-by-zero debugging on page 5-232.](#)

## 5.56 About trapping software floating-point division-by-zero errors

Software floating-point division-by-zero errors can be trapped with the `__ieee_status` intrinsic.

```
__ieee_status(FE_IEEE_MASK_ALL_EXCEPT, FE_IEEE_MASK_DIVBYZERO);
```

This traps any division-by-zero errors in code, and untraps all other exceptions, as illustrated in the following example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <fenv.h>
int main(void)
{
    float a, b, c;
    // Trap the Invalid Operation exception and untrap all other
    // exceptions:
    __ieee_status(FE_IEEE_MASK_ALL_EXCEPT, FE_IEEE_MASK_DIVBYZERO);
    c = 0;
    a = b / c;
    printf("b / c = %f, ", a); // trap division-by-zero error
    return 0;
}
```

### Related concepts

[5.55 Software floating-point division-by-zero errors in C code on page 5-228.](#)

[5.57 Identification of software floating-point division-by-zero errors on page 5-230.](#)

[5.58 Software floating-point division-by-zero debugging on page 5-232.](#)

### Related information

[\\_\\_ieee\\_status\(\)](#).

## 5.57 Identification of software floating-point division-by-zero errors

You can use the C library helper function `_fp_trapvener()` to identify the location of a software floating-point division-by-zero error.

`_fp_trapvener()` is called whenever an exception occurs. On entry into this function, the state of the registers is unchanged from when the exception occurred. Therefore, to find the address of the function in the application code that contains the arithmetic operation that resulted in the exception, a breakpoint can be placed on the function `_fp_trapvener()` and LR can be inspected.

For example, consider the following example C code:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <fenv.h>
int main(void)
{
    float a, b, c;
    // Trap the Invalid Operation exception and untrap all other
    // exceptions:
    __ieee_status(FE_IEEE_MASK_ALL_EXCEPT, FE_IEEE_MASK_DIVBYZERO);
    c = 0;
    b = 5.366789;
    a = b / c;
    printf("b / c = %f, ", a); // trap division-by-zero error
    return 0;
}
```

This example code is compiled with the following command:

```
armcc --fpmode ieee_full
```

The compiled example disassembles to the following code:

```
main:
0x000080E0 : PUSH    {r4,lr}
0x000080E4 : MOV     r1,#0x200
0x000080E8 : MOV     r0,#0x9f00
0x000080EC : BL      __ieee_status ; 0xB9B8
0x000080F0 : MOV     r4,#0
0x000080F4 : LDR     r0,[pc,#40] ; [0x8124] = 0x891E2153
0x000080F8 : LDR     r1,[pc,#40] ; [0x8128] = 0x40157797
0x000080FC : BL      __aeabi_d2f ; 0xA948
0x00008100 : MOV     r1,r4
0x00008104 : BL      __aeabi_fdiv ; 0xB410
0x00008108 : BL      __aeabi_f2d ; 0xB388
0x0000810C : MOV     r2,r0
0x00008110 : MOV     r3,r1
0x00008114 : ADR     r0,{pc}+0x18 ; 0x812c
0x00008118 : BL      __2printf ; 0x813C
0x0000811C : MOV     r0,#0
0x00008120 : POP     {r4,pc}
0x00008124 : DCD     0x891E2153
0x00008128 : DCD     0x40157797
0x0000812C : DCD     0x202F2062
0x00008130 : DCD     0x203D2063
0x00008134 : DCD     0x202C6625
0x00008138 : DCD     0x00000000
```

Placing a breakpoint on `_fp_trapvener()` and executing the disassembly in the debug monitor produces:

```
> run
Execution stopped at breakpoint 1: S:0x000BAC8
In _fp_trapvener (no debug info)
S:0x000BAC8 PUSH    {r12,lr}
```

Then, inspection of the registers shows:

```
r0: 0x40ABBCBC    r1: 0x00000000    r2: 0x00000000    r3: 0x00000000
r4: 0x0000C1DC    r5: 0x0000BD44    r6: 0x00000000    r7: 0x00000000
r8: 0x00000000    r9: 0x00000000    r10: 0x0000BC1C   r11: 0x00000000
r12: 0x08000004   SP: 0x0FFFFFFF8   LR: 0x00008108    PC: 0x000BAC8
CPSR: 0x00001D3
```

The address contained in the link register LR is set to 0x8108, the address of the instruction after the instruction BL \_\_aeabi\_fdiv that resulted in the exception.

**Related concepts**

- [5.55 Software floating-point division-by-zero errors in C code on page 5-228.](#)
- [5.56 About trapping software floating-point division-by-zero errors on page 5-229.](#)
- [5.58 Software floating-point division-by-zero debugging on page 5-232.](#)

## 5.58 Software floating-point division-by-zero debugging

Parameters for postmortem debugging can be saved by intercepting `_fp_trapvener()`.

You can use the `$Super$$` and `$Sub$$` mechanism to intervene in all calls to `_fp_trapvener()`.

For example:

```
AREA foo, CODE
IMPORT |$Super$$_fp_trapvener|
EXPORT |$Sub$$_fp_trapvener|
      |$Sub$$_fp_trapvener|
;; Add code to save whatever registers you require here
;; Take care not to corrupt any needed registers
B |$Super$$_fp_trapvener|
END
```

### Related concepts

[5.55 Software floating-point division-by-zero errors in C code](#) on page 5-228.

[5.56 About trapping software floating-point division-by-zero errors](#) on page 5-229.

[5.57 Identification of software floating-point division-by-zero errors](#) on page 5-230.

### Related information

*Use of `$Super$$` and `$Sub$$` to patch symbol definitions.*



## 5.59 New language features of C99

The 1999 C99 standard introduces several new language features.

These new features include:

- Some features similar to extensions to C90 offered in the GNU compiler, for example, macros with a variable number of arguments.

———— **Note** ————

The implementations of extensions to C90 in the GNU compiler are not always compatible with the implementations of similar features in C99.

- Some features available in C++, such as `//` comments and the ability to mix declarations and statements.
- Some entirely new features, for example complex numbers, restricted pointers and designated initializers.
- New keywords and identifiers.
- Extended syntax for the existing C90 language.

A selection of new features in C99 that might be of interest to developers using them for the first time are documented.

———— **Note** ————

C90 is compatible with Standard C++ in the sense that the language specified by the standard is a subset of C++, except for a few special cases. New features in the C99 standard mean that C99 is no longer compatible with C++ in this sense.

Some examples of special cases where the language specified by the C90 standard is not a subset of C++ include support for `//` comments and merging of the typedef and structure tag namespaces. For example, in C90 the following code expands to `x = a / b - c;` because `/* hello world */` is deleted, but in C++ and C99 it expands to `x = a - c;` because everything from `//` to the end of the first line is deleted:

```
x = a // hello world */ b
    - c;
```

The following code demonstrates how typedef and the structure tag are treated differently between C (90 and 99) and C++ because of their merged namespaces:

```
typedef int a;
{
    struct a { int x, y; };
    printf("%d\n", sizeof(a));
}
```

In C 90 and C99, this code defines two types with separate names whereby `a` is a typedef for `int` and `struct a` is a structure type containing two integer data types. `sizeof(a)` evaluates to `sizeof(int)`.

In C++, a structure type can be addressed using only its tag. This means that when the definition of `struct a` is in scope, the name `a` used on its own refers to the structure type rather than the typedef, so in C++ `sizeof(a)` is greater than `sizeof(int)`.

### Related concepts

[5.61 `//` comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.

[5.62 Compound literals in C99](#) on page 5-237.

[5.63 Designated initializers in C99](#) on page 5-238.

[5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99](#) on page 5-239.

[5.65 Flexible array members in C99](#) on page 5-240.

- 5.66 *\_\_func\_\_ predefined identifier in C99* on page 5-241.
- 5.67 *inline functions in C99* on page 5-242.
- 5.68 *long long data type in C99 and C90* on page 5-243.
- 5.69 *Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99* on page 5-244.
- 5.70 *Mixed declarations and statements in C99* on page 5-245.
- 5.71 *New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99* on page 5-246.
- 5.72 *\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99* on page 5-247.
- 5.73 *Restricted pointers in C99* on page 5-248.
- 5.75 *Complex numbers in C99* on page 5-250.

## 5.60 New library features of C99

The C99 standard introduces several new library features of interest to programmers.

These new features include:

- Some features similar to extensions to the C90 standard libraries offered in UNIX standard libraries, for example, the `snprintf` family of functions.
- Some entirely new library features, for example, the standardized floating-point environment offered in `<fenv.h>`.
- New libraries, and new macros and functions for existing C90 libraries.

A selection of new features in C99 that might be of interest to developers using them for the first time are documented.

---

**Note**

C90 is compatible with Standard C++ in the sense that the language specified by the standard is a subset of C++, except for a few special cases. New features in the C99 standard mean that C99 is no longer compatible with C++ in this sense.

---

Many library features that are new to C99 are available in C90 and C++. Some require macros such as `USE_C99_ALL` or `USE_C99_MATH` to be defined before the `#include`.

### Related concepts

[5.74 Additional `<math.h>` library functions in C99](#) on page 5-249.

[5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.

[5.76 Boolean type and `<stdbool.h>` in C99](#) on page 5-251.

[5.77 Extended integer types and functions in `<inttypes.h>` and `<stdint.h>` in C99](#) on page 5-252.

[5.78 `<fenv.h>` floating-point environment access in C99](#) on page 5-253.

[5.79 `<stdio.h>` `snprintf` family of functions in C99](#) on page 5-254.

[5.80 `<tgmath.h>` type-generic math macros in C99](#) on page 5-255.

[5.81 `<wchar.h>` wide character I/O functions in C99](#) on page 5-256.

## 5.61 // comments in C99 and C90

In C99 you can use `//` to indicate the start of a one-line comment, like in C++. In C90 mode you can use `//` comments providing you do not specify `--strict`.

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99 on page 5-239.](#)
- [5.65 Flexible array members in C99 on page 5-240.](#)
- [5.66 `\_\_func\_\_` predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
- [5.67 inline functions in C99 on page 5-242.](#)
- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90 on page 5-243.](#)
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99 on page 5-244.](#)
- [5.70 Mixed declarations and statements in C99 on page 5-245.](#)
- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99 on page 5-246.](#)
- [5.72 `\_Pragma` preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

### Related references

- [8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)
- [9.7 `//` comments on page 9-564.](#)

## 5.62 Compound literals in C99

ISO C99 supports compound literals. A compound literal looks like a cast followed by an initializer.

Its value is an object of the type specified in the cast, containing the elements specified in the initializer. It is an lvalue.

For example:

```
int *y = (int []) {1, 2, 3};
int *z = (int [3]) {1};
```

---

### Note

`int *y = (int []) {1, 2, 3};` is accepted by the compiler, but `int y[] = (int []) {1, 2, 3};` is not accepted as a high-level (global) initialization.

---

In the following example source code, the compound literals are:

- `(struct T) { 43, "world"}`
- `&(struct T) {.b = "hello", .a = 47}`
- `&(struct T) {43, "hello"}`
- `(int[]){1, 2, 3}`

```
struct T
{
    int a;
    char *b;
} t2;
void g(const struct T *t);
void f()
{
    int x[10];
    ...
    t2 = (struct T) {43, "world"};
    g(&(struct T) {.b = "hello", .a = 47});
    g(&(struct T) {43, "bye"});
    memcpy(x, (int[]){1, 2, 3}, 3 * sizeof(int));
}
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99](#) on page 5-238.
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99](#) on page 5-239.
- [5.65 Flexible array members in C99](#) on page 5-240.
- [5.66 \\_\\_func\\_\\_ predefined identifier in C99](#) on page 5-241.
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- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-243.
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99](#) on page 5-244.
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- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99](#) on page 5-246.
- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99](#) on page 5-247.
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99](#) on page 5-248.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.

## 5.63 Designated initializers in C99

In C90, there is no way to initialize specific members of arrays, structures, or unions. C99 supports the initialization of specific members of an array, structure, or union by either name or subscript through the use of designated initializers.

For example:

```
typedef struct
{
    char *name;
    int rank;
} data;
data vars[10] = { [0].name = "foo", [0].rank = 1,
                  [1].name = "bar", [1].rank = 2,
                  [2].name = "baz",
                  [3].name = "gazonk" };
```

Members of an aggregate that are not explicitly initialized are initialized to zero by default.

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99 on page 5-239.](#)
- [5.65 Flexible array members in C99 on page 5-240.](#)
- [5.66 \\_\\_func\\_\\_ predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
- [5.67 inline functions in C99 on page 5-242.](#)
- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90 on page 5-243.](#)
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99 on page 5-244.](#)
- [5.70 Mixed declarations and statements in C99 on page 5-245.](#)
- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99 on page 5-246.](#)
- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

## 5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99

C99 supports floating-point numbers that can be written in hexadecimal format.

For example:

```
float hex_floats(void)
{
    return 0x1.f3; // 1 15/16 * 2^3
}
```

In hexadecimal format the exponent is a decimal number that indicates the power of two by which the significant part is multiplied. Therefore `0x1.f3` =  $1.9375 \times 8 = 1.55e1$ .

C99 also adds `%a` and `%A` format for `printf()`.

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 `//` comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
- [5.65 Flexible array members in C99 on page 5-240.](#)
- [5.66 `\_\_func\_\_` predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
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- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99 on page 5-244.](#)
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- [5.72 `\_Pragma` preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

## 5.65 Flexible array members in C99

In a **struct** with more than one member, the last member of the **struct** can have incomplete array type. Such a member is called a *flexible array member* of the **struct**.

---

### Note

When a **struct** has a flexible array member, the entire **struct** itself has incomplete type.

---

Flexible array members enable you to mimic dynamic type specification in C in the sense that you can defer the specification of the array size to runtime. For example:

```
extern const int n;
typedef struct
{
    int len;
    char p[];
} str;
void foo(void)
{
    size_t str_size = sizeof(str); // equivalent to offsetof(str, p)
    str *s = malloc(str_size + (sizeof(char) * n));
}
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99 on page 5-239.](#)
- [5.66 \\_\\_func\\_\\_ predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
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- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90 on page 5-243.](#)
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99 on page 5-244.](#)
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- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99 on page 5-246.](#)
- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)



## 5.66 `__func__` predefined identifier in C99

The `__func__` predefined identifier provides a means of obtaining the name of the current function.

For example, the function:

```
void foo(void)
{
    printf("This function is called '%s'.\n", __func__);
}
```

prints:

```
This function is called 'foo'.
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.
- [5.61 `//` comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99](#) on page 5-237.
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99](#) on page 5-238.
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99](#) on page 5-239.
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- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-243.
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99](#) on page 5-244.
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- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99](#) on page 5-246.
- [5.72 `\_Pragma` preprocessing operator in C99](#) on page 5-247.
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99](#) on page 5-248.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.

### Related references

- [10.156 Built-in function name variables](#) on page 10-796.

## 5.67 inline functions in C99

The C99 keyword **inline** hints to the compiler that invocations of a function qualified with **inline** are to be expanded inline.

For example:

```
inline int max(int a, int b)
{
    return (a > b) ? a : b;
}
```

The compiler inlines a function qualified with **inline** only if it is reasonable to do so. It is free to ignore the hint if inlining the function adversely affects performance.

---

———— **Note** —————

The **\_\_inline** keyword is available in C90.

---

---

———— **Note** —————

The semantics of **inline** in C99 are different to the semantics of **inline** in Standard C++.

---

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99](#) on page 5-237.
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99](#) on page 5-238.
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99](#) on page 5-247.
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99](#) on page 5-248.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.
- [5.20 Inline functions](#) on page 5-179.

## 5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90

C99 supports the integral data type **long long**.

This type is 64 bits wide in the ARM compilation tools.

For example:

```
long long int j = 25902068371200;           // length of light
                                              // day, meters
unsigned long long int i = 9460730472580800ULL; // length of light
                                              // year, meters
```

**long long** is also available in C90 when not using `--strict`.

`__int64` is a synonym for **long long**. `__int64` is always available.

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

### Related references

- [9.12 long long on page 9-569.](#)

## 5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99

You can declare a macro in C99 that accepts a variable number of arguments.

The syntax for defining such a macro is similar to that of a function. For example:

```
#define debug(format, ...) fprintf (stderr, format, __VA_ARGS__)  
void Variadic_Macros_0()  
{  
    debug ("a test string is printed out along with %x %x %x\n", 12, 14, 20);  
}
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99](#) on page 5-237.
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- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-243.
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99](#) on page 5-247.
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99](#) on page 5-248.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.

## 5.70 Mixed declarations and statements in C99

C99 enables you to mix declarations and statements within compound statements, like in C++.

For example:

```
void foo(float i)
{
    i = (i > 0) ? -i : i;
    float j = sqrt(i);    // illegal in C90
}
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90](#) on page 5-236.
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99](#) on page 5-237.
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99](#) on page 5-238.
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99](#) on page 5-247.
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99](#) on page 5-248.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.

## 5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99

In a **for** loop, the first expression can be a declaration, like in C++. The scope of the declaration extends to the body of the loop only.

For example:

```
extern int max;
for (int n = max - 1; n >= 0; n--)
{
    // body of loop
}
```

is equivalent to:

```
extern int max;
{
    int n = max - 1;
    for (; n >= 0; n--)
    {
        // body of loop
    }
}
```

---

**Note**

Unlike in C++, you cannot introduce new declarations in a **for**-test, **if**-test or **switch**-expression.

---

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

## 5.72 `_Pragma` preprocessing operator in C99

C90 does not permit a `#pragma` directive to be produced as the result of a macro expansion. However, the C99 `_Pragma` operator enables you to embed a preprocessor macro in a `pragma` directive.

`_Pragma` is permitted in C90 if `--strict` is not specified.

For example:

```
# define RWDATA(X) PRAGMA(arm section rwdata=#X)
# define PRAGMA(X) _Pragma(#X)
RWDATA(foo) // same as #pragma arm section rwdata="foo"
int y = 1; // y is placed in section "foo"
```

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 `//` comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
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- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

## 5.73 Restricted pointers in C99

The C99 keyword **restrict** is an indication to the compiler that different object pointer types and function parameter arrays do not point to overlapping regions of memory.

This enables the compiler to perform optimizations that might otherwise be prevented because of possible aliasing.

In the following example, pointer **a** does not, and must not, point to the same region of memory as pointer **b**:

```

void copy_array(int n, int *restrict a, int *restrict b)
{
    while (n-- > 0)
        *a++ = *b++;
}
void test(void)
{
    extern int array[100];
    copy_array(50, array + 50, array);    // valid
    copy_array(50, array + 1, array);    // undefined behavior
}

```

Pointers qualified with **restrict** can however point to different arrays, or to different regions within an array.

It is your responsibility to ensure that **restrict**-qualified pointers do not point to overlapping regions of memory.

**\_\_restrict**, permitted in C90 and C++, is a synonym for **restrict**.

**--restrict** enables **restrict** to be used in C90 and C++.

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99 on page 5-239.](#)
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- [5.66 \\_\\_func\\_\\_ predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
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- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

### Related references

- [8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict on page 8-506.](#)



## 5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99

C99 supports additional macros, types, and functions in the standard header <math.h> that are not found in the corresponding C90 standard header.

New macros found in C99 that are not found in C90 include:

```
INFINITY // positive infinity
NAN      // IEEE not-a-number
```

New generic function macros found in C99 that are not found in C90 include:

```
#define isinf(x) // non-zero only if x is positive or negative infinity
#define isnan(x) // non-zero only if x is NaN
#define isless(x, y) // 1 only if x < y and x and y are not NaN, and 0 otherwise
#define isunordered(x, y) // 1 only if either x or y is NaN, and 0 otherwise
```

New mathematical functions found in C99 that are not found in C90 include:

```
double acosh(double x); // hyperbolic arccosine of x
double asinh(double x); // hyperbolic arcsine of x
double atanh(double x); // hyperbolic arctangent of x
double erf(double x); // returns the error function of x
double round(double x); // returns x rounded to the nearest integer
double tgamma(double x); // returns the gamma function of x
```

C99 supports the new mathematical functions for all real floating-point types.

Single precision versions of all existing <math.h> functions are also supported.

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

### Related information

*Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.*

## 5.75 Complex numbers in C99

In C99 mode, the compiler supports complex and imaginary numbers. In GNU mode, the compiler supports complex numbers only.

For example:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <complex.h>
int main(void)
{
    complex float z = 64.0 + 64.0*I;
    printf("z = %f + %fI\n", creal(z), cimag(z));
    return 0;
}
```

The complex types are:

- **float complex.**
- **double complex.**
- **long double complex.**

### Related concepts

- [5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)
- [5.61 // comments in C99 and C90 on page 5-236.](#)
- [5.62 Compound literals in C99 on page 5-237.](#)
- [5.63 Designated initializers in C99 on page 5-238.](#)
- [5.64 Hexadecimal floating-point numbers in C99 on page 5-239.](#)
- [5.65 Flexible array members in C99 on page 5-240.](#)
- [5.66 \\_\\_func\\_\\_ predefined identifier in C99 on page 5-241.](#)
- [5.67 inline functions in C99 on page 5-242.](#)
- [5.68 long long data type in C99 and C90 on page 5-243.](#)
- [5.69 Macros with a variable number of arguments in C99 on page 5-244.](#)
- [5.70 Mixed declarations and statements in C99 on page 5-245.](#)
- [5.71 New block scopes for selection and iteration statements in C99 on page 5-246.](#)
- [5.72 \\_Pragma preprocessing operator in C99 on page 5-247.](#)
- [5.73 Restricted pointers in C99 on page 5-248.](#)
- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

## 5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99

C99 introduces the native type `_Bool`.

The associated standard header <stdbool.h> introduces the macros `bool`, `true` and `false` for Boolean tests. For example:

```
#include <stdbool.h>
bool foo(FILE *str)
{
    bool err = false;
    ...
    if (!fflush(str))
    {
        err = true;
    }
    ...
    return err;
}
```

---

### Note

The C99 semantics for `bool` are intended to match those of C++.

---

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99](#) on page 5-235.
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99](#) on page 5-249.
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99](#) on page 5-250.
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99](#) on page 5-252.
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99](#) on page 5-253.
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99](#) on page 5-254.
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99](#) on page 5-255.
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99](#) on page 5-256.

## 5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99

In C90, the **long** data type can serve both as the largest integral type, and as a 32-bit container. C99 removes this ambiguity through the new standard library header files <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h>.

The header file <stdint.h> introduces the new types:

- `intmax_t` and `uintmax_t`, that are maximum width signed and unsigned integer types.
- `intptr_t` and `uintptr_t`, that are integer types capable of holding signed and unsigned object pointers.

The header file <inttypes.h> provides library functions for manipulating values of type `intmax_t`, including:

```
intmax_t imaxabs(intmax_t x); // absolute value of x
imaxdiv_t imaxdiv(intmax_t x, intmax_t y) // returns the quotient and remainder
                                         // of x / y
```

These header files are also available in C90 and C++.

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

## 5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99

The C99 standard header file <fenv.h> provides access to an IEEE 754-compliant floating-point environment for numerical programming.

The library introduces two types and numerous macros and functions for managing and controlling floating-point state.

The new types supported are:

- `fenv_t`, representing the entire floating-point environment.
- `fexcept_t`, representing the floating-point state.

New macros supported include:

- `FE_DIVBYZERO`, `FE_INEXACT`, `FE_INVALID`, `FE_OVERFLOW` and `FE_UNDERFLOW` for managing floating-point exceptions.
- `FE_DOWNWARD`, `FE_TONEAREST`, `FE_TOWARDZERO`, `FE_UPWARD` for managing rounding in the represented rounding direction.
- `FE_DFL_ENV`, representing the default floating-point environment.

New functions include:

```
int feclearexcept(int ex); // clear floating-point exceptions selected by ex
int feraiseexcept(int ex); // raise floating point exceptions selected by ex
int fetestexcept(int ex); // test floating point exceptions selected by ex
int fegetround(void); // return the current rounding mode
int fesetround(int mode); // set the current rounding mode given by mode
int fegetenv(fenv_t *penv); return the floating-point environment in penv
int fesetenv(const fenv_t *penv); // set the floating-point environment to penv
```

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

### Related information

*Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.*

## 5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99

Using the `sprintf` family of functions found in the C90 standard header `<stdio.h>` can be dangerous.

In the statement:

```
sprintf(buffer, size, "Error %d: Cannot open file '%s'", errno, filename);
```

the variable `size` specifies the minimum number of characters to be inserted into `buffer`. Consequently, more characters can be output than might fit in the memory allocated to the string.

The `snprintf` functions found in the C99 version of `<stdio.h>` are safe versions of the `sprintf` functions that prevent buffer overrun. In the statement:

```
snprintf(buffer, size, "Error %d: Cannot open file '%s'", errno, filename);
```

the variable `size` specifies the maximum number of characters that can be inserted into `buffer`. The buffer can never be overrun, provided its size is always greater than the size specified by `size`.

### Related concepts

[5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)

[5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)

[5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)

[5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)

[5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)

[5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)

[5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)

[5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

## 5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99

The new standard header <tgmath.h> defines several families of mathematical functions that are type generic in the sense that they are overloaded on floating-point types.

For example, the trigonometric function `cos` works as if it has the overloaded declaration:

```
extern float cos(float x);
extern double cos(double x);
extern long double cos(long double x);
...
```

A statement such as:

```
p = cos(0.78539f); // p = cos(pi / 4)
```

calls the single-precision version of the `cos` function, as determined by the type of the literal `0.78539f`.

---

### Note

Type-generic families of mathematical functions can be defined in C++ using the operator overloading mechanism. The semantics of type-generic families of functions defined using operator overloading in C++ are different from the semantics of the corresponding families of type-generic functions defined in <tgmath.h>.

---

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99 on page 5-256.](#)

## 5.81 <wchar.h> wide character I/O functions in C99

Wide character I/O functions have been incorporated into C99. These enable you to read and write wide characters from a file in much the same way as normal characters.

The ARM C Library supports all of the C99 functions defined in `wchar.h`.

### Related concepts

- [5.60 New library features of C99 on page 5-235.](#)
- [5.74 Additional <math.h> library functions in C99 on page 5-249.](#)
- [5.75 Complex numbers in C99 on page 5-250.](#)
- [5.76 Boolean type and <stdbool.h> in C99 on page 5-251.](#)
- [5.77 Extended integer types and functions in <inttypes.h> and <stdint.h> in C99 on page 5-252.](#)
- [5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)
- [5.79 <stdio.h> snprintf family of functions in C99 on page 5-254.](#)
- [5.80 <tgmath.h> type-generic math macros in C99 on page 5-255.](#)



## 5.82 How to prevent uninitialized data from being initialized to zero

The ANSI C specification states that static data that is not explicitly initialized, is to be initialized to zero.

Therefore, by default, the compiler puts both zero-initialized and uninitialized data into the same ZI data section, which is populated with zeroes at runtime by the C library initialization code.

You can prevent uninitialized data from being initialized to zero by placing that data in a different section. This can be achieved using `#pragma arm section`, or with the GNU compiler extension `__attribute__((section("name")))`.

The following example shows how to retain uninitialized data using `#pragma arm section`:

```
#pragma arm section zidata = "non_initialized"
int i, j; // uninitialized data in non_initialized section (without the pragma,
          // would be in .bss section by default)
#pragma arm section zidata // back to default (.bss section)
int k = 0, l = 0; // zero-initialized data in .bss section
```

The `non_initialized` section is placed into its own UNINIT execution region, as follows:

```
LOAD_1 0x0
{
  EXEC_1 +0
  {
    * (+RO)
    * (+RW)
    * (+ZI) ; ZI data gets initialized to zero
  }
  EXEC_2 +0 UNINIT
  {
    * (non_init) ; ZI data does not get initialized to zero
  }
}
```

### Related references

[8.92 --gnu on page 8-430.](#)

[10.77 #pragma arm section \[section\\_type\\_list\] on page 10-689.](#)

[10.67 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\) variable attribute on page 10-679.](#)

### Related information

[Execution region attributes.](#)

# Chapter 6

## Compiler Diagnostic Messages

Describes the format of compiler diagnostic messages and how to control the output during compilation.

The compiler issues messages about potential portability problems and other hazards. It is possible to:

- Turn off specific messages. For example, warnings can be turned off if you are in the early stages of porting a program written in old-style C. In general, however, it is better to check the code than to turn off messages.
- Change the severity of specific messages.

It contains the following sections:

- [6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)
- [6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)
- [6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.](#)
- [6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.](#)
- [6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages on page 6-265.](#)
- [6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.](#)

## 6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages

Diagnostic messages have an associated *severity*.

The following table describes each of the different severities.

**Table 6-1 Severity of diagnostic messages**

Severity	Description
Internal fault	Internal faults indicate an internal problem with the compiler. Contact your supplier with feedback.
Error	Errors indicate problems that cause the compilation to stop. These errors include command line errors, internal errors, missing include files, and violations in the syntactic or semantic rules of the C or C++ language. If multiple source files are specified, no more source files are compiled.
Warning	Warnings indicate unusual conditions in your code that might indicate a problem. Compilation continues, and object code is generated unless any more problems with an Error severity are detected.
Remark	Remarks indicate common, but sometimes unconventional, use of C or C++. These diagnostics are not displayed by default. Compilation continues, and object code is generated unless any more problems with an Error severity are detected.

### Related concepts

[6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.](#)

[6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.](#)

[6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages on page 6-265.](#)

[6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.](#)

## 6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages

You can change the diagnostic severity of all remarks and warnings, and a limited number of errors.

These options let you change severities:

- `--diag_error=tag[, tag, ...]`  
Sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tag, or tags, to Error severity.
- `--diag_error=warning`  
Upgrades all warning messages to Error severity.
- `--diag_remark=tag[, tag, ...]`  
Sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tag, or tags, to Remark severity.
- `--diag_warning=tag[, tag, ...]`  
Sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tag, or tags, to Warning severity.
- `--diag_warning=error`  
Sets all downgradable error messages to Warning severity.

The format `tag[, tag, ...]` indicates a comma-separated list of the error messages that you want to change. For example, you might want to change a warning message with the number 1293 to Remark severity, because remarks are not displayed by default.

To do this, use the following command:

```
armcc --diag_remark=1293 ...
```

Only errors with a suffix of `-D` following the error number can be downgraded by changing them into warnings or remarks.

### ———— **Note** ————

These options also have pragma equivalents.

The following diagnostic messages can be changed:

- Messages with the number format `#nnnn-D`.
- Warning messages with the number format `CnnnnW`.

It is also possible to apply changes to optimization messages as a group. For example,

`--diag_warning=optimizations`. By default, optimization messages are remarks.

### Related concepts

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas](#) on page 6-262.

[6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages](#) on page 6-264.

[6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages](#) on page 6-265.

[6.6 Compiler data flow warnings](#) on page 6-266.

### Related references

[6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages](#) on page 6-259.

[10.78 #pragma diag\\_default tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-691.

[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.

[10.82 #pragma diag\\_warning tag\[, tag, ...\]](#) on page 10-695.

[10.96 #pragma pop](#) on page 10-710.

[10.97 #pragma push](#) on page 10-711.

[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.

[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.

8.59 *--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option* on page 8-394.

8.60 *--diag\_suppress=tag[,tag,...]* on page 8-395.

8.61 *--diag\_suppress=optimizations* on page 8-396.

8.62 *--diag\_warning=tag[,tag,...]* on page 8-397.

8.63 *--diag\_warning=optimizations* on page 8-398.

## 6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas

Pragmas let you suppress, enable, or change the severity of specific diagnostic messages from within your code.

For example, you can suppress a particular diagnostic message when compiling one specific function.

### ———— Note ————

You can alternatively use command-line options to suppress or change the severity of messages, but the change applies for the entire compilation.

### Examples

The following example shows three identical functions, `foo1()`, `foo2()`, and `foo3()`, all of which would normally provoke diagnostic message #177-D: variable "x" was declared but never referenced.

For `foo1()`, the current pragma state is pushed to the stack and `#pragma diag_suppress` suppresses the message. The message is re-enabled by `#pragma pop` before compiling `foo2()`. In `foo3()`, the message is not suppressed because the `#pragma push` and `#pragma pop` do not enclose the full scope responsible for the generation of the message:

```
#pragma push
#pragma diag_suppress 177
void foo1( void )
{
    /* Here we do not expect a diagnostic, because we suppressed it. */
    int x;
}
#pragma pop

void foo2( void )
{
    /* Here we do, because the suppression was inside push/pop. */
    int x;
}

void foo3( void )
{
    #pragma push
    #pragma diag_suppress 177
    /* Here, the suppression fails because the push/pop must enclose the whole function. */
    int x;
    #pragma pop
}
```

Diagnostic messages use the pragma state in place at the time they are generated. If you use pragmas to control a message in your code, you must be aware of when that message is generated. For example, the following code is intended to suppress the diagnostic message #177-D: function "dummy" was declared but never referenced:

```
#include <stdio.h>
#pragma push
#pragma diag_suppress 177
static int dummy(void)
{
    printf("This function is never called.");
    return 1;
}
#pragma pop
main(void){
    printf("Hello world!\n");
}
```

However, message 177 is only generated after all functions have been processed. Therefore, the message is generated after `pragma pop` restores the pragma state, and message 177 is not suppressed.

Removing `pragma push` and `pragma pop` would correctly suppress message 177, but would suppress messages for all unreferenced functions rather than for only the `dummy()` function.

## Related concepts

- [6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)
- [6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.](#)
- [6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages on page 6-265.](#)
- [6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.](#)

## Related references

- [6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)
- [10.78 `#pragma diag\_default tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-691.](#)
- [10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)
- [10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)
- [10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)
- [10.82 `#pragma diag\_warning tag\[, tag, ...\]` on page 10-695.](#)
- [10.96 `#pragma pop` on page 10-710.](#)
- [10.97 `#pragma push` on page 10-711.](#)
- [8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)
- [8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)
- [8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)
- [8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)
- [8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)
- [8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)
- [8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)

## 6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages

The compilation tools automatically insert an identification letter to diagnostic messages.

The following table shows the prefix letters used by the compilation tools. Using these prefix letters enables the tools to use overlapping message ranges.

**Table 6-2 Identifying diagnostic messages**

Prefix letter	Tool
C	armcc
A	armasm
L	armlink or armar
Q	fromelf

The following rules apply:

- All of the compilation tools act on a message number without a prefix.
- A message number with a prefix is only acted on by the tool with the matching prefix.
- A tool does not act on a message with a non-matching prefix.

Therefore, the compiler prefix C can be used with `--diag_error`, `--diag_remark`, and `--diag_warning`, or when suppressing messages, for example:

```
armcc --diag_suppress=C1287,C4017 ...
```

Use the prefix letters to control options that are passed from the compiler to other tools, for example, include the prefix letter L to specify linker message numbers.

### Related concepts

- [6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)
- [6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.](#)
- [6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages on page 6-265.](#)
- [6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.](#)

### Related references

- [6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)



## 6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages

If the compiler detects any warnings or errors during compilation, it writes the messages to `stderr`.

At the end of the messages, a summary message is displayed that gives the total number of each type of message of the form:

*filename: n warnings, n errors*

where *n* indicates the number of warnings or errors detected.

---

### Note

Remarks are not displayed by default. To display remarks, use the `--remarks` compiler option. No summary message is displayed if only remark messages are generated.

---

The signals **SIGINT** (caused by a user interrupt, like ^C) and **SIGTERM** (caused by a UNIX `kill` command) are trapped by the compiler and cause abnormal termination.

On completion, the compiler returns a value greater than zero if an error is detected. If no error is detected, a value of zero is returned.

### Related concepts

[6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.](#)

[6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.](#)

[6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.](#)

### Related references

[6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)

## 6.6 Compiler data flow warnings

The compiler performs data flow analysis as part of its optimization process. This information can help identify potential problems in your code, for example, issuing warnings about the use of uninitialized variables.

The data flow analysis can only warn about local variables that are held in processor registers, not global variables held in memory or variables or structures that are placed on the stack.

Be aware that:

- In ARM Compiler 5.04 and later, data flow warnings are suppressed by default. To output them, use the `--diag_warning=4017` option. In *RealView Compiler Tools* (RVCT) v2.0 and earlier, data flow warnings are issued only if you specify the `-fa` option.
- Data flow analysis is disabled at optimization level `-O0`, even if you specify `--diag_warning=4017`.

For example, the following code produces the warning C4017W: `i` may be used before being set, if you have enabled it, when compiling at `-O1` and above:

```
int f(void)
{
    int i;
    return i++;
}
```

The results of the analysis vary with the level of optimization used. This means that higher optimization levels might produce a number of warnings that do not appear at lower levels.

The data flow analysis cannot reliably identify faulty code and any C4017W warnings issued by the compiler are intended only as an indication of possible problems. For a full analysis of your code, use an appropriate third-party analysis tool, for example Lint.

### Related concepts

[6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-260.](#)

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.](#)

[6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.](#)

[6.5 Compiler exit status codes and termination messages on page 6-265.](#)

### Related references

[6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)

# Chapter 7

## Using the Inline and Embedded Assemblers of the ARM Compiler

Describes the optimizing inline assembler and non-optimizing embedded assembler of the ARM compiler, `armcc`.

---

**Note**

Using intrinsics is generally preferable to using inline or embedded assembly language.

---

It contains the following sections:

- [7.1 Compiler support for inline assembly language on page 7-269.](#)
- [7.2 Inline assembler support in the compiler on page 7-270.](#)
- [7.3 Restrictions on inline assembler support in the compiler on page 7-271.](#)
- [7.4 Inline assembly language syntax with the `\_\_asm` keyword in C and C++ on page 7-272.](#)
- [7.5 Inline assembly language syntax with the `asm` keyword in C++ on page 7-273.](#)
- [7.6 Inline assembler rules for compiler keywords `\_\_asm` and `asm` on page 7-274.](#)
- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)
- [7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)
- [7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)
- [7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)
- [7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)
- [7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)
- [7.14 Inline assembler and register access in C and C++ code on page 7-282.](#)

- [7.15 Inline assembler and the # constant expression specifier in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-284.
- [7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-285.
- [7.17 Expansion of inline assembler instructions that use constants](#) on page 7-286.
- [7.18 Expansion of inline assembler load and store instructions](#) on page 7-287.
- [7.19 Inline assembler effect on processor condition flags in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-288.
- [7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-289.
- [7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-290.
- [7.22 Inline assembler intermediate operands in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-291.
- [7.23 Inline assembler function calls and branches in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-292.
- [7.24 Inline assembler branches and labels in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-294.
- [7.25 Inline assembler and virtual registers](#) on page 7-295.
- [7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler](#) on page 7-296.
- [7.27 Embedded assembler syntax in C and C++](#) on page 7-297.
- [7.28 Effect of compiler ARM and Thumb states on embedded assembler](#) on page 7-298.
- [7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-299.
- [7.30 Compiler generation of embedded assembly language functions](#) on page 7-300.
- [7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler](#) on page 7-302.
- [7.32 Differences between expressions in embedded assembler and C or C++](#) on page 7-303.
- [7.33 Manual overload resolution in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-304.
- [7.34 `\_\_offsetof\_base` keyword for related base classes in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-305.
- [7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.
- [7.36 `\_\_mcall\_is\_virtual\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-307.
- [7.37 `\_\_mcall\_is\_in\_vbase\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-308.
- [7.38 `\_\_mcall\_offsetof\_vbase\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-309.
- [7.39 `\_\_mcall\_this\_offset\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-310.
- [7.40 `\_\_vcall\_offsetof\_vfunc\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-311.
- [7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-312.
- [7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.
- [7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.
- [7.44 Accessing `sp` \(`r13`\), `lr` \(`r14`\), and `pc` \(`r15`\)](#) on page 7-315.
- [7.45 Differences in compiler support for inline and embedded assembly code](#) on page 7-316.

## 7.1 Compiler support for inline assembly language

The compiler provides an inline assembler that enables you to write optimized assembly language routines, and to access features of the target processor not available from C or C++.

### Related concepts

- [7.2 Inline assembler support in the compiler on page 7-270.](#)
- [7.3 Restrictions on inline assembler support in the compiler on page 7-271.](#)
- [7.4 Inline assembly language syntax with the `\_\_asm` keyword in C and C++ on page 7-272.](#)
- [7.5 Inline assembly language syntax with the `asm` keyword in C++ on page 7-273.](#)
- [7.6 Inline assembler rules for compiler keywords `\_\_asm` and `asm` on page 7-274.](#)
- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.14 Inline assembler and register access in C and C++ code on page 7-282.](#)
- [7.15 Inline assembler and the `#` constant expression specifier in C and C++ code on page 7-284.](#)
- [7.19 Inline assembler effect on processor condition flags in C and C++ code on page 7-288.](#)
- [7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code on page 7-289.](#)
- [7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code on page 7-290.](#)
- [7.22 Inline assembler intermediate operands in C and C++ code on page 7-291.](#)
- [7.45 Differences in compiler support for inline and embedded assembly code on page 7-316.](#)
- [7.23 Inline assembler function calls and branches in C and C++ code on page 7-292.](#)
- [7.24 Inline assembler branches and labels in C and C++ code on page 7-294.](#)
- [7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code on page 7-285.](#)

### Related references

- [10.153 Named register variables on page 10-776.](#)

### Related information

- [armasm User Guide.](#)
- [Mixing C, C++, and Assembly Language.](#)

## 7.2 Inline assembler support in the compiler

The inline assembler supports ARM assembly language for all architectures, and Thumb assembly language in ARMv6T2, ARMv6M, and ARMv7.

For ARMv7, the inline assembler supports:

- Most ARM instructions.
- Most Thumb instructions.

For ARMv6T2, the inline assembler supports most Thumb instructions.

For ARMv6, the inline assembler supports most ARM instructions, including the complete set of ARMv6 *Single Instruction Multiple Data* (SIMD) instructions.

For ARMv5, the inline assembler supports most ARM instructions, including generic coprocessor instructions.

For ARMv4, the inline assembler supports most ARM instructions, including generic coprocessor instructions.

VFPv2 instructions are supported in the inline assembler.

## 7.3 Restrictions on inline assembler support in the compiler

The inline assembler in the compiler does not support a number of instructions.

Specifically, the inline assembler does not support:

- Thumb assembly language in processors without Thumb-2 technology.
- VFP instructions that were added in VFPv3 or higher.
- NEON instructions.
- The ARMv6 SETEND instruction and some of the system extensions.
- ARMv5 BX, BLX, and BXJ instructions.

## 7.4 Inline assembly language syntax with the `__asm` keyword in C and C++

The inline assembler is invoked with the assembler specifier, `__asm`, and is followed by a list of assembler instructions inside braces or parentheses.

You can specify inline assembly code using the following formats:

- On a single line, for example:

```
__asm("instruction[;instruction]");  
__asm{instruction[;instruction]}
```

You cannot include comments.

- Using multiple adjacent strings, for example:

```
__asm("ADD x, x, #1\n"  
      "MOV y, x\n");
```

This enables you to use macros to generate inline assembly, for example:

```
#define ADDLSL(x, y, shift) __asm ("ADD " #x " , " #y " , LSL " #shift)
```

- On multiple lines, for example:

```
__asm  
{  
    ...  
    instruction  
    ...  
}
```

You can use C or C++ comments anywhere in an inline assembly language block.

You can use an `__asm` statement wherever a statement is expected.



## 7.5 Inline assembly language syntax with the `asm` keyword in C++

When compiling C++, the compiler supports the `asm` syntax proposed in the ISO C++ Standard.

You can specify inline assembly code using the following formats:

- On a single line, for example:

```
asm(instruction;instruction);  
asm{instruction;instruction}
```

You cannot include comments.

- Using multiple adjacent strings, for example:

```
asm("ADD x, x, #1\n"  
    "MOV y, x\n");
```

This enables you to use macros to generate inline assembly, for example:

```
#define ADDLSL(x, y, shift) asm ("ADD " #x " ", " #y " ", LSL " #shift)
```

- On multiple lines, for example:

```
asm  
{  
    ...  
    instruction  
    ...  
}
```

You can use C or C++ comments anywhere in an inline assembly language block.

You can use an `asm` statement wherever a statement is expected.

## 7.6 Inline assembler rules for compiler keywords `__asm` and `asm`

There are a number of rule that apply to the `__asm` and `asm` keywords.

These rules are as follows:

- Multiple instructions on the same line must be separated with a semicolon (;).
- If an instruction requires more than one line, line continuation must be specified with the backslash character (\).
- For the multiple line format, C and C++ comments are permitted anywhere in the inline assembly language block. However, comments cannot be embedded in a line that contains multiple instructions.
- The comma (,) is used as a separator in assembly language, so C expressions with the comma operator must be enclosed in parentheses to distinguish them:

```
__asm
{
    ADD x, y, (f(), z)
}
```

- Labels must be followed by a colon, :, like C and C++ labels.
- An `asm` statement must be inside a C++ function. An `asm` statement can be used anywhere a C++ statement is expected.
- Register names in inline assembly code are treated as C or C++ variables. They do not necessarily relate to the physical register of the same name. If the register is not declared as a C or C++ variable, the compiler generates a warning.
- Registers must not be saved and restored in inline assembly code. The compiler does this for you. Also, the inline assembler does not provide direct access to the physical registers. However, indirect access is provided through variables that act as virtual registers.

If registers other than CPSR and SPSR are read without being written to, an error message is issued. For example:

```
int f(int x)
{
    __asm
    {
        STMFD sp!, {r0}    // save r0 - illegal: read before write
        ADD r0, x, 1
        EOR x, r0, x
        LDMFD sp!, {r0}    // restore r0 - not needed.
    }
    return x;
}
```

The function must be written as:

```
int f(int x)
{
    int r0;
    __asm
    {
        ADD r0, x, 1
        EOR x, r0, x
    }
    return x;
}
```

## 7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code

There are a number of restrictions on the operations that can be performed in inline assembly code.

These restrictions provide a measure of safety, and ensure that the assumptions in compiled C and C++ code are not violated in the assembled assembly code.

### Related concepts

[7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-276.

[7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-277.

[7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-278.

[7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-279.

[7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-280.

[7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-281.

## 7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code

Registers such as `r0-r3`, `sp`, `lr`, and the NZCV flags in the CPSR must be used with caution.

If C or C++ expressions are used, these might be used as temporary registers and NZCV flags might be corrupted by the compiler when evaluating the expression.

The `pc`, `lr`, and `sp` registers cannot be explicitly read or modified using inline assembly code because there is no direct access to any physical registers. However, you can use the intrinsics `__current_pc`, `__current_sp`, and `__return_address` to read these registers.

### Related concepts

- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)
- [7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)
- [7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)
- [7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)
- [7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)
- [7.14 Inline assembler and register access in C and C++ code on page 7-282.](#)

### Related references

- [10.108 `\_\_current\_pc` intrinsic on page 10-723.](#)
- [10.109 `\_\_current\_sp` intrinsic on page 10-724.](#)
- [10.131 `\_\_return\_address` intrinsic on page 10-750.](#)

## 7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code

ARM strongly recommends that you do not change processor modes or modify coprocessor states in inline assembly code.

---

### Caution

---

The compiler does not recognize such changes.

---

Instead of attempting to change processor modes or coprocessor states from within inline assembly code, see if there are any intrinsics available that provide what you require. If no such intrinsics are available, use embedded assembly code if absolutely necessary.

### Related concepts

- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)
- [7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)
- [7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)
- [7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)
- [7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)
- [4.1 Compiler intrinsics on page 4-109.](#)
- [7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

### Related information

*Processor modes, and privileged and unprivileged software execution.*

## 7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code

The inline assembler supports Thumb state in ARM architectures v6T2, v6M, and v7. There are a number of Thumb-specific restrictions.

These restrictions are as follows:

1. TBB, TBH, CBZ, and CBNZ instructions are not supported.
2. In some cases, the compiler can replace IT blocks with branched code.
3. The instruction width specifier `.N` denotes a preference, but not a requirement, to the compiler. This is because, in rare cases, optimizations and register allocation can make it inefficient to generate a 16-bit encoding.

For ARMv6 and lower architectures, the inline assembler does not assemble any Thumb instructions. Instead, on finding inline assembly while in Thumb state, the compiler switches to ARM state automatically. Code that relies on this switch is currently supported, but this practise is deprecated. For ARMv6T2 and higher, the automatic switch from Thumb to ARM state is made if the code is valid ARM assembly but not Thumb.

ARM state can be set deliberately. Inline assembly language can be included in a source file that contains code to be compiled for Thumb in ARMv6 and lower, by enclosing the functions containing inline assembly code between `#pragma arm` and `#pragma thumb` statements. For example:

```
...           // Thumb code
#pragma arm   // ARM code. Switch code generation to the ARM instruction set so
              // that the inline assembler is available for Thumb in ARMv6 and lower.
int add(int i, int j)
{
    int res;
    asm
    {
        ADD    res, i, j    // add here
    }
    return res;
}
#pragma thumb // Thumb code. Switch back to the Thumb instruction set.
              // The inline assembler is no longer available for Thumb in ARMv6 and
              // lower.
```

The code must also be compiled using the `--apcs /interwork` compiler command-line option.

### Related concepts

- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)
- [7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)
- [7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)
- [7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)
- [7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)

### Related references

- [8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier` on page 8-327.](#)
- [10.74 Pragmas on page 10-686.](#)

### Related information

- [Instruction width specifiers.](#)
- [IT.](#)
- [TBB and TBH.](#)
- [CBZ and CBNZ.](#)

## 7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point (VFP) restrictions in C and C++ code

The inline assembler provides direct support for VFPv2 instructions.

For example:

```
float foo(float f, float g)
{
    float h;
    __asm
    {
        VADD h, f, 0.5*g; // h = f + 0.5*g
    }
    return h;
}
```

In inline assembly code you cannot use the VFP instruction `VMOV` to transfer between an ARM register and half of a doubleword extension register (NEON scalar). Instead, you can use the instruction `VMOV` to transfer between an ARM register and a single-precision VFP register.

If you change the FPSCR register using inline assembly code, it produces runtime effects on the inline VFP code and on subsequent compiler-generated VFP code.

---

### Note

- Do not use inline assembly code to change VFP vector mode. Inline assembly code must not be used for this purpose, and VFP vector mode is deprecated.
  - ARM strongly discourages the use of inline assembly coprocessor instructions to interact with VFP in any way.
- 

### Related concepts

- [7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)
- [7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)
- [7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)
- [7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)
- [7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)
- [7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)
- [5.41 Compiler support for floating-point arithmetic on page 5-204.](#)

### Related information

- [VMOV \(between an ARM register and a NEON scalar\).](#)
- [VMOV \(between one ARM register and single precision VFP\).](#)

## 7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code

There are a number of instructions that the inline assembler does not support.

Specifically, the following instructions are not supported:

- BKPT, BX, BXJ, and BLX instructions.

### ———— Note —————

You can insert a BKPT instruction in C and C++ code by using the `__breakpoint()` intrinsic.

- LDR *Rn*, *=expression* pseudo-instruction. Use MOV *Rn*, *expression* instead. (This can generate a load from a literal pool.)
- LDRT, LDRBT, STRT, and STRBT instructions.
- MUL, MLA, UMULL, UMLAL, SMULL, and SMLAL flag setting instructions.
- MOV or MVN flag-setting instructions where the second operand is a constant.
- The special LDM instructions used in system or supervisor mode to load the user-mode banked registers, written with a ^ after the register list, such as:

```
LDMIA sp!, {r0-r12, lr, pc}^
```

- ADR and ADRL pseudo-instructions.

### ———— Note —————

You can use MOV *Rn*, *&expression*; instead of the ADR and ADRL pseudo-instructions.

- ARM recommends not using the LDREX and STREX instructions. This is because the compiler might generate loads and stores between LDREX and STREX, potentially clearing the exclusive monitor set by LDREX. This recommendation also applies to the byte, halfword, and doubleword variants LDREXB, STREXB, LDREXH, STREXH, LDREXD, and STREXD.

### Related concepts

[7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)

[7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)

[7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)

[7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)

[7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)

[7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-281.](#)

### Related references

[10.104 \\_\\_breakpoint intrinsic on page 10-719.](#)



## 7.13 Miscellaneous inline assembler restrictions in C and C++ code

Compared with `armasm` or embedded assembly language, the inline assembler has a number of restrictions.

Specifically, these restrictions are as follows:

- The inline assembler is a high-level assembler, and the code it generates might not always be exactly what you write. Do not use it to generate more efficient code than the compiler generates. Use the embedded assembler or the ARM assembler `armasm` for this purpose.
- Some low-level features that are available in the ARM assembler `armasm`, such as writing to PC, are not supported.
- Label expressions are not supported.
- You cannot get the address of the current instruction using dot notation (`.`) or `{PC}`.
- You cannot use the `&` operator to denote hexadecimal constants. Use the `0x` prefix instead. For example:

```
__asm { AND x, y, 0xF00 }
```

- The notation to specify the actual rotation of an 8-bit constant is not available in inline assembly language. This means that where an 8-bit shifted constant is used, the C flag must be regarded as corrupted if the NZCV flags are updated.
- You must not modify the stack pointer. This is not necessary because the compiler automatically stacks and restores any working registers as required. The compiler does not permit you to explicitly stack and restore work registers.

### Related concepts

[7.7 Restrictions on inline assembly operations in C and C++ code on page 7-275.](#)

[7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-276.](#)

[7.9 Inline assembler processor mode restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-277.](#)

[7.10 Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-278.](#)

[7.11 Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-279.](#)

[7.12 Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code on page 7-280.](#)

## 7.14 Inline assembler and register access in C and C++ code

The inline assembler provides no direct access to the physical registers of an ARM processor. If an ARM register name is used as an operand in an inline assembler instruction it becomes a reference to a variable of the same name, and not the physical ARM register.

The variable can be thought of as a virtual register.

The compiler declares variables for physical registers as appropriate during optimization and code generation. However, the physical register used in the assembled code might be different to that specified in the instruction, or it might be stored on the stack. You can explicitly declare variables representing physical registers as normal C or C++ variables. The compiler implicitly declares registers R0 to R12 and r0 to r12 as **auto signed int** local variables, regardless of whether or not they are used. If you want to declare them to be of a different data type, you can do so. For example, in the following code, the compiler does not implicitly declare r1 and r2 as **auto signed int** because they are explicitly declared as **char** and **float** types respectively:

```
void bar(float *);
int add(int x)
{
    int a = 0;
    char r1 = 0;
    float r2 = 0.0;
    bar(&r2);
    asm
    {
        ADD r1, a, #100
    }
    ...
    return r1;
}
```

The compiler does not implicitly declare variables for any other registers, so you must explicitly declare variables for registers other than R0 to R12 and r0 to r12 in your C or C++ code. No variables are declared for the sp (r13), lr (r14), and pc (r15) registers, and they cannot be read or directly modified in inline assembly code.

There is no virtual *Processor Status Register* (PSR). Any references to the PSR are always to the physical PSR.

The size of the variables is the same as the physical registers.

The compiler-declared variables have function local scope, that is, within a single function, multiple **asm** statements or declarations that reference the same variable name access the same virtual register.

Existing inline assembly code that conforms to previously documented guidelines continues to perform the same function as in previous versions of the compiler, although the actual registers used in each instruction might be different.

The initial value in each variable representing a physical register is UNKNOWN. You must write to these variables before reading them. The compiler generates an error if you attempt to read such a variable before writing to it, for example, if you attempt to read the variable associated with the physical register r1.

Any variables that you use in inline assembly code to refer to registers must be explicitly declared in your C or C++ code, unless they are implicitly declared by the compiler. However, it is better to *explicitly* declare them in your C or C++ code. You do not have to declare them to be of the same data type as the implicit declarations. For example, although the compiler implicitly declares register R0 to be of type **signed int**, you can explicitly declare R0 as an unsigned integer variable if required.

It is also better to use C or C++ variables as instruction operands. The compiler generates a warning the first time a variable or physical register name is used, regardless of whether it is implicitly or explicitly declared, and only once for each translation unit. For example, if you use register r3 without declaring it, a warning is displayed. You can suppress the warning with **--diag\_suppress**.

## Related concepts

[7.8 Inline assembler register restrictions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-276.

## Related references

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

## 7.15 Inline assembler and the # constant expression specifier in C and C++ code

The constant expression specifier # is optional. If it is used, the expression following it must be a constant.

## 7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code

An ARM instruction in inline assembly code might be expanded into several instructions in the compiled object.

The expansion depends on the instruction, the number of operands specified in the instruction, and the type and value of each operand.

### Related concepts

*[7.17 Expansion of inline assembler instructions that use constants on page 7-286.](#)*

*[7.18 Expansion of inline assembler load and store instructions on page 7-287.](#)*

*[7.1 Compiler support for inline assembly language on page 7-269.](#)*

## 7.17 Expansion of inline assembler instructions that use constants

A constant operand specified in an instruction is not limited to the values permitted by the instruction. Instead, the compiler might translate the instruction into a sequence of instructions with the same effect.

For example:

```
ADD r0,r0,#1023
```

might be translated into:

```
ADD r0,r0,#1024  
SUB r0,r0,#1
```

Another example of expansion possibility is:

```
MOV rn,0x12345678
```

With the exception of coprocessor instructions, all ARM instructions with a constant operand support instruction expansion. In addition, the MUL instruction can be expanded into a sequence of adds and shifts when the third operand is a constant.

The effect of updating the CPSR by an expanded instruction is:

- Arithmetic instructions set the NZCV flags correctly.
- Logical instructions:
  - Set the NZ flags correctly.
  - Do not change the V flag.
  - Corrupt the C flag.

### Related concepts

[7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code on page 7-285.](#)

## 7.18 Expansion of inline assembler load and store instructions

The LDM, STM, LDRD, and STRD instructions might be replaced by equivalent ARM instructions.

In this case the compiler outputs a warning message informing you that it might expand instructions. The warning can be suppressed with `--diag_suppress`.

Inline assembly code must be written in such a way that it does not depend on the number of expected instructions or on the expected execution time for each specified instruction.

Instructions that normally place constraints on pairs of operand registers, such as LDRD and STRD, are replaced by a sequence of instructions with equivalent functionality and without the constraints. However, these might be recombined into LDRD and STRD instructions.

All LDM and STM instructions are expanded into a sequence of LDR and STR instructions with equivalent effect. However, the compiler might subsequently recombine the separate instructions into an LDM or STM during optimization.

### Related concepts

[7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-285.

### Related references

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

## 7.19 Inline assembler effect on processor condition flags in C and C++ code

An inline assembly language instruction might explicitly or implicitly attempt to update the processor condition flags.

Inline assembly language instructions that involve only virtual register operands or simple expression operands have predictable behavior. The condition flags are set by the instruction if either an implicit or an explicit update is specified. The condition flags are unchanged if no update is specified.

If any of the instruction operands are not simple operands, then the condition flags might be corrupted unless the instruction updates them.

In general, the compiler cannot easily diagnose potential corruption of the condition flags. However, for operands that require the construction and subsequent destruction of C++ temporaries the compiler gives a warning if the instruction attempts to update the condition flags. This is because the destruction might corrupt the condition flags.

### Related concepts

[7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code on page 7-289.](#)

[7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code on page 7-290.](#)



## 7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code

Function arguments, C or C++ variables, and other C or C++ expressions can be specified as register operands in an inline assembly language instruction.

The type of an expression used in place of an ARM integer register must be either an integral type (that is, **char**, **short**, **int** or **long**), excluding **long long**, or a pointer type. No sign extension is performed on **char** or **short** types. You must perform sign extension explicitly for these types. The compiler might add code to evaluate these expressions and allocate them to registers.

When an operand is used as a destination, the expression must be a modifiable lvalue if used as an operand where the register is modified. For example, a destination register or a base register with a base-register update.

For an instruction containing more than one expression operand, the order that expression operands are evaluated is unspecified.

An expression operand of a conditional instruction is only evaluated if the conditions for the instruction are met.

A C or C++ expression that is used as an inline assembly code operand might result in the instruction being expanded into several instructions. This happens if the value of the expression does not meet the constraints set out for the instruction operands in the *ARM Architecture Reference Manual*.

If an expression used as an operand creates a temporary that requires destruction, then the destruction occurs after the inline assembly instruction is executed. This is analogous to the C++ rules for destruction of temporaries.

A simple expression operand is one of the following:

- A variable value.
- The address of a variable.
- The dereferencing of a pointer variable.
- A compile-time constant.

Any expression containing one of the following is not a simple expression operand:

- An implicit function call, such as for division, or explicit function call.
- The construction of a C++ temporary.
- An arithmetic or logical operation.

### Related concepts

[7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code on page 7-290.](#)

[7.22 Inline assembler intermediate operands in C and C++ code on page 7-291.](#)

### Related information

[ARM Architecture Reference Manual.](#)

## 7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code

A register list can contain a maximum of 16 operands. These operands can be virtual registers or expression register operands.

The order that virtual registers and expression operands are specified in a register list is significant. The register list operands are read or written in left-to-right order. The first operand uses the lowest address, and subsequent operands use addresses formed by incrementing the previous address by four. This behavior is in contrast to the usual operation of the LDM or STM instructions where the lowest numbered physical register is always stored to the lowest memory address. This difference in behavior is a consequence of the virtualization of registers.

An expression operand or virtual register can appear more than once in a register list and is used each time it is specified.

The base register is updated, if specified. The update overwrites any value loaded into the base register during a memory load operation.

The inline assembler does not support operating on User mode registers when in a privileged mode, by specifying ^ after a register list.

### Related concepts

[7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code on page 7-289.](#)

[7.22 Inline assembler intermediate operands in C and C++ code on page 7-291.](#)

## 7.22 Inline assembler intermediate operands in C and C++ code

A C or C++ constant expression of an integral type might be used as an immediate value in an inline assembly language instruction.

A constant expression that specifies an immediate shift must have a value that lies in the range defined in the *ARM Architecture Reference Manual*, as appropriate for the shift operation.

A constant expression that specifies an immediate offset for a memory or coprocessor data transfer instruction must have a value with suitable alignment.

### Related concepts

[7.20 Inline assembler expression operands in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-289.

[7.21 Inline assembler register list operands in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-290.

### Related information

[ARM Architecture Reference Manual](#).

## 7.23 Inline assembler function calls and branches in C and C++ code

The BL and SVC instructions of the inline assembler enable you to specify three optional lists following the normal instruction fields.

These instructions have the following format:

```
SVC{cond} svc_num, {input_param_list}, {output_value_list}, {corrupt_reg_list}
BL{cond} function, {input_param_list}, {output_value_list}, {corrupt_reg_list}
```

### ———— Note ————

RVCT v3.0 renamed the SWI instruction to SVC. The inline assembler still accepts SWI in place of SVC.

If you are compiling for architecture 5TE or later, the linker converts BL *function* instructions to BLX *function* instructions if appropriate. However, you cannot use BLX *function* instructions directly within inline assembly code.

- *input\_param\_list* specifies the expressions or variables that are the input parameters to the function call or SVC instruction, and the physical registers that contain the expressions or variables. They are specified as assignments to physical registers or as physical register names. A single list can contain both types of input register specification.

The inline assembler ensures that the correct values are present in the specified physical registers before the BL or SVC instruction is entered. A physical register name that is specified without assignment ensures that the value in the virtual register of the same name is present in the physical register. This ensures backwards compatibility with existing inline assembly language code.

For example, the instruction:

```
BL foo, { r0=expression1, r1=expression2, r2 }
```

generates the following pseudocode:

```
MOV (physical) r0, expression1
MOV (physical) r1, expression2
MOV (physical) r2, (virtual) r2
BL foo
```

By default, if you do not specify any *input\_param\_list* input parameters, registers r0 to r3 are used as input parameters.

### ———— Note ————

It is not possible to specify the lr, sp, or pc registers in the input parameter list.

- *output\_value\_list* specifies the physical registers that contain the output values from the BL or SVC instruction and where they must be stored. The output values are specified as assignments from physical registers to modifiable lvalue expressions or as single physical register names.

The inline assembler takes the values from the specified physical registers and assigns them into the specified expressions. A physical register name specified without assignment causes the virtual register of the same name to be updated with the value from the physical register.

For example, the instruction:

```
BL foo, { }, { result1=r0, r1 }
```

generates the following pseudocode:

```
BL foo
MOV result1, (physical) r0
MOV (virtual) r1, (physical) r1
```

By default, if you do not specify any *output\_value\_list* output values, register *r0* is used for the output value.

---

**Note**

It is not possible to specify the *lr*, *sp*, or *pc* registers in the output value list.

- 
- *corrupt\_reg\_list* specifies the physical registers that are corrupted by the called function. If the condition flags are modified by the called function, you must specify the PSR in the corrupted register list.

The BL and SVC instructions always corrupt *lr*.

If *corrupt\_reg\_list* is omitted then for BL and SVC, the registers *r0-r3*, *lr* and the PSR are corrupted.

Only the branch instruction, B, can jump to labels within a single C or C++ function.

By default, if you do not specify any *corrupt\_reg\_list* registers, *r0* to *r3*, *r14*, and the PSR can be corrupted.

---

**Note**

It is not possible to specify the *lr*, *sp*, or *pc* registers in the corrupt register list.

---

If you do not specify any lists, then:

- *r0-r3* are used as input parameters.
- *r0* is used for the output value and can be corrupted.
- *r0-r3*, *r14*, and the PSR can be corrupted.

---

**Note**

- The BX, BLX, and BXJ instructions are not supported in the inline assembler.
  - It is not possible to specify the *lr*, *sp*, or *pc* registers in any of the input, output, or corrupted register lists.
  - The *sp* register must not be changed by any SVC instruction or function call.
-

## 7.24 Inline assembler branches and labels in C and C++ code

Labels defined in inline assembly code can be used as targets for branches or C and C++ `goto` statements.

They must be followed by a colon, `:`, like C and C++ labels, and they must be defined within the same function that they are called from.

Labels defined in C and C++ can be used as targets by branch instructions in inline assembly code, in the form:

```
B{cond} Label
```

For example:

```
int foo(int x, int y)
{
    asm
    {
        SUBS x,x,y
        BEQ end
    }
    return 1;
end:
    return 0;
}
```

## 7.25 Inline assembler and virtual registers

Inline assembly code for the compiler always specifies virtual registers.

The compiler chooses the physical registers to be used for each instruction during code generation, and enables the compiler to fully optimize the assembly code and surrounding C or C++ code.

The pc (r15), lr (r14), and sp (r13) registers cannot be accessed at all. An error message is generated when these registers are accessed.

The initial values of virtual registers are undefined. Therefore, you must write to virtual registers before reading them. The compiler warns you if code reads a virtual register before writing to it. The compiler also generates these warnings for legacy code that relies on particular values in physical registers at the beginning of inline assembly code, for example:

```
int add(int i, int j)
{
    int res;
    __asm
    {
        ADD res, r0, r1    // relies on i passed in r0 and j passed in r1
    }
    return res;
}
```

This code generates warning and error messages.

The errors are generated because virtual registers r0 and r1 are read before writing to them. The warnings are generated because r0 and r1 must be defined as C or C++ variables. The corrected code is:

```
int add(int i, int j)
{
    int res;
    __asm
    {
        ADD res, i, j
    }
    return res;
}
```

### Related concepts

[7.14 Inline assembler and register access in C and C++ code on page 7-282.](#)

## 7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler

The compiler enables you to include assembly code out-of-line in one or more C or C++ function definitions.

Embedded assembly code provides unrestricted, low-level access to the target processor, enables you to use the C and C++ preprocessor directives, and gives easy access to structure member offsets. The embedded assembler supports ARM and Thumb states.

### Related concepts

- [7.27 Embedded assembler syntax in C and C++ on page 7-297.](#)
- [7.28 Effect of compiler ARM and Thumb states on embedded assembler on page 7-298.](#)
- [7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code on page 7-299.](#)
- [7.30 Compiler generation of embedded assembly language functions on page 7-300.](#)
- [7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler on page 7-302.](#)
- [7.32 Differences between expressions in embedded assembler and C or C++ on page 7-303.](#)
- [7.33 Manual overload resolution in embedded assembler on page 7-304.](#)
- [7.34 `\_\_offsetof\_base` keyword for related base classes in embedded assembler on page 7-305.](#)
- [7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-306.](#)
- [7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-312.](#)
- [7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function on page 7-313.](#)
- [7.43 Calling a virtual member function on page 7-314.](#)

### Related information

- [armasm User Guide.](#)
- [Mixing C, C++, and Assembly Language.](#)



## 7.27 Embedded assembler syntax in C and C++

An embedded assembly language function definition is marked by the `__asm` function qualifier in C and C++, or the `asm` function qualifier in C++.

The `__asm` and `asm` function qualifiers can be used on:

- Member functions.
- Non-member functions.
- Template functions.
- Template class member functions.

Functions declared with `__asm` or `asm` can have arguments, and return a type. They are called from C and C++ in the same way as normal C and C++ functions. The syntax of an embedded assembly language function is:

```
__asm return-type function-name(parameter-list)
{
    // ARM/Thumb assembly code
    instruction{;comment is optional}
    ...
    instruction
}
```

### Note

Argument names are permitted in the parameter list, but they cannot be used in the body of the embedded assembly function. For example, the following function uses integer `i` in the body of the function, but this is not valid in assembly:

```
__asm int f(int i)
{
    ADD i, i, #1 // error
}
```

You can use, for example, `r0` instead of `i`.

The following example shows a string copy routine as a not very optimal embedded assembler routine.

```
#include <stdio.h>
__asm void my_strcpy(const char *src, char *dst)
{
loop
    LDRB r2, [r0], #1
    STRB r2, [r1], #1
    CMP r2, #0
    BNE loop
    BX lr
}
int main(void)
{
    const char *a = "Hello world!";
    char b[20];
    my_strcpy(a, b);
    printf("Original string: '%s'\n", a);
    printf("Copied string: '%s'\n", b);
    return 0;
}
```

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

## 7.28 Effect of compiler ARM and Thumb states on embedded assembler

The initial state of the embedded assembler, ARM or Thumb state, is determined by the initial state of the compiler, as specified on the command line.

This means that:

- If the compiler starts in ARM state, the embedded assembler uses `--arm`.
- If the compiler starts in Thumb state, the embedded assembler uses `--thumb`.

The embedded assembler state at the start of each function is as set by the invocation of the compiler, as modified by `#pragma arm` and `#pragma thumb` pragmas.

You can change the state of the embedded assembler within a function by using explicit `ARM`, `THUMB`, or `CODE16` directives in the embedded assembler function. Such a directive within an `__asm` function does not affect the ARM or Thumb state of subsequent `__asm` functions.

If you are compiling for a 32-bit Thumb capable processor, you can use both 32-bit encoded Thumb instructions and 16-bit encoded Thumb instructions when in Thumb state.

If you are compiling for a 16-bit Thumb capable processor, you can only use 16-bit encoded Thumb instructions when in Thumb state.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

## 7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code

A number of restrictions apply to embedded assembly language functions.

Specifically:

- After preprocessing, `__asm` functions can only contain assembly code, with the exception of the following embedded assembler built-ins:

```
__cpp(expr)
__offsetof_base(D, B)
__mcall_is_virtual(D, f)
__mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)
__mcall_offsetof_base(D, f)
__mcall_this_offset(D, f)
__vcall_offsetof_vfunc(D, f)
```

- No return instructions are generated by the compiler for an `__asm` function. If you want to return from an `__asm` function, you must include the return instructions, in assembly code, in the body of the function.

### ————— **Note** —————

This makes it possible to fall through to the next function, because the embedded assembler guarantees to emit the `__asm` functions in the order you define them. However, inlined and template functions behave differently. Do not assume that code execution falls out of an inline or template function into another embedded assembly function.

- `__asm` functions do not change the *ARM Architecture Procedure Call Standard* (AAPCS) rules that apply. This means that all calls between an `__asm` function and a normal C or C++ function must adhere to the AAPCS, even though there are no restrictions on the assembly code that an `__asm` function can use (for example, change state).

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.34 `\_\_offsetof\_base` keyword for related base classes in embedded assembler on page 7-305.](#)

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-306.](#)

[7.30 Compiler generation of embedded assembly language functions on page 7-300.](#)

[7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler on page 7-302.](#)

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-306.](#)

## 7.30 Compiler generation of embedded assembly language functions

The bodies of all the `__asm` functions in a translation unit are assembled as if they are concatenated into a single file that is then passed to the ARM assembler.

The order of `__asm` functions in the assembly language file that is passed to the assembler is guaranteed to be the same order as in the source file, except for functions that are generated using a template instantiation.

### ———— Note ————

This means that it is possible for control to pass from one `__asm` function to another by falling off the end of the first function into the next `__asm` function in the file, if the return instruction is omitted.

When you invoke `armcc`, the object file produced by the assembler is combined with the object file of the compiler by a partial link that produces a single object file.

The compiler generates an `AREA` directive for each `__asm` function, as in the following example:

```
#include <cstdint>
struct X
{
    int x,y;
    void addto_y(int);
};
__asm void X::addto_y(int)
{
    LDR    r2, [r0, #__cpp(offsetof(X, y))]
    ADD    r1, r2, r1
    STR    r1, [r0, #__cpp(offsetof(X, y))]
    BX     lr
}
```

For this function, the compiler generates:

```
AREA ||.emb_text||, CODE, READONLY
EXPORT |_ZN1X7addto_yEi|
#line num "file"
|_ZN1X7addto_yEi| PROC
    LDR r2, [r0, #4]
    ADD r1, r2, r1
    STR r1, [r0, #4]
    BX lr
    ENDP
END
```

The use of `offsetof` must be inside `__cpp()` because it is the normal `offsetof` macro from the `cstdint` header file.

Ordinary `__asm` functions are put in an ELF section with the name `.emb_text`. That is, embedded assembly functions are never inlined. However, implicitly instantiated template functions and out-of-line copies of inline functions are placed in an area with a name that is derived from the name of the function, and an extra attribute that marks them as common. This ensures that the special semantics of these kinds of functions are maintained.

### ———— Note ————

Because of the special naming of the area for out-of-line copies of inline functions and template functions, these functions are not in the order of definition, but in an arbitrary order. Therefore, do not assume that code execution falls out of an inline or template function and into another `__asm` function.

## Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code on page 7-299.](#)

## Related information

*[ELF for the ARM Architecture.](#)*

## 7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler

You can use the `__cpp` keyword to access C and C++ compile-time constant expressions, including the addresses of data or functions with external linkage, from the assembly code.

The expression inside the `__cpp` must be a constant expression suitable for use as a C++ static initialization. See 3.6.2 *Initialization of non-local objects* and 5.19 *Constant expressions* in ISO/IEC 14882:2003.

The following example shows a constant replacing the use of `__cpp(expr)`:

```
LDR r0, =__cpp(&some_variable)
LDR r1, =__cpp(some_function)
BL __cpp(some_function)
MOV r0, #__cpp(some_constant_expr)
```

Names in the `__cpp` expression are looked up in the C++ context of the `__asm` function. Any names in the result of a `__cpp` expression are mangled as required and automatically have `IMPORT` statements generated for them.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code on page 7-299.](#)

[7.33 Manual overload resolution in embedded assembler on page 7-304.](#)

[7.32 Differences between expressions in embedded assembler and C or C++ on page 7-303.](#)

## 7.32 Differences between expressions in embedded assembler and C or C++

There are a number of differences between embedded assembly and C or C++.

Specifically:

- Assembly expressions are always unsigned. The same expression might have different values between assembly and C or C++. For example:

```
MOV r0, #(-33554432 / 2)    // result is 0x7f000000
MOV r0, #__cpp(-33554432 / 2) // result is 0xff000000
```

- Assembly numbers with leading zeros are still decimal. For example:

```
MOV r0, #0700              // decimal 700
MOV r0, #__cpp(0700)       // octal 0700 == decimal 448
```

- Assembly operator precedence differs from C and C++. For example:

```
MOV r0, # (0x23 :AND: 0xf + 1) // ((0x23 & 0xf) + 1) => 4
MOV r0, #__cpp(0x23 & 0xf + 1) // (0x23 & (0xf + 1)) => 0
```

- Assembly strings are not NUL-terminated:

```
DCB "Hello world!"          // 12 bytes (no trailing NUL)
DCB #__cpp("Hello world!")  // 13 bytes (trailing NUL)
```

---

### Note

The embedded assembly rules apply outside `__cpp`, and the C or C++ rules apply inside `__cpp`.

---

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler on page 7-302.](#)

## 7.33 Manual overload resolution in embedded assembler

The following example shows the use of C++ casts to do overload resolution for nonvirtual function calls.

```
void g(int);
void g(long);
struct T
{
    int mf(int);
    int mf(int,int);
};
__asm void f(T*, int, int)
{
    BL __cpp(static_cast<int (T::*)(int, int)>(&T::mf)) // calls T::mf(int, int)
    BL __cpp(static_cast<void (*)(int)>(g)) // calls g(int)
    BX lr
}
```

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.31 Access to C and C++ compile-time constant expressions from embedded assembler on page 7-302.](#)



## 7.34 `__offsetof_base` keyword for related base classes in embedded assembler

The `__offsetof_base` keyword enables you to determine the offset from the beginning of an object to a base class sub-object within it.

```
__offsetof_base(D, B)
```

B must be an unambiguous, nonvirtual base class of D.

Returns the offset from the beginning of a D object to the start of the B base subobject within it. The result might be zero. The following example shows the offset (in bytes) that must be added to a D\* p to implement the equivalent of `static_cast<B*>(p)`.

```
__asm B* my_static_base_cast(D* /*p*/) // equivalent to:
                                     // return static_cast<B*>(p)
{
    if __offsetof_base(D, B) <> 0 // optimize zero offset case
        ADD r0, r0, #__offsetof_base(D, B)
    endif
    BX lr
}
```

The `__offsetof_base`, `__mcall_*`, and `_vcall_offsetof_vfunc` keywords are converted into integer or logical constants in the assembly source code. You can only use it in `__asm` functions, not in `__cpp` expressions.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code on page 7-299.](#)

## 7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler

The following embedded assembler built-ins facilitate the calling of virtual and nonvirtual member functions from an `__asm` function.

Those beginning with `__mcall` can be used for both virtual and nonvirtual functions. Those beginning with `__vcall` can be used only with virtual functions. They do not particularly help in calling static member functions.

- `__mcall_is_virtual(D, f)`.
- `__mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)`.
- `__mcall_offsetof_vbase(D, f)`.
- `__mcall_this_offset(D, f)`.
- `__vcall_offsetof_vfunc(D, f)`.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler](#) on page 7-296.

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-299.

[7.36 `\_\_mcall\_is\_virtual\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-307.

[7.37 `\_\_mcall\_is\_in\_vbase\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-308.

[7.38 `\_\_mcall\_offsetof\_vbase\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-309.

[7.39 `\_\_mcall\_this\_offset\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-310.

[7.40 `\_\_vcall\_offsetof\_vfunc\(D, f\)`](#) on page 7-311.

[7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-312.

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-299.

## 7.36 `__mcall_is_virtual(D, f)`

Results in {TRUE} if `f` is a virtual member function found in `D`, or a base class of `D`, otherwise {FALSE}.

If it returns {TRUE} the call can be done using virtual dispatch, otherwise the call must be done directly.

### Related concepts

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.

## 7.37 `__mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)`

Results in {TRUE} if `f` is a nonstatic member function found in a virtual base class of `D`, otherwise {FALSE}.

If it returns {TRUE} the `this` adjustment must be done using `__mcall_offsetof_vbase(D, f)`, otherwise it must be done with `__mcall_this_offset(D, f)`.

### Related concepts

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.

## 7.38 `__mcall_offsetof_vbase(D, f)`

Returns the negative offset from the value of the vtable pointer of the vtable slot that holds the base offset (from the beginning of a `D` object to the start of the base that `f` is defined in).

Where `D` is a class type and `f` is a nonstatic member function defined in a virtual base class of `D`, in other words `__mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)` returns `{TRUE}`.

The base offset is the `this` adjustment necessary when making a call to `f` with a pointer to a `D`.

---

### **Note**

---

The offset returns a positive number that then has to be subtracted from the value of the vtable pointer.

---

### **Related concepts**

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.

## 7.39 `__mcall_this_offset(D, f)`

Returns the offset from the beginning of a `D` object to the start of the base in which `f` is defined.

This is the `this` adjustment necessary when making a call to `f` with a pointer to a `D`. It is either zero if `f` is found in `D` or the same as `__offsetof_base(D, B)`, where `B` is a nonvirtual base class of `D` that contains `f`.

Where `D` is a class type and `f` is a nonstatic member function defined in `D` or a nonvirtual base class of `D`.

If `__mcall_this_offset(D, f)` is used when `f` is found in a virtual base class of `D` it returns an arbitrary value designed to cause an assembly error if used. This is so that such invalid uses of `__mcall_this_offset` can occur in sections of assembly code that are to be skipped.

### Related concepts

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.

## 7.40 `__vcall_offsetof_vfunc(D, f)`

Returns the offset of the slot in the vtable that holds the pointer to the virtual function, `f`.

Where `D` is a class and `f` is a virtual function defined in `D`, or a base class of `D`.

If `__vcall_offsetof_vfunc(D, f)` is used when `f` is not a virtual member function it returns an arbitrary value designed to cause an assembly error if used.

### Related concepts

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler](#) on page 7-306.

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function](#) on page 7-313.

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function](#) on page 7-314.

## 7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler

You can use keywords beginning with `__mcall` and `__vcall` to call nonvirtual and virtual functions from `__asm` functions.

There is no `__mcall_is_static` to detect static member functions because static member functions have different parameters (that is, no `this`), so call sites are likely to already be specific to calling a static member function.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.35 Compiler-supported keywords for calling class member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-306.](#)

[7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function on page 7-313.](#)

[7.43 Calling a virtual member function on page 7-314.](#)



## 7.42 Calling a nonvirtual member function

The following example shows code that calls a nonvirtual function in either a virtual or nonvirtual base.

```
// rp contains a D* and we want to do the equivalent of rp->f() where f is a
// nonvirtual function
// all arguments other than the this pointer are already set up
// assumes f does not return a struct
if __mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)
    LDR r12, [rp]                // fetch vtable pointer
    LDR r0, [r12, #__mcall_offsetof_vbase(D, f)] // fetch the vbase offset
    ADD r0, r0, rp              // do this adjustment
else
    ADD r0, rp, #__mcall_this_offset(D, f) // set up and adjust this
                                        // pointer for D*
endif
BL __cpp(&D::f)                // call D::f
```

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-312.](#)

## 7.43 Calling a virtual member function

The following example shows code that calls a virtual function in either a virtual or nonvirtual base.

```
// rp contains a D* and we want to do the equivalent of rp->f() where f is a
// virtual function
// all arguments other than the this pointer are already set up
// assumes f does not return a struct
if __mcall_is_in_vbase(D, f)
    LDR r12, [rp] // fetch vtable pointer
    LDR r0, [r12, #__mcall_offsetof_vbase(D, f)] // fetch the base offset
    ADD r0, r0, rp // do this adjustment
    LDR r12, [r0] // fetch vbase vtable pointer
else
    MOV r0, rp // set up this pointer for D*
    LDR r12, [rp] // fetch vtable pointer
    ADD r0, r0, #__mcall_this_offset(D, f) // do this adjustment
endif
MOV lr, pc // prepare lr
LDR pc, [r12, #__vcall_offsetof_vfunc(D, f)] // calls rp->f()
```

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.41 Calling nonstatic member functions in embedded assembler on page 7-312.](#)

## 7.44 Accessing sp (r13), lr (r14), and pc (r15)

The following methods enable you to access the sp, lr, and pc registers correctly in your source code.

The first method uses the compiler intrinsics in inline assembly, for example:

```
void printReg()
{
    unsigned int spReg, lrReg, pcReg;
    __asm
    {
        MOV spReg, __current_sp()
        MOV pcReg, __current_pc()
        MOV lrReg, __return_address()
    }
    printf("SP = 0x%X\n", spReg);
    printf("PC = 0x%X\n", pcReg);
    printf("LR = 0x%X\n", lrReg);
}
```

The second method uses embedded assembly to access physical ARM registers from within a C or C++ source file, for example:

```
__asm void func()
{
    MOV r0, lr
    ...
    BX lr
}
```

This enables the return address of a function to be captured and displayed, for example, for debugging purposes, to show the call tree.

### ————— Note —————

The compiler might also inline a function into its caller function. If a function is inlined, then the return address is the return address of the function that calls the inlined function. Also, a function might be tail called.

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

### Related references

[10.131 \\_\\_return\\_address intrinsic on page 10-750.](#)

[10.108 \\_\\_current\\_pc intrinsic on page 10-723.](#)

[10.109 \\_\\_current\\_sp intrinsic on page 10-724.](#)

## 7.45 Differences in compiler support for inline and embedded assembly code

There are differences between the ways inline and embedded assembly are compiled.

Specifically:

- Inline assembly code uses a high level of processor abstraction, and is integrated with the C and C++ code during code generation. Therefore, the compiler optimizes the C and C++ code and the assembly code together.
- Unlike inline assembly code, embedded assembly code is assembled separately from the C and C++ code to produce a compiled object that is then combined with the object from the compilation of the C or C++ source.
- Inline assembly code can be inlined by the compiler, but embedded assembly code cannot be inlined, either implicitly or explicitly.

The following table summarizes the main differences between inline assembler and embedded assembler.

**Table 7-1 Differences between inline and embedded assembler**

Feature	Embedded assembler	Inline assembler
Instruction set	ARM and Thumb.	ARM on all processors. Thumb on processors with Thumb-2 technology.
ARM assembler directives	All supported.	None supported.
ARMv6 instructions	All supported.	Supports most instructions, with some exceptions, for example SETEND and some of the system extensions. The complete set of ARMv6 SIMD instructions is supported.
ARMv7 instructions	All supported.	Supports most instructions.
VFP and NEON instructions	All supported.	VFPv2 only.
C/C++ expressions	Constant expressions only.	Full C/C++ expressions.
Optimization of assembly code	No optimization.	Full optimization.
Inlining	Never.	Possible.
Register access	Specified physical registers are used. You can also use PC, LR and SP.	Uses virtual registers. Using sp (r13), lr (r14), and pc (r15) gives an error.
Return instructions	You must add them in your code.	Generated automatically. (The BX, BXJ, and BLX instructions are not supported.)
BKPT instruction	Supported directly.	Not supported.

# Chapter 8

## Compiler Command-line Options

Describes the `armcc` compiler command-line options.

It contains the following sections:

- [8.1 -Aopt](#) on page 8-322.
- [8.2 --allow\\_fpreg\\_for\\_nonfpdata, --no\\_allow\\_fpreg\\_for\\_nonfpdata](#) on page 8-323.
- [8.3 --allow\\_null\\_this, --no\\_allow\\_null\\_this](#) on page 8-324.
- [8.4 --alternative\\_tokens, --no\\_alternative\\_tokens](#) on page 8-325.
- [8.5 --anachronisms, --no\\_anachronisms](#) on page 8-326.
- [8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier](#) on page 8-327.
- [8.7 --arm](#) on page 8-332.
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## 8.1 -Aopt

Specifies command-line options to pass to the assembler when it is invoked by the compiler to assemble either .s input files or embedded assembly language functions.

### Syntax

-Aopt

Where:

opt

is a command-line option to pass to the assembler.

---

#### Note

Some compiler command-line options are passed to the assembler automatically whenever it is invoked by the compiler. For example, if the option --cpu is specified on the compiler command line, then this option is passed to the assembler whenever it is invoked to assemble .s files or embedded assembly code.

To see the compiler command-line options passed by the compiler to the assembler, use the compiler command-line option -A--show\_cmdline.

---

### Examples

---

```
armcc -A--predefine="NEWVERSION SETL {TRUE}" main.c
```

---

### Restrictions

If an unsupported option is passed through using -A, an error is generated by the assembler.

### Related references

[8.40 --cpu=list](#) on page 8-371.

[8.41 --cpu=name](#) compiler option on page 8-372.

[8.113 -Lopt](#) on page 8-451.

[8.170 --show\\_cmdline](#) on page 8-514.

## 8.2 `--allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata`, `--no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata`

Enables and disables the use of VFP and NEON registers and data transfer instructions for non-VFP and non-NEON data.

### Usage

`--allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata` enables the compiler to use VFP and NEON registers and instructions for data transfer operations on non-VFP and non-NEON data. This is useful when demand for integer registers is high. For the compiler to use the VFP or NEON registers, the default options for the processor or the specified options must enable the hardware.

`--no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata` prevents VFP and NEON registers from being used for non-VFP and non-NEON data. When this option is specified, the compiler uses VFP and NEON registers for VFP and NEON data only. This is useful when you want to confine the number of places in your code where the compiler generates VFP or NEON instructions.

### Default

The default is `--no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata`.

### Related references

[8.86 `--fpmode=model` on page 8-421.](#)

[8.87 `--fpu=list` on page 8-423.](#)

[8.88 `--fpu=name` compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

### Related information

[Extension register bank mapping.](#)

[NEON views of the register bank.](#)

[VFP views of the extension register bank.](#)

## 8.3 `--allow_null_this`, `--no_allow_null_this`

Allows and disallows null **this** pointers in C++.

### Usage

Allowing null **this** pointers gives well-defined behavior when a nonvirtual member function is called on a null object pointer.

Disallowing null **this** pointers enables the compiler to perform optimizations, and conforms with the C++ standard.

### Default

The default is `--no_allow_null_this`.

### Related references

[8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431](#).

## 8.4 `--alternative_tokens`, `--no_alternative_tokens`

Enables and disables the recognition of alternative tokens in C and C++.

### Usage

In C and C++, use this option to control recognition of the digraphs. In C++, use this option to control recognition of operator keywords, for example, **and** and **bitand**.

### Default

The default is `--alternative_tokens`.

## 8.5 `--anachronisms`, `--no_anachronisms`

Enables and disables anachronisms in C++.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_anachronisms`.

### Examples

```
typedef enum { red, white, blue } tricolor;
inline tricolor operator++(tricolor c, int)
{
    int i = static_cast<int>(c) + 1;
    return static_cast<tricolor>(i);
}
void foo(void)
{
    tricolor c = red;
    c++; // okay
    ++c; // anachronism
}
```

Compiling this code with the option `--anachronisms` generates a warning message.

Compiling this code without the option `--anachronisms` generates an error message.

### Related references

[8.37 `--cpp` on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)

[8.176 `--strict\_warnings` on page 8-521.](#)

[11.8 \*Anachronisms in ARM C++\* on page 11-812.](#)

## 8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier

Controls interworking and position independence when generating code.

By specifying qualifiers to the --apcs command-line option, you can define the variant of the *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM architecture* (AAPCS) used by the compiler.

### Syntax

--apcs=qualifier...qualifier

Where *qualifier...qualifier* denotes a list of qualifiers. There must be:

- At least one qualifier present.
- No spaces separating individual qualifiers in the list.

Each instance of *qualifier* must be one of:

/interwork

/nointerwork

Generates code with or without ARM/Thumb interworking support. The default is `/nointerwork`, except for ARMv5T and later where the default is `/interwork`.

/ropi

/noropi

Enables or disables the generation of *Read-Only Position-Independent* (ROPI) code. The default is `/noropi`.

`/[no]pic` is an alias for `/[no]ropi`.

/rwpi

/norwpi

Enables or disables the generation of *Read/Write Position-Independent* (RWPI) code. The default is `/norwpi`.

`/[no]pid` is an alias for `/[no]rwpi`.

/fpic

/nofpic

Enables or disables the generation of read-only position-independent code where relative address references are independent of the location where your program is loaded.

/hardfp

/softfp

Requests hardware or software floating-point linkage. This enables the procedure call standard to be specified separately from the version of the floating-point hardware available through the --fpu option. It is still possible to specify the procedure call standard by using the --fpu option, but ARM recommends that you use --apcs instead.

### ————— Note —————

The / prefix is optional for the first qualifier, but must be present to separate subsequent qualifiers in the same --apcs option. For example, --apcs=/nointerwork/noropi/norwpi is equivalent to --apcs=nointerwork/noropi/norwpi.

You can specify multiple qualifiers using either a single --apcs option or multiple --apcs options. For example, --apcs=/nointerwork/noropi/norwpi is equivalent to --apcs=/nointerwork --apcs=noropi/norwpi.

### Default

If you do not specify an --apcs option, the compiler assumes  
--apcs=/nointerwork/noropi/norwpi/nofpic.

## Usage

/interwork  
/nointerwork

By default, code is generated:

- Without interworking support, that is /nointerwork, unless you specify a --cpu option that corresponds to architecture ARMv5T or later.
- With interworking support, that is /interwork, on ARMv5T and later. ARMv5T and later architectures provide direct support to interworking by using instructions such as BLX and load to program counter instructions.

/ropi  
/noropi

If you select the /ropi qualifier to generate ROPI code, the compiler:

- Addresses read-only code and data PC-relative.
- Sets the *Position Independent* (PI) attribute on read-only output sections.

———— **Note** —————

--apcs=/ropi is not supported when compiling C++.

/rwpi  
/norwpi

If you select the /rwpi qualifier to generate RWPI code, the compiler:

- addresses writable data using offsets from the static base register sb. This means that:
  - The base address of the RW data region can be fixed at runtime.
  - Data can have multiple instances.
  - Data can be, but does not have to be, position-independent.
- Sets the PI attribute on read/write output sections.

———— **Note** —————

Because the --lower\_rwpi option is the default, code that is not RWPI is automatically transformed into equivalent code that is RWPI. This static initialization is done at runtime by the C++ constructor mechanism, even for C.



/fpic  
/nopfic

If you select this option, the compiler:

- Accesses all static data using PC-relative addressing.
- Accesses all imported or exported read-write data using a *Global Offset Table* (GOT) entry created by the linker.
- Accesses all read-only data relative to the PC.

You must compile your code with /fpic if it uses shared objects. This is because relative addressing is only implemented when your code makes use of System V shared libraries.

You do not have to compile with /fpic if you are building either a static image or static library.

The use of /fpic is supported when compiling C++. In this case, virtual function tables and typeid are placed in read-write areas so that they can be accessed relative to the location of the PC.

---

**Note**

When building a System V or ARM Linux shared library, use --apcs /fpic together with --no\_hide\_all.

---

/hardfp

If you use /hardfp, the compiler generates code for hardware floating-point linkage. Hardware floating-point linkage uses the FPU registers to pass the arguments and return values.

/hardfp interacts with or overrides explicit or implicit use of --fpu as follows:

The /hardfp and /softfp qualifiers are mutually exclusive.

- If floating-point support is not permitted (for example, because --fpu=none is specified, or because of other means), /hardfp is ignored.
- If floating-point support is permitted, but without floating-point hardware (--fpu=softvfp), /hardfp gives an error.
- If floating-point hardware is available and the *hardfp* calling convention is used (--fpu=vfp...), /hardfp is ignored.
- If floating-point hardware is present and the *softfp* calling convention is used (--fpu=softvfp+vfp...), /hardfp gives an error.

/softfp

If you use /softfp, software floating-point linkage is used. Software floating-point linkage means that the parameters and return value for a function are passed using the ARM integer registers r0 to r3 and the stack.

/softfp interacts with or overrides explicit or implicit use of --fpu as follows:

The /hardfp and /softfp qualifiers are mutually exclusive.

- If floating-point support is not permitted (for example, because --fpu=none is specified, or because of other means), /softfp is ignored.
- If floating-point support is permitted, but without floating-point hardware (--fpu=softvfp), /softfp is ignored because the state is already /softfp.
- If floating-point hardware is present, /softfp forces the *softfp* (--fpu=softvfp+vfp...) calling convention.

## Restrictions

There are restrictions when you compile code with /ropi, or /rwpi, or /fpic.

## /ropi

The main restrictions when compiling with /ropi are:

- The use of --apcs=/ropi is not supported when compiling C++. You can compile only the C subset of C++ with /ropi.
- Some constructs that are legal C do not work when compiled for --apcs=/ropi. For example:

```
extern const int ci; // ro
const int *p2 = &ci; // this static initialization
                    // does not work with --apcs=/ropi
```

To enable such static initializations to work, compile your code using the --lower\_ropi option. For example:

```
armcc --apcs=/ropi --lower_ropi
```

## /rwp

The main restrictions when compiling with /rwp are:

- Some constructs that are legal C do not work when compiled for --apcs=/rwp. For example:

```
int i;
int *p1 = &i; // rw
              // this static initialization
              // does not work with --apcs=/rwp
              // --no_lower_rwp
```

To enable such static initializations to work, compile your code using the --lower\_rwp option. For example:

```
armcc --apcs=/rwp
```

### Note

You do not have to specify --lower\_rwp, because this is the default.

## /fpic

The main restrictions when compiling with /fpic are:

- By default, if you use --apcs=/fpic, the compiler exports only functions and data marked \_\_declspec(dllexport).
- If you use --apcs=/fpic and --no\_hide\_all on the same command line, the compiler uses default ELF dynamic visibility for all extern variables and functions that do not use \_\_declspec(dllexport). The compiler disables auto-inlining for functions with default ELF visibility.

## Related concepts

[5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations on page 5-218.](#)

[5.42 Default selection of hardware or software floating-point support on page 5-206.](#)

## Related references

[8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

[8.98 --hide\\_all, --no\\_hide\\_all on page 8-436.](#)

[8.126 --lower\\_ropi, --no\\_lower\\_ropi on page 8-466.](#)

[8.127 --lower\\_rwp, --no\\_lower\\_rwp on page 8-467.](#)

[10.23 \\_\\_declspec\(dllexport\) on page 10-632.](#)

## Related information

[BPABI and SysV Shared Libraries and Executables.](#)

[Overview of veneers.](#)

*ARM C libraries and multithreading.*  
*Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.*

## 8.7 --arm

Targets the ARM instruction set. The compiler is permitted to generate both ARM and Thumb code, but recognizes that ARM code is preferred.

---

### Note

This option is not relevant for Thumb-only processors such as Cortex-M4, Cortex-M3, Cortex-M1, and Cortex-M0.

---

### Default

This is the default option for targets supporting the ARM instruction set.

### Related references

[8.40 --cpu=list](#) on page 8-371.

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option](#) on page 8-372.

[8.12 --arm\\_only](#) on page 8-340.

[8.179 --thumb](#) on page 8-525.

[10.76 #pragma arm](#) on page 10-688.

### Related information

[ARM architectures supported by the toolchain.](#)

## 8.8 --arm\_linux

Configures a set of other options with defaults that are suitable for ARM Linux compilation.

### Usage

These defaults are enabled automatically when you use one of the following ARM Linux options:

- --arm\_linux\_paths.
- --translate\_gcc in full GCC emulation mode.
- --translate\_g++ in full GCC emulation mode.
- --translate\_gld in full GCC emulation mode.

Typical use of this option is to aid the migration of legacy code. It enables you to simplify the compiler options used in existing makefiles, while retaining full and explicit control over the header and library search paths used.

When migrating from a build earlier than RVCT v4.0, you can replace all of these options supplied to the compiler with a single --arm\_linux option.

### Default

By default, the configured set of options is:

- --apcs=/interwork.
- --enum\_is\_int.
- --gnu.
- --library\_interface=aeabi\_glibc.
- --no\_execstack.
- --no\_hide\_all.
- --preinclude=linux\_armcc.h.
- --wchar32.

### Examples

To apply the default set of options, use --arm\_linux.

To override any of the default options, specify them separately. For example, --arm\_linux --hide\_all. In this instance, --hide\_all overrides the --no\_hide\_all encompassed by --arm\_linux.

### Related references

- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 --translate\\_gcc on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 --translate\\_gld on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 --configure\\_gld=path on page 8-365.](#)

8.180 *--translate\_g++* on page 8-526.

8.93 *--gnu\_defaults* on page 8-431.

8.169 *--shared* on page 8-513.

8.76 *--execstack*, *--no\_execstack* on page 8-411.

8.36 *--configure\_sysroot=path* on page 8-366.

#### **Related information**

*--search\_dynamic\_libraries*, *--no\_search\_dynamic\_libraries* linker option.

*--library=name* linker option.

*--arm\_linux* linker option.

## 8.9 `--arm_linux_config_file=path`

Specifies the location of the configuration file that is created for ARM Linux builds. It enables the use of standard Linux configuration settings when compiling your code.

### Syntax

`--arm_linux_config_file=path`

Where *path* is the path and filename of the configuration file.

### Restrictions

You must use this option both when generating the configuration file and when using the configuration during compilation and linkage.

If you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_gcc`, `--translate_g++`, or `--translate_gld`, you affect the default settings for certain other options. The default value for `--bss_threshold` becomes zero, the default for `--signed_bitfields` and `--unsigned_bitfields` becomes `--signed_bitfields`, and `--enum_is_int` and `--wchar32` are switched on.

### Related references

[8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)  
[8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)  
[8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)  
[8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)  
[8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)  
[8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)  
[8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)  
[8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)  
[8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)  
[8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)  
[8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)  
[8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)  
[8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)  
[8.76 `--execstack`, `--no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)  
[8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)  
[8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)  
[8.72 `--enum\_is\_int` on page 8-407.](#)  
[8.20 `--bss\_threshold=num` on page 8-349.](#)  
[8.171 `--signed\_bitfields`, `--unsigned\_bitfields` on page 8-515.](#)  
[8.200 `-Warmcc`, `--gcc\_fallback` on page 8-550.](#)  
[8.201 `--wchar`, `--no\_wchar` on page 8-551.](#)

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#), [--no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.

## 8.10 --arm\_linux\_configure

Configures the tools for use with ARM Linux by creating a configuration file describing include paths, library paths, and standard libraries for the GNU C library, glibc.

The created configuration file is used when you build your code.

### Usage

Automatic and manual methods of configuration apply. Automatic configuration attempts to automatically locate an installation of the GNU toolchain on your PATH environment variable, and query it to determine the configuration settings to use. Manual configuration lets you specify your own locations for header files and libraries. It can be used if you do not have a complete GNU toolchain installed.

If you use automatic configuration, the *GNU Compiler Collection* (GCC) version number of the GNU toolchain is added to the configuration file. The corresponding `--gnu_version=version` option is passed to the compiler from the configuration file when using any of the translation options or `--arm_linux_paths`.

To perform automatic configuration:

- `armcc --arm_linux_configure --arm_linux_config_file=config_file_path --configure_gcc=path --configure_gld=path`

where *config\_file\_path* is the path and filename of the configuration file that is created. You can optionally specify the location of the GCC driver, and optionally the location of the GNU linker, to override the locations determined from the system PATH environment variable.

To perform manual configuration:

- `armcc --arm_linux_configure --arm_linux_config_file=path --configure_cpp_headers=path --configure_sysroot=path`

where the paths to the GNU libstdc++ *Standard Template Library* (STL) header files, and the system root path that libraries and header files are found from, are specified.

### Restrictions

A GNU toolchain must exist on your system to use automatic configuration.

If using the automatic method of configuration, an ARM Linux GCC must be located with the system PATH environment variable. If you do not have a suitable GCC on your system path, you can either add one to your path, or use `--configure_gcc` (and optionally `--configure_gld`) to manually specify the location of a suitable GCC.

### Default

Automatic configuration applies unless you specify the location of GCC or the GNU linker using additional options. That is, the compiler attempts to locate an ARM Linux GCC using your system path environment variable, unless you use additional options to specify otherwise.

### Related references

- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 --translate\\_gcc on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 --translate\\_gld on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path on page 8-363.](#)



8.34 `--configure_gcc_version=version` on page 8-364.

8.35 `--configure_gld=path` on page 8-365.

8.180 `--translate_g++` on page 8-526.

8.93 `--gnu_defaults` on page 8-431.

8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.

8.76 `--execstack`, `--no_execstack` on page 8-411.

8.36 `--configure_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.

8.8 `--arm_linux` on page 8-333.

8.95 `--gnu_version=version` on page 8-433.

8.200 `-Warmcc`, `--gcc_fallback` on page 8-550.

### Related information

`--search_dynamic_libraries`, `--no_search_dynamic_libraries` linker option.

`--library=name` linker option.

`--arm_linux` linker option.

## 8.11 --arm\_linux\_paths

Enables you to build code for ARM Linux.

### Usage

You can use this option after you have configured the tools for use with ARM Linux.

This is a compiler option only. It follows the typical GCC usage model, where the compiler driver directs linkage and selection of standard system object files and libraries.

This option can also aid migration from versions of RVCT earlier than RVCT v4.0. After you have created a configuration file using --arm\_linux\_configure, you can modify an existing build by replacing the list of standard options and search paths with the --arm\_linux\_paths option. That is, --arm\_linux\_paths can replace:

- all of the default options listed for --arm\_linux
- Header paths.
- Library paths.
- Standard libraries.

### Restrictions

You must specify the location of the configuration file by using --arm\_linux\_config\_file=*filename*.

### Examples

---

Compile and link application code:

```
armcc --arm_linux_paths --arm_linux_config_file=my_config_file -o hello -O2 -Otime -g hello.c
```

Compile a source file source.c for use in a shared library:

```
armcc --arm_linux_paths --arm_linux_config_file=my_config_file --apcs=/fpic -c source.c
```

Link two object files, obj1 and obj2, into a shared library called my\_shared\_lib.so, using the compiler:

```
armcc --arm_linux_paths --arm_linux_config_file=my_config_file --shared -o my_shared_lib.so obj1.o obj2.o
```

---

### Related references

- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.
- [8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.
- [8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.
- [8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.
- [8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.
- [8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.
- [8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.
- [8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.
- [8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.
- [8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.
- [8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.
- [8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.

[8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)  
[8.76 `--execstack`, `--no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)  
[8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)  
[8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)  
[8.200 `-Warmcc`, `--gcc\_fallback` on page 8-550.](#)

#### **Related information**

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries linker option.](#)  
[--library=name linker option.](#)  
[--arm\\_linux linker option.](#)

## 8.12 --arm\_only

Enforces ARM-only code. The compiler behaves as if Thumb is absent from the target architecture.

The compiler propagates the --arm\_only option to the assembler and the linker.

### Default

For targets that support the ARM instruction set, the default is --arm. For targets that do not support the ARM instruction set, the default is --thumb.

### Examples

---

```
armcc --arm_only myprog.c
```

---

#### Note

If you specify `armcc --arm_only --thumb myprog.c`, this does *not* mean that the compiler checks your code to ensure that no Thumb code is present. It means that --thumb overrides --arm\_only, because of command-line ordering.

---

### Related references

[8.7 --arm on page 8-332.](#)

[8.179 --thumb on page 8-525.](#)

### Related information

[--16 assembler option.](#)

[--32 assembler option.](#)

[Order of options on the command line.](#)

## 8.13 --asm

Instructs the compiler to write a listing to a file of the disassembly of the machine code generated by the compiler.

Object code is generated when this option is selected. The link step is also performed, unless the -c option is chosen.

---

**Note**

To produce a disassembly of the machine code generated by the compiler, without generating object code, select -S instead of --asm.

---

### Usage

The action of --asm, and the full name of the disassembly file produced, depends on the combination of options used:

**Table 8-1 Compiling with the --asm option**

Compiler option	Action
--asm	Writes a listing to a file of the disassembly of the compiled source.  The link step is also performed, unless the -c option is used.  The disassembly is written to a text file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension .s.
--asm -c	As for --asm, except that the link step is not performed.
--asm --interleave	As for --asm, except that the source code is interleaved with the disassembly.  The disassembly is written to a text file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension .txt.
--asm --multifile	As for --asm, except that the compiler produces empty object files for the files merged into the main file.
--asm -o <i>filename</i>	As for --asm, except that the object file is named <i>filename</i> .  The disassembly is written to the file <i>filename.s</i> .  The name of the object file must not have the filename extension .s. If the filename extension of the object file is .s, the disassembly is written over the top of the object file.

### Related references

[8.21 -c on page 8-350.](#)

[8.110 --interleave on page 8-448.](#)

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile on page 8-474.](#)

[8.138 -o filename on page 8-478.](#)

[8.167 -S on page 8-510.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

## 8.14 --asm\_dir=directory\_name

Specifies a directory for disassembly output files created by the --asm and -S options.

### Default

If the --asm\_dir option is not used, disassembly output is placed in the directory specified by --output\_dir, or if --output\_dir is not specified, in the default location (for example, the current directory).

---

#### Note

The --asm\_dir option has no effect unless you also specify either the --asm or the -S options.

---

### Examples

---

```
armcc -c --output_dir=obj --asm f1.c f2.c --asm_dir=asm
```

Result:

```
asm/f1.s  
asm/f2.s  
obj/f1.o  
obj/f2.o
```

---

### Related references

- [8.13 --asm on page 8-341.](#)
- [8.51 --depend\\_dir=directory\\_name on page 8-385.](#)
- [8.119 --list\\_dir=directory\\_name on page 8-459.](#)
- [8.144 --output\\_dir=directory\\_name on page 8-487.](#)

## 8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no_autoinline`

Enables and disables automatic inlining of functions.

The compiler automatically inlines functions at the higher optimization levels where it is sensible to do so. The `-Ospace` and `-Otime` options, together with some other factors such as function size, influence how the compiler automatically inlines functions.

Selecting `-Otime`, in combination with various other factors, increases the likelihood that functions are inlined.

In general, when automatic inlining is enabled, the compiler inlines any function that is sensible to inline. When automatic inlining is disabled, only functions marked as `__inline` are candidates for inlining.

### Usage

Use these options to control the automatic inlining of functions at the highest optimization levels (`-O2` and `-O3`).

### Default

For optimization levels `-O0` and `-O1`, the default is `--no_autoinline`.

For optimization levels `-O2` and `-O3`, the default is `--autoinline`.

### Related concepts

[4.35 Default compiler options that are affected by optimization level](#) on page 4-150.

### Related references

[8.84 `--forceinline`](#) on page 8-419.

[8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline`](#) on page 8-445.

[8.139 `-Onum`](#) on page 8-480.

[8.142 `-Ospace`](#) on page 8-485.

[8.143 `-Otime`](#) on page 8-486.

## 8.16 --bigend

Generates code suitable for an ARM processor using big-endian memory.

The ARM architecture defines the following big-endian modes:

### **BE8**

Byte Invariant Addressing mode (ARMv6 and later).

### **BE32**

Legacy big-endian mode.

The selection of BE8 versus BE32 is specified at link time.

### **Default**

The compiler assumes `--littleend` unless `--bigend` is explicitly specified.

### **Related references**

[8.121 --littleend on page 8-461.](#)

### **Related information**

[--be8 linker option.](#)

[--be32 linker option.](#)



## 8.17 --bitband

Bit-bands all non const global structure objects. It enables a word of memory to be mapped to a single bit in the bit-band region. This enables efficient atomic access to single-bit values in SRAM and Peripheral regions of the memory architecture.

For peripherals that are width sensitive, byte, halfword, and word stores or loads to the alias space are generated for **char**, **short**, and **int** types of bitfields of bit-banded structs respectively.

### Restrictions

The following restrictions apply:

- This option only affects **struct** types. Any union type or other aggregate type with a union as a member cannot be bit-banded.
- Members of structs cannot be bit-banded individually.
- Bit-banded accesses are generated only for single-bit bitfields.
- Bit-banded accesses are not generated for **const** objects, pointers, and local objects.
- Bit-banding is only available on some processors. For example, the Cortex-M4 and Cortex-M3 processors.

### Examples

In this example, the writes to bitfields **i** and **k** are bit-banded when compiled using the **--bitband** command-line option.

```
typedef struct {  
    int i : 1;  
    int j : 2;  
    int k : 1;  
} BB;  
BB value;  
void update_value(void)  
{  
    value.i = 1;  
    value.k = 1;  
}
```

### Related concepts

[4.16 Compiler and processor support for bit-banding on page 4-129.](#)

## 8.18 --branch\_tables, --no\_branch\_tables

Controls whether the compiler places branch tables for switch statements in the code section or a separate data section.

The compiler uses several different techniques to generate code for switch statements. Some of these techniques create a table of branch offsets.

With the --branch\_tables option, the compiler places the branch offset table in the code section. In the following example, lines highlighted with \*\*\* contain these branch offsets:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
   Size   : 72 bytes (alignment 2)
   Address: 0x00000000

   $t
   .text
   f
       0x00000000: b510      ..    PUSH    {r4,lr}
       0x00000002: 2807      .(    CMP     r0,#7
       0x00000004: d21b      ..    BCS     {pc}+0x3a ; 0x3e
       0x00000006: e8dff000  ....    TBB     [pc,r0]

   $d
       0x0000000a: 0704      ..    DCW     1796
       0x0000000c: 1310d0a   ....    DCDU    319819018
       0x00000010: 0016      ..    DCW     22
                                     ***
   $t
       0x00000012: 2005      .    MOVS     r0,#5
       0x00000014: f7ffffffe  ....    BL      g
```

The --no\_branch\_tables option instructs the compiler to insert the branch offset table into a separate data section instead:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
   Size   : 72 bytes (alignment 4)
   Address: 0x00000000

   $t
   .text
   f
       0x00000000: b510      ..    PUSH    {r4,lr}
       0x00000002: 2807      .(    CMP     r0,#7
       0x00000004: d218      ..    BCS     {pc}+0x34 ; 0x38
       0x00000006: 4b0f      .K    LDR     r3,[pc,#60] ; [0x44] = 0
       0x00000008: e8d3f000  ....    TBB     [r3,r0]
       0x0000000c: 2005      .    MOVS     r0,#5
       0x0000000e: f7ffffffe  ....    BL      g
       ...

** Section #4 'c.f.00000006' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC]
   Size   : 7 bytes
   Address: 0x00000000

   0x000000: 00 03 06 09 0c 0f 12      .....
```

### Default

The default is --branch\_tables.

--execute\_only implies --no\_branch\_tables, unless --branch\_tables is explicitly specified.

#### ————— Note —————

Do not use --execute\_only in conjunction with --branch\_tables. If you do, then the compiler places the branch offset table in an unreadable, execute-only code region.

### Related concepts

[4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.](#)

### Related references

[8.108 --integer\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_integer\\_literal\\_pools on page 8-446.](#)

8.177 `--string_literal_pools`, `--no_string_literal_pools` on page 8-522.  
8.82 `--float_literal_pools`, `--no_float_literal_pools` on page 8-417.  
8.77 `--execute_only` on page 8-412.

## 8.19 `--brief_diagnostics`, `--no_brief_diagnostics`

Enables and disables the output of brief diagnostic messages.

When enabled, the original source line is not displayed, and error message text is not wrapped if it is too long to fit on a single line.

### Default

The default is `--no_brief_diagnostics`.

### Examples

```
/* main.c */
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("Hello, world\n"); // Intentional quotation mark error
    return 0;
}
```

Compiling this code with `--brief_diagnostics` produces:

```
"main.c", line 5: Error: #18: expected a ")"
"main.c", line 5: Error: #7: unrecognized token
"main.c", line 5: Error: #8: missing closing quote
"main.c", line 6: Error: #65: expected a ";"
```

### Related references

- [8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)
- [8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)
- [8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)
- [8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)
- [8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)
- [8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)
- [8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)
- [8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)
- [8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)
- [8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)
- [10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)
- [10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)
- [10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)
- [8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)
- [6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 8.20 --bss\_threshold=num

Controls the placement of small global ZI data items in sections. A small global ZI data item is an uninitialized data item that is eight bytes or less in size.

### Syntax

--bss\_threshold=num

Where:

*num*

is either:

0

place small global ZI data items in ZI data sections

8

place small global ZI data items in RW data sections.

### Usage

In RVCT 2.1 and later, the compiler might place small global ZI data items in RW data sections as an optimization. In RVCT 2.0.1 and earlier, small global ZI data items were placed in ZI data sections by default.

Use --bss\_threshold=0 to emulate the behavior of RVCT 2.0.1 and earlier with respect to the placement of small global ZI data items in ZI data sections.

---

#### Note

Selecting the option --bss\_threshold=0 instructs the compiler to place all small global ZI data items in the current compilation module in a ZI data section. To place specific variables in:

- A ZI data section, use `__attribute__((zero_init))`.
  - A specific ZI data section, use a combination of `__attribute__((section("name")))` and `__attribute__((zero_init))`.
- 

### Default

If you do not specify a --bss\_threshold option, the compiler assumes --bss\_threshold=8.

If you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use --translate\_gcc or --translate\_g++, the compiler assumes --bss\_threshold=0.

### Examples

---

```
int glob1;      /* ZI (.bss) in RVCT 2.0.1 and earlier */
                /* RW (.data) in RVCT 2.1 and later */
```

---

Compiling this code with --bss\_threshold=0 places glob1 in a ZI data section.

---

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.

[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.

[10.77 #pragma arm section \[section\\_type\\_list\]](#) on page 10-689.

[10.67 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-679.

[10.73 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(zero\\_init\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-685.

## 8.21 -c

Instructs the compiler to perform the compilation step, but not the link step.

---

**Note**

This option is different from the uppercase -C option.

---

### Usage

ARM recommends using the -c option in projects with more than one source file.

### Related references

[8.13 --asm](#) on page 8-341.

[8.118 --list](#) on page 8-457.

[8.138 -o filename](#) on page 8-478.

[8.167 -S](#) on page 8-510.

## 8.22 -C

Instructs the compiler to retain comments in preprocessor output.

Choosing this option implicitly selects the option -E.

———— **Note** —————

This option is different from the lowercase -c option.

---

### Related references

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

## 8.23 --c90

Enables the compilation of C90 source code.

It enforces C only, and C++ syntax is not accepted.

### Usage

This option can also be combined with other source language command-line options. For example,  
`armcc --c90 --gnu.`

To ensure conformance with ISO/IEC 9899:1990, the 1990 International Standard for C and ISO/IEC 9899 AM1, the 1995 Normative Addendum 1, you must also use the `--strict` option.

### Default

This option is implicitly selected for files having a suffix of `.c`, `.ac`, or `.tc`.

---

#### Note

If you are migrating from RVCT, be aware that filename extensions `.ac` and `.tc` are deprecated in ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.

---

### Related references

[8.24 --c99 on page 8-353.](#)

[8.92 --gnu on page 8-430.](#)

[8.37 --cpp on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict on page 8-519.](#)

[8.38 --cpp11 on page 8-368.](#)

[8.39 --cpp\\_compat on page 8-369.](#)

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)



## 8.24 --c99

Enables the compilation of C99 source code.

It enforces C only, and C++ syntax is not accepted.

### Usage

This option can also be combined with other source language command-line options. For example,  
`armcc --c99 --gnu.`

To ensure conformance with the ISO/IEC 9899:1999, the 1999 International Standard for C, you must also use the `--strict` option.

### Default

For files having a suffix of `.c`, `.ac`, or `.tc`, `--c99` applies by default.

### Related references

[8.23 --c90 on page 8-352.](#)

[8.92 --gnu on page 8-430.](#)

[8.37 --cpp on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict on page 8-519.](#)

[8.38 --cpp11 on page 8-368.](#)

[8.39 --cpp\\_compat on page 8-369.](#)

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

## 8.25 `--code_gen`, `--no_code_gen`

Enables and disables the generation of object code.

When generation of object code is disabled, the compiler performs error checking only, without creating an object file.

### Default

The default is `--code_gen`.

## 8.26 --compatible=name

Generates code that is compatible with multiple target architectures or processors.

### Syntax

```
--compatible=name
```

Where:

*name*

is the name of a target processor or architecture, or None.

Processor and architecture names are not case-sensitive.

Specifying None generates code only for the processor or architecture specified by --cpu.

If multiple instances of this option are present on the command line, the last one specified overrides the previous instances. Specify --compatible=None at the end of the command line to turn off all other instances of the option.

### Default

The default is None.

### Usage

Using this option avoids having to recompile the same source code for different targets.

See the following table. The valid combinations are:

- --cpu=CPU\_from\_group1 --compatible=CPU\_from\_group2.
- --cpu=CPU\_from\_group2 --compatible=CPU\_from\_group1.

**Table 8-2 Compatible processor or architecture combinations**

Group 1	ARM7TDMI, 4T
Group 2	Cortex-M0, Cortex-M1, Cortex-M3, Cortex-M4, 7-M, 6-M, 6S-M, SC300, SC000

No other combinations are permitted.

The effect is to generate code that is compatible with both --cpu and --compatible. This means that only 16-bit Thumb instructions are used. (This is the intersection of the capabilities of group 1 and group 2.)

---

#### Note

Although the generated code is compatible with multiple targets, this code might be less efficient than compiling for a single target processor or architecture.

---

### Examples

This example generates code that is compatible with both the ARM7TDMI processor and the Cortex-M4 processor.

```
armcc --cpu=arm7tdmi --compatible=cortex-m4 myprog.c
```

## Related references

[8.40 `--cpu=list` on page 8-371.](#)

[8.41 `--cpu=name` compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

## 8.27 `--compile_all_input`, `--no_compile_all_input`

Enables and disables the suppression of filename extension processing, enabling the compiler to compile files with any filename extensions.

When enabled, the compiler suppresses filename extension processing entirely, treating all input files as if they have the suffix `.c`.

### Default

The default is `--no_compile_all_input`.

### Related references

[8.117 `--link\_all\_input`, `--no\_link\_all\_input` on page 8-456.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

## 8.28 --conditionalize, --no\_conditionalize

Enables and disables the generation of conditional instructions, that is instructions with the condition code suffix.

--conditionalize enables the compiler to generate conditional instructions such as ADDEQ and LDRGE.

When you compile with --no\_conditionalize, the compiler does not generate conditional instructions such as ADDEQ and LDRGE. It generates conditional branch instructions such as BEQ and BLGE to execute conditional code. The only instructions that can be conditional are B, BL, BX, BLX, and BXJ.

### Default

The default is --conditionalize.

### Related information

*Conditional instructions.*

*Condition code suffixes.*

*Comparison of condition code meanings.*

## 8.29 --configure\_cpp\_headers=path

Specifies the path to the GNU libstdc++ STL header files, when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Syntax

`--configure_cpp_headers=path`

Where:

*path*

is the path to the GNU C++ STL header files.

### Usage

This option overrides any path that is automatically detected. It can be used as part of a manual approach to configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.

## 8.30 --configure\_extra\_includes=paths

Specifies any additional system include paths when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Syntax

`--configure_extra_includes=paths`

Where:

*paths*

is a comma separated list of pathnames denoting the locations of the additional system include paths.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.



## 8.31 --configure\_extra\_libraries=paths

Specifies any additional system library paths when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Syntax

`--configure_extra_libraries=paths`

Where:

*paths*

is a comma separated list of pathnames denoting the locations of the additional system library paths.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.

## 8.32 --configure\_gas=path

Specifies the location of the GNU assembler (gas), when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Usage

To optionally invoke `gas` rather than `armasm` when compiling source files ending in `.s` or `.S`, you can either:

- Specify `--configure_gas=path` when using `--arm_linux_configure`.
- Rely on the Linux configuration to query GCC for the path to the `gas` executable.

Specifying `--configure_gas=path` overrides the Linux configuration querying GCC for the path to the `gas` executable.

During translation, invoke `gas` by using `-Wasmcc, --use_gas`.

### Related references

[8.188 --use\\_gas on page 8-538.](#)

[8.199 -Wasmcc,option\[,option,...\] on page 8-549.](#)

## 8.33 --configure\_gcc=path

Specifies the location of the GCC driver, when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Syntax

`--configure_gcc=path`

Where:

*path*

is the path and filename of the GCC driver.

### Usage

Use this option if you want to override the default location of the GCC driver specified during configuration, or if the automatic configuration method of `--arm_linux_configure` fails to find the driver.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.  
[8.200 -Warmcc,--gcc\\_fallback](#) on page 8-550.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.

## 8.34 --configure\_gcc\_version=version

Overrides the GCC version when configuring for ARM Linux.

If you use this option to override the reported version when configuring against a GCC installation, the compiler gives a warning if the override version you specify is older than the version of the GCC installation.

### Syntax

`--configure_gcc_version=version`

Where:

*version*

is a GCC version number of the form *N*. [*N*]*N*. [*N*]*N*.

### Related references

- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.
- [8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.
- [8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.
- [8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.
- [8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.
- [8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.
- [8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.
- [8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.
- [8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.
- [8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.
- [8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.
- [8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.
- [8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.
- [8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.
- [8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.
- [8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

- [\*--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries\*](#) linker option.
- [\*--library=name\*](#) linker option.
- [\*--arm\\_linux\*](#) linker option.

## 8.35 --configure\_gld=path

Specifies the location of the GNU linker, ld.

### Syntax

`--configure_gld=path`

Where:

*path*

is the path and filename of the GNU linker.

### Usage

During configuration, the compiler attempts to determine the location of the GNU linker used by GCC. If the compiler is unable to determine the location, or if you want to override the normal path to the GNU linker, you can specify its location by using the `--configure_gld=path` option. The path is the full path and filename of the GNU ld binary.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries linker option.](#)  
[--library=name linker option.](#)  
[--arm\\_linux linker option.](#)

## 8.36 --configure\_sysroot=path

Specifies the system root path to use when configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux.

### Syntax

`--configure_sysroot=path`

Where *path* is the system root path to use.

### Usage

This option overrides any system root path that is automatically detected. It can be used as part of a manual approach to configuring the tools for use with ARM Linux if you want to use a different path to your normal system root path.

The system root path is the base path that libraries and header files are normally found from. On a standard Linux system, this is typically the root of the file system. In a cross compilation GNU toolchain, it is usually the parent directory of the GNU C library installation. This directory contains the `lib`, `usr/lib`, and `usr/include` subdirectories that hold the C libraries and header files.

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.169 --shared](#) on page 8-513.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries linker option.](#)  
[--library=name linker option.](#)  
[--arm\\_linux linker option.](#)

## 8.37 `--cpp`

Enables the compilation of C++03 source code.

### Usage

This option can also be combined with other source language command-line options. For example,  
`armcc --cpp --gnu`.

### Default

This option is implicitly selected for files having a suffix of `.cpp`, `.cxx`, `.c++`, `.cc`, or `.CC`.

### Related references

- [8.5 `--anachronisms`, `--no\_anachronisms` on page 8-326.](#)
- [8.23 `--c90` on page 8-352.](#)
- [8.24 `--c99` on page 8-353.](#)
- [8.92 `--gnu` on page 8-430.](#)
- [8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)
- [8.38 `--cpp11` on page 8-368.](#)
- [8.39 `--cpp\_compat` on page 8-369.](#)
- [1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)
- [2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

## 8.38 `--cpp11`

Enables the compilation of C++11 source code.

### Usage

This option can also be combined with other source language command-line options. For example, `armcc --cpp11 --gnu`.

When compiling C++11 code you must use the `--cpp11` command line option. The default source language mode when a C++ filename suffix is detected is C++03.

### Default

For files with a suffix of `.cpp`, `.cxx`, `.c++`, `.cc`, or `.CC`, `--cpp` applies by default.

### Related references

[8.23 `--c90` on page 8-352.](#)

[8.24 `--c99` on page 8-353.](#)

[8.92 `--gnu` on page 8-430.](#)

[8.37 `--cpp` on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)

[8.39 `--cpp\_compat` on page 8-369.](#)

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

[11.13 C++11 supported features on page 11-818.](#)



## 8.39 --cpp\_compat

Compiles C++ code to maximize binary compatibility.

### Usage

Use `--cpp11 --cpp_compat` to compile C++11 source code using a subset of features that maximizes compatibility with source code compiled with C++03.

Use `--cpp --cpp_compat` to compile C++03 source code maximizing binary compatibility with C++03 code compiled using older compiler versions.

The `--cpp11 --cpp_compat` options behave in the same way as `--cpp11` with the following restrictions:

- When the `--exceptions` option is selected, the array `new` operator with a length not known at compile time does not perform bounds checking. This means that `std::bad_alloc` is thrown if there is an error rather than `std::bad_array_new_length`.
- When the `--exceptions` option is selected, the delegating constructors language feature is disabled. Any use of delegating constructors when the `--cpp_compat` is selected results in an error message.

`armcc` passes the `--cpp_compat` option to `armlink` if it invokes `armlink` to perform a final link step.

You can combine the `--cpp_compat` option with other source language command-line options. For example:

- `armcc --cpp_compat --cpp11`
- `armcc --cpp_compat --cpp`
- `armcc --cpp_compat --cpp --gnu`

### Examples

When compiling with `--cpp11 --exceptions`, code can catch `std::bad_array_new_length`:

```
void variable_length_array_new(unsigned i) {
    bool exception_thrown = false;
    try {
        new int[i + 0x40000000];
    } catch (std::bad_array_new_length e)
    }
```

When compiling with `--cpp11 --cpp_compat --exceptions`, code can only catch `std::bad_alloc`:

```
void variable_length_array_new_cpp_compat(unsigned i) {
    bool exception_thrown = false;
    try {
        new int[i + 0x40000000];
    } catch (std::bad_alloc e)
    }
```

### Default

By default, the `--cpp_compat` option is not enabled.

For files with a suffix of `.cpp`, `.cxx`, `.c++`, `.cc`, or `.CC`, the `--cpp` option applies by default.

### Related references

[8.23 --c90 on page 8-352.](#)

[8.24 --c99 on page 8-353.](#)

[8.92 --gnu on page 8-430.](#)

[8.37 --cpp on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict on page 8-519.](#)

[8.38 --cpp11 on page 8-368.](#)

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

*2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.*  
*11.13 C++11 supported features on page 11-818.*

## 8.40 --cpu=list

Lists the architecture and processor names that are supported by the --cpu=name option.

### Syntax

--cpu=list

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option](#) on page 8-372.

[5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units \(FPUs\)](#) on page 5-222.

## 8.41 --cpu=name compiler option

Enables code generation for the selected ARM processor or architecture.

### Syntax

--cpu=*name*

Where *name* is the name of a processor or architecture:

- If *name* is the name of a processor, enter it as shown on ARM data sheets, for example, ARM7TDMI, ARM1176JZ-S, MPCore.
- If *name* is the name of an architecture, it must belong to the list of architectures shown in the following table.

Processor and architecture names are not case-sensitive.

Wildcard characters are not accepted.

**Table 8-3 Supported ARM architectures**

Architecture	Description	Example processors
4	ARMv4 without Thumb	SA-1100
4T	ARMv4 with Thumb	ARM7TDMI, ARM9TDMI, ARM720T, ARM740T, ARM920T, ARM922T, ARM940T, SC100
5T	ARMv5 with Thumb and interworking	-
5TE	ARMv5 with Thumb, interworking, DSP multiply, and double-word instructions	ARM9E, ARM946E-S, ARM966E-S
5TEJ	ARMv5 with Thumb, interworking, DSP multiply, double-word instructions, and Jazelle® extensions	ARM926EJ-S, ARM1026EJ-S, SC200
<p>———— <b>Note</b> ————</p> <p>armcc cannot generate Java bytecodes.</p>		
6	ARMv6 with Thumb, interworking, DSP multiply, double-word instructions, unaligned and mixed-endian support, Jazelle, and media extensions	ARM1136J-S, ARM1136JF-S
6-M	ARMv6 micro-controller profile with Thumb only, plus processor state instructions	Cortex-M1 without OS extensions, Cortex-M0, SC000, Cortex-M0plus
6S-M	ARMv6 micro-controller profile with Thumb only, plus processor state instructions and OS extensions	Cortex-M1 with OS extensions
6K	ARMv6 with SMP extensions	MPCore
6T2	ARMv6 with Thumb (Thumb-2 technology)	ARM1156T2-S, ARM1156T2F-S
6Z	ARMv6 with Security Extensions	ARM1176JZF-S, ARM1176JZ-S
7	ARMv7 with Thumb (Thumb-2 technology) only, and without hardware divide	-

**Table 8-3 Supported ARM architectures (continued)**

Architecture	Description	Example processors
7-A	ARMv7 application profile supporting virtual MMU-based memory systems, with ARM, Thumb (Thumb-2 technology) and ThumbEE, DSP support, and 32-bit SIMD support	Cortex-A5, Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A15, Cortex-A17
7-A.security	Enables the use of the SMC instruction (formerly SMI) when assembling for the v7-A architecture	Cortex-A5, Cortex-A7, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A15, Cortex-A17
7-R	ARMv7 real-time profile with ARM, Thumb (Thumb-2 technology), DSP support, and 32-bit SIMD support	Cortex-R4, Cortex-R4F, Cortex-R7
7-M	ARMv7 micro-controller profile with Thumb (Thumb-2 technology) only and hardware divide	Cortex-M3, SC300
7E-M	ARMv7-M enhanced with DSP (saturating and 32-bit SIMD) instructions	Cortex-M4, Cortex-M7

**Note**

- ARMv7 is not an actual ARM architecture. --cpu=7 denotes the features that are common to the ARMv7-A, ARMv7-R, and ARMv7-M architectures. By definition, any given feature used with --cpu=7 exists on the ARMv7-A, ARMv7-R, and ARMv7-M architectures.
- 7-A.security is not an actual ARM architecture, but rather, refers to 7-A plus Security Extensions.
- The full list of supported architectures and processors depends on your license.

## Default

armcc assumes --cpu=ARM7TDMI if you do not specify a --cpu option.

To obtain a full list of architectures and processors, use the --cpu=list option.

## Usage

The following general points apply to processor and architecture options:

### Processors

- Selecting the processor selects the appropriate architecture, *Floating-Point Unit* (FPU), and memory organization.
- The supported --cpu values include all current ARM product names or architecture versions.

Other ARM architecture-based processors, such as the Marvell Feroceon and the Marvell XScale, are also supported.

- If you specify a processor for the --cpu option, the generated code is optimized for that processor. This enables the compiler to use specific coprocessors or instruction scheduling for optimum performance.

### Architectures

- If you specify an architecture name for the --cpu option, the generated code can run on any processor supporting that architecture. For example, --cpu=5TE produces code that can be used by the ARM926EJ-S® processor.

## FPU

- Some specifications of --cpu imply an --fpu selection.

For example, when building with the --arm option, --cpu=ARM1136JF-S implies --fpu=vfpv2. Similarly, --cpu=Cortex-R4F implies --fpu=vfpv3\_d16.

### Note

Any explicit FPU, set with --fpu on the command line, overrides an implicit FPU.

- If no --fpu option is specified and no --cpu option is specified, --fpu=softvfp is used.

## ARM/Thumb

- Specifying a processor or architecture that supports Thumb instructions, such as --cpu=ARM7TDMI, does not make the compiler generate Thumb code. It only enables features of the processor to be used, such as long multiply. Use the --thumb option to generate Thumb code, unless the processor is a Thumb-only processor, for example Cortex-M4. In this case, --thumb is not required.

### Note

Specifying the target processor or architecture might make the generated object code incompatible with other ARM processors. For example, code generated for architecture ARMv6 might not run on an ARM920T processor, if the generated object code includes instructions specific to ARMv6. Therefore, you must choose the lowest common denominator processor suited to your purpose.

- If you are building for mixed ARM/Thumb systems for processors that support ARMv4T or ARMv5T, then you must specify the interworking option --apcs=/interwork. By default, this is enabled for processors that support ARMv5T or above.
- If you build for Thumb, that is with the --thumb option on the command line, the compiler generates as much of the code as possible using the Thumb instruction set. However, the compiler might generate ARM code for some parts of the compilation. For example, if you are generating code for a 16-bit Thumb processor and using VFP, any function containing floating-point operations is compiled for ARM.
- If the architecture only supports Thumb, you do not have to specify --thumb on the command line. For example, if building for ARMv7-M with --cpu=7-M, you do not have to specify --thumb on the command line, because ARMv7-M only supports Thumb. Similarly, ARMv6-M and other Thumb-only architectures.

## Restrictions

You cannot specify both a processor and an architecture on the same command-line.

## Related references

[8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.](#)

[8.40 --cpu=list on page 8-371.](#)

[8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

[8.179 --thumb on page 8-525.](#)

[10.14 \\_\\_smc on page 10-622.](#)

## Related information

[SMC.](#)

## 8.42 --create\_pch=filename

Instructs the compiler to create a *Precompiled Header* (PCH) file with the specified filename.

---

**Note**

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

This option takes precedence over all other PCH options.

### Syntax

--create\_pch=filename

Where:

*filename*

is the name of the PCH file to be created.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-137.

### Related references

[8.147 --pch](#) on page 8-490.

[8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir](#) on page 8-491.

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages](#) on page 8-492.

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose](#) on page 8-493.

[8.189 --use\\_pch=filename](#) on page 8-539.

[10.85 #pragma hdrstop](#) on page 10-698.

[10.90 #pragma no\\_pch](#) on page 10-703.

## 8.43 -Dname[(parm-list)][=def]

Defines the macro *name*.

### Syntax

`-Dname[(parm-list)][=def]`

Where:

*name*

Is the name of the macro to be defined.

*parm-list*

Is an optional list of comma-separated macro parameters. By appending a macro parameter list to the macro name, you can define function-style macros.

The parameter list must be enclosed in parentheses. When specifying multiple parameters, do not include spaces between commas and parameter names in the list.

#### ———— **Note** ————

Parentheses might require escaping on UNIX systems.

*=def*

Is an optional macro definition.

If *=def* is omitted, the compiler defines *name* as the value 1.

To include characters recognized as tokens on the command line, enclose the macro definition in double quotes.

### Usage

Specifying a macro and a definition with `-Dmacro=def` has the same effect as placing the text `#define macro def` at the head of each source file.

Specifying a macro without a definition with `-Dmacro` has the same effect as placing the text `#define macro 1` at the head of each source file.

### Restrictions

The compiler defines and undefines macros in the following order:

1. Compiler predefined macros.
2. Macros defined explicitly, using `-Dname`.
3. Macros explicitly undefined, using `-Uname`.

### Examples

Specifying the option:

```
-DMAX(X,Y)="(X > Y) ? X : Y"
```

on the command line is equivalent to defining the macro:

```
#define MAX(X, Y) ((X > Y) ? X : Y)
```

at the head of each source file.



## Related references

[8.22 -C on page 8-351.](#)

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

[8.185 -Uname on page 8-534.](#)

[10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)

## 8.44 `--data_reorder`, `--no_data_reorder`

Enables and disables automatic reordering of top-level data items, for example global variables.

The compiler can save memory by eliminating wasted space between data items. However, `--data_reorder` can break legacy code, if the code makes invalid assumptions about ordering of data by the compiler.

The ISO C Standard does not guarantee data order, so you must try to avoid writing code that depends on any assumed ordering. If you require data ordering, place the data items into a structure.

### Default

The default is optimization-level dependent:

`-O0`:  
    `--no_data_reorder`  
`-O1`, `-O2`, `-O3`:  
    `--data_reorder`

### Related concepts

[4.35 Default compiler options that are affected by optimization level](#) on page 4-150.

### Related references

[8.139 `-Onum`](#) on page 8-480.

## 8.45 `--debug`, `--no_debug`

Enables and disables the generation of debug tables.

The compiler produces the same code regardless of whether `--debug` is used. The only difference is the existence of debug tables.

### Default

The default is `--no_debug`.

Using `--debug` does not affect optimization settings. By default, using the `--debug` option alone is equivalent to:

```
--debug --dwarf3 --debug_macros
```

### Related references

[8.46 `--debug\_macros`, `--no\_debug\_macros` on page 8-380.](#)

[8.67 `--dwarf2` on page 8-402.](#)

[8.68 `--dwarf3` on page 8-403.](#)

[8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)

## 8.46 `--debug_macros`, `--no_debug_macros`

Enables and disables the generation of debug table entries for preprocessor macro definitions.

### Usage

Using `--no_debug_macros` might reduce the size of the debug image.

This option must be used with the `--debug` option.

### Default

The default is `--debug_macros`.

### Related references

[8.45 `--debug`, `--no\_debug` on page 8-379.](#)

[8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)

## 8.47 `--default_definition_visibility=visibility`

Controls the default ELF symbol visibility of **extern** variable and function definitions.

### Syntax

`--default_definition_visibility=visibility`

Where:

*visibility*

is default, hidden, internal, or protected.

### Usage

Use `--default_definition_visibility=visibility` to force the compiler to use the specified ELF symbol visibility for all **extern** variables and functions defined in the source file, if they do not use `__declspec(dll*)` or `__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))`. Unlike `--hide_all`, `--no_hide_all`, this does not affect extern references.

### Default

By default, `--default_definition_visibility=hidden`.

### Related references

[8.98 `--hide\_all`, `--no\_hide\_all` on page 8-436.](#)

[10.52 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` function attribute on page 10-664.](#)

[10.70 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-682.](#)

### Related information

*Symbol visibility for BPABI models.*

## 8.48 --default\_extension=ext

Changes the filename extension for object files from the default extension (.o) to an extension of your choice.

### Syntax

```
--default_extension=ext
```

Where:

*ext*  
is the filename extension of your choice.

### Default

By default, the filename extension for object files is .o.

### Examples

---

The following example creates an object file called `test.obj`, instead of `test.o`:

```
armcc --default_extension=obj -c test.c
```

---

#### **Note**

The `-o filename` option overrides this. For example, the following command results in an object file named `test.o`:

```
armcc --default_extension=obj -o test.o -c test.c
```

---

## 8.49 --dep\_name, --no\_dep\_name

Enables and disables dependent name processing in C++.

The C++ standard states that lookup of names in templates occurs:

- At the time the template is parsed, if the name is nondependent.
- At the time the template is parsed, or at the time the template is instantiated, if the name is dependent.

When the option `--no_dep_name` is selected, the lookup of dependent names in templates can occur only at the time the template is instantiated. That is, the lookup of dependent names at the time the template is parsed is disabled.

---

### Note

The option `--no_dep_name` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--dep_name`.

### Restrictions

The option `--dep_name` cannot be combined with the option `--no_parse_templates`, because parsing is done by default when dependent name processing is enabled.

### Errors

When the options `--dep_name` and `--no_parse_templates` are combined, the compiler generates an error.

### Related references

[8.146 --parse\\_templates, --no\\_parse\\_templates on page 8-489.](#)

[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)

## 8.50 --depend=filename

Writes makefile dependency lines to a file during compilation.

### Syntax

`--depend=filename`

Where:

*filename*

is the name of the dependency file to be output.

### Usage

If you specify multiple source files on the command line then the dependency file accumulates the dependency lines from each source file. The output file is suitable for use by a make utility. To change the output format to be compatible with UNIX make utilities, use the `--depend_format` option.

### Related references

[8.52 --depend\\_format=string](#) on page 8-386.

[8.51 --depend\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-385.

[8.54 --depend\\_system\\_headers, --no\\_depend\\_system\\_headers](#) on page 8-389.

[8.55 --depend\\_target=target](#) on page 8-390.

[8.53 --depend\\_single\\_line, --no\\_depend\\_single\\_line](#) on page 8-388.

[8.152 --phony\\_targets](#) on page 8-495.

[8.100 --ignore\\_missing\\_headers](#) on page 8-438.

[8.118 --list](#) on page 8-457.

[8.128 -M](#) on page 8-468.

[8.129 --md](#) on page 8-469.



## 8.51 --depend\_dir=directory\_name

Specifies the directory for dependency output files.

### Examples

---

```
armcc -c --output_dir=obj f1.c f2.c --depend_dir=depend
```

This command outputs the following files:

```
depend/f1.d  
depend/f2.d  
obj/f1.o  
obj/f2.o
```

If you specify a dependency file, --depend=deps, then the dependency file accumulates the dependency lines from each source file, for example:

```
armcc -c --output_dir=obj f1.c f2.c --depend_dir=depend --depend=deps
```

This command outputs the following files:

```
depend/deps.d  
obj/f1.o  
obj/f2.o
```

---

### Related references

- [8.50 --depend=filename](#) on page 8-384.
- [8.14 --asm\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-342.
- [8.119 --list\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-459.
- [8.144 --output\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-487.

## 8.52 --depend\_format=string

Specifies the format of output dependency files, for compatibility with some UNIX make programs.

### Syntax

--depend\_format=string

Where *string* is one of:

unix

generate dependency file entries using UNIX-style path separators.

unix\_escaped

is the same as unix, but escapes spaces with \.

unix\_quoted

is the same as unix, but surrounds path names with double quotes.

### Usage

unix

On Windows systems, --depend\_format=unix forces the use of UNIX-style path names. That is, the UNIX-style path separator symbol / is used in place of \.

On UNIX systems, --depend\_format=unix has no effect.

unix\_escaped

On Windows systems, --depend\_format=unix\_escaped forces UNIX-style path names, and escapes spaces with \.

On UNIX systems, --depend\_format=unix\_escaped with escapes spaces with \.

unix\_quoted

On Windows systems, --depend\_format=unix\_quoted forces UNIX-style path names and surrounds them with "".

On UNIX systems, --depend\_format=unix\_quoted surrounds path names with "".

### Default

If you do not specify a --depend\_format option, then the format of output dependency files depends on your choice of operating system:

#### Windows

On Windows systems, the default is to use either Windows-style paths or UNIX-style paths, whichever is given.

#### UNIX

On UNIX systems, the default is --depend\_format=unix.

### Examples

On a Windows system, compiling a file `main.c` containing the line:

```
#include "..\include\header files\common.h"
```

using the options `--depend=depend.txt --depend_format=unix_escaped` produces a dependency file `depend.txt` containing the entries:

```
main.axf: main.c
main.axf: ../include/header\ files\common.h
```

## Related references

- [8.50 `--depend=filename` on page 8-384.](#)
- [8.54 `--depend\_system\_headers`, `--no\_depend\_system\_headers` on page 8-389.](#)
- [8.55 `--depend\_target=target` on page 8-390.](#)
- [8.100 `--ignore\_missing\_headers` on page 8-438.](#)
- [8.128 `-M` on page 8-468.](#)
- [8.129 `--md` on page 8-469.](#)
- [8.152 `--phony\_targets` on page 8-495.](#)

## 8.53 `--depend_single_line`, `--no_depend_single_line`

Specifies the format of the makefile dependency lines output by the compiler.

`--depend_single_line` instructs the compiler to format the makefile with one dependency line for each compilation unit. The compiler wraps long lines to improve readability.

`--no_depend_single_line` instructs the compiler to format the makefile with one line for each include file or source file.

### Default

The default is `--no_depend_single_line`.

### Examples

```
/* hello.c */
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Compiling this code with `armcc hello.c -M --depend_single_line` produces:

```
__image.axf: hello.c ...\include\...\stdio.h
```

Compiling this code with `armcc hello.c -M --no_depend_single_line` produces:

```
__image.axf: hello.c
__image.axf: ...\include\...\stdio.h
```

### Related references

- [8.50 `--depend=filename` on page 8-384.](#)
- [8.52 `--depend\_format=string` on page 8-386.](#)
- [8.55 `--depend\_target=target` on page 8-390.](#)
- [8.100 `--ignore\_missing\_headers` on page 8-438.](#)
- [8.128 `-M` on page 8-468.](#)
- [8.129 `--md` on page 8-469.](#)
- [8.152 `--phony\_targets` on page 8-495.](#)

## 8.54 --depend\_system\_headers, --no\_depend\_system\_headers

Enables and disables the output of system include dependency lines when generating makefile dependency information using either the -M option or the -md option.

### Default

The default is --depend\_system\_headers.

### Examples

```
/* hello.c */
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("Hello, world!\n");
    return 0;
}
```

Compiling this code with the option -M produces:

```
__image.axf: hello.c
__image.axf: .../include/.../stdio.h
```

Compiling this code with the options -M --no\_depend\_system\_headers produces:

```
__image.axf: hello.c
```

### Related references

- [8.50 --depend=filename](#) on page 8-384.
- [8.52 --depend\\_format=string](#) on page 8-386.
- [8.55 --depend\\_target=target](#) on page 8-390.
- [8.100 --ignore\\_missing\\_headers](#) on page 8-438.
- [8.128 -M](#) on page 8-468.
- [8.129 --md](#) on page 8-469.
- [8.152 --phony\\_targets](#) on page 8-495.

## 8.55 `--depend_target=target`

Specifies the target for makefile dependency generation.

### Usage

Use this option to override the default target.

### Restriction

This option is analogous to `-MT` in GCC. However, behavior differs when specifying multiple targets. For example, `gcc -M -MT target1 -MT target2 file.c` might give a result of `target1 target2: file.c header.h`, whereas `--depend_target=target1 --depend_target=target2` treats `target2` as the target.

### Related references

[8.50 `--depend=filename` on page 8-384.](#)

[8.52 `--depend\_format=string` on page 8-386.](#)

[8.54 `--depend\_system\_headers`, `--no\_depend\_system\_headers` on page 8-389.](#)

[8.100 `--ignore\_missing\_headers` on page 8-438.](#)

[8.128 `-M` on page 8-468.](#)

[8.129 `--md` on page 8-469.](#)

[8.152 `--phony\_targets` on page 8-495.](#)

## 8.56 --device=name

Compiles code for a specific microcontroller or System-on-Chip (SoC) device.

---

**Note**

This option is deprecated.

---

### Syntax

--device=*name*

Where:

*name*

is the name of a target microcontroller or SoC device.

### Usage

When you specify a particular device name, the device inherits the default endianness and floating-point architecture from the corresponding processor. You can use the --bi, --li, and --fpu options to alter the default settings for endianness and target floating-point architecture.

### Related references

[8.16 --bigend on page 8-344.](#)

[8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

[8.121 --littleend on page 8-461.](#)

## 8.57 `--diag_error=tag[,tag,...]`

Sets diagnostic messages that have a specific tag to Error severity.

---

**Note**

This option has the `#pragma` equivalent `#pragma diag_error`.

---

### Syntax

`--diag_error=tag[,tag,...]`

Where *tag* can be:

- A diagnostic message number to set to error severity.
- `warning`, to treat all warnings as errors.

### Usage

The severity of the following types of diagnostic messages can be changed:

- Messages with the number format `#nnnn-D`.
- Warning messages with the number format `Cnnnnw`.

### Related references

[8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)  
[8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)  
[8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)  
[8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)  
[8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)  
[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)  
[8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)  
[8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)  
[8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)  
[8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)  
[10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)  
[10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)  
[10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)  
[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)  
[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)



## 8.58 `--diag_remark=tag[,tag,...]`

Sets diagnostic messages that have a specific tag to Remark severity.

The `--diag_remark` option behaves analogously to `--diag_error`, except that the compiler sets the diagnostic messages having the specified tags to Remark severity rather than Error severity.

---

———— **Note** —————

Remarks are not displayed by default. Use the `--remarks` option to display these messages.

---

———— **Note** —————

This option has the `#pragma` equivalent `#pragma diag_remark`.

---

### Syntax

`--diag_remark=tag[,tag,...]`

Where *tag* is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers.

### Related references

[8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)  
[8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)  
[8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)  
[8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)  
[8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)  
[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)  
[8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)  
[8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)  
[8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)  
[8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)  
[10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)  
[10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)  
[10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)  
[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)  
[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 8.59 `--diag_style=arm|ide|gnu` compiler option

Specifies the display style for diagnostic messages.

### Syntax

`--diag_style=string`

Where *string* is one of:

**arm**

Display messages using the ARM compiler style.

**ide**

Include the line number and character count for any line that is in error. These values are displayed in parentheses.

**gnu**

Display messages in the format used by `gcc`.

### Default

The default is `--diag_style=arm`.

### Usage

`--diag_style=gnu` matches the format reported by the GNU Compiler, `gcc`.

`--diag_style=ide` matches the format reported by Microsoft Visual Studio.

Choosing the option `--diag_style=ide` implicitly selects the option `--brief_diagnostics`. Explicitly selecting `--no_brief_diagnostics` on the command line overrides the selection of `--brief_diagnostics` implied by `--diag_style=ide`.

Selecting either the option `--diag_style=arm` or the option `--diag_style=gnu` does not imply any selection of `--brief_diagnostics`.

### Related references

[8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)

[8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)

[8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)

[8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)

[8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)

[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)

[8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)

[8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)

[8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)

[8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)

[10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)

[10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)

[10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)

[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 8.60 `--diag_suppress=tag[,tag,...]`

Suppresses diagnostic messages that have a specific tag.

Behaves analogously to `--diag_error`, except that the compiler suppresses the diagnostic messages having the specified tags rather than setting them to have Error severity.

---

**Note**

This option has the `#pragma` equivalent `#pragma diag_suppress`.

---

### Syntax

`--diag_suppress=tag[, tag,...]`

Where *tag* can be:

- A diagnostic message number to be suppressed.
- `error`, to suppress all errors that can be downgraded.
- `warning`, to suppress all warnings.

### Related references

[8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)

[8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)

[8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)

[8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)

[8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)

[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)

[8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)

[8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)

[8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)

[8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)

[10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)

[10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)

[10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)

[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 8.61 `--diag_suppress=optimizations`

Suppresses diagnostic messages for high-level optimizations.

### Default

By default, optimization messages have Remark severity. Specifying `--diag_suppress=optimizations` suppresses optimization messages.

---

#### Note

Use the `--remarks` option to see optimization messages having Remark severity.

---

### Usage

The compiler performs certain high-level vector and scalar optimizations when compiling at the optimization level `-O3 -Otime`, for example, loop unrolling. Use this option to suppress diagnostic messages relating to these high-level optimizations.

### Examples

```
int factorial(int n)
{
    int result=1;
    while (n > 0)
        result *= n--;
    return result;
}
```

Compiling this code with the options `-O3 -Otime --remarks --diag_suppress=optimizations` suppresses optimization messages.

### Related references

[8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)  
[8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)  
[8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)  
[8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)  
[8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)  
[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)  
[8.205 `--wrap\_diagnostics`, `--no\_wrap\_diagnostics` on page 8-555.](#)  
[8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)  
[8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)  
[8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)  
[10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)  
[10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)  
[10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)  
[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)  
[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 8.62 --diag\_warning=tag[,tag,...]

Sets diagnostic messages that have a specific tag to Warning severity.

The --diag\_warning option behaves analogously to --diag\_error, except that the compiler sets the diagnostic messages having the specified tags to warning severity rather than error severity.

---

**Note**

This option has the #pragma equivalent #pragma diag\_warning.

---

### Syntax

--diag\_warning=tag[, tag,...]

Where *tag* can be:

- A diagnostic message number to set to warning severity.
- error, to set all errors that can be downgraded to warnings.

### Examples

---

--diag\_warning=A1234,error causes message A1234 and all downgradable errors to be treated as warnings, providing changing the severity of A1234 is permitted.

---

### Related references

[8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.  
[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.  
[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.  
[8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.  
[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.  
[8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.  
[8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.  
[8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.  
[8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.  
[8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.  
[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.  
[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.  
[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.  
[8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.  
[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 8.63 --diag\_warning=optimizations

Sets high-level optimization diagnostic messages to have Warning severity.

### Default

By default, optimization messages have Remark severity.

### Usage

The compiler performs certain high-level vector and scalar optimizations when compiling at the optimization level -O3 -Otime, for example, loop unrolling. Use this option to display diagnostic messages relating to these high-level optimizations.

### Examples

---

```
int factorial(int n)
{
    int result=1;
    while (n > 0)
        result *= n--;
    return result;
}
```

Compiling this code with the options

--vectorize --cpu=Cortex-A8 -O3 -Otime --diag\_warning=optimizations generates optimization warning messages.

---

### Related references

[8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.  
[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.  
[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.  
[8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.  
[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.  
[8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.  
[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.  
[8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.  
[8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.  
[8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.  
[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.  
[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.  
[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.  
[8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.  
[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 8.64 `--dllexport_all`, `--no_dllexport_all`

Controls symbol visibility when building DLLs.

### Default

The default is `--no_dllexport_all`.

### Usage

Use the option `--dllexport_all` to mark all extern definitions as `__declspec(dllexport)`.

### Related references

[8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier` on page 8-327.](#)

[10.23 `\_\_declspec\(dllexport\)` on page 10-632.](#)

## 8.65 `--dllimport_runtime`, `--no_dllimport_runtime`

Controls symbol visibility when using the runtime library as a shared library.

### Default

The default is `--no_dllimport_runtime`.

### Usage

Use the option `--dllimport_runtime` to mark all implicit references as `__declspec(dllimport)`. Implicit references are references that are not in user source code but are nonetheless used by the compiler. Implicit references include:

- Library-resident compiler helper functions. For example, helper functions for software floating-point support.
- *RunTime Type Information* (RTTI) found in the C++ runtime libraries.
- Any optimized implementation of a user-specified function, for example, `printf()`, providing that the non-optimized user-specified version of the function that the optimized implementation is based on, is marked as `__declspec(dllimport)`. Header files describing which library functions are exported from DLLs are usually provided with the platform DLL version of the C library.

### Related references

[8.96 `--guiding\_decls`, `--no\_guiding\_decls` on page 8-434.](#)

[8.165 `--rtti`, `--no\_rtti` on page 8-508.](#)

[10.24 `\_\_declspec\(dllimport\)` on page 10-634.](#)



## 8.66 --dollar, --no\_dollar

Enables and disables the use of dollar signs, \$, in identifiers.

### Default

If the options `--strict` or `--strict_warnings` are specified, the default is `--no_dollar`. Otherwise, the default is `--dollar`.

### Related references

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict](#) on page 8-519.

[9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers](#) on page 9-576.

[8.176 --strict\\_warnings](#) on page 8-521.

## 8.67 --dwarf2

Uses DWARF 2 debug table format.

### Default

The compiler assumes --dwarf3 unless --dwarf2 is explicitly specified.

### Related references

[8.68 --dwarf3 on page 8-403.](#)

## 8.68 --dwarf3

Uses DWARF 3 debug table format.

### Default

The compiler assumes --dwarf3 unless --dwarf2 is explicitly specified.

### Related references

[8.67 --dwarf2 on page 8-402.](#)

## 8.69 -E

Executes the preprocessor step only.

By default, output from the preprocessor is sent to the standard output stream and can be redirected to a file using standard UNIX and MS-DOS notation.

You can also use the `-o` option to specify a file for the preprocessed output. By default, comments are stripped from the output. The preprocessor accepts source files with any extension, for example, `.o`, `.s`, and `.txt`.

To generate interleaved macro definitions and preprocessor output, use `-E --list_macros`.

---

### Note

C++ implicit inclusion does not take place when using the `armcc -E` preprocessor. Normally, compilation expands all explicit `#include` header files. In addition, some C++ files such as `.cc` files are added implicitly. However, using `-E` prevents implicit inclusion of these files. Therefore, if template entities are defined in a `.cc` file, `armcc -E` fails to include such definitions.

---

### Examples

---

```
armcc -E source.c > raw.c
```

---

### Related references

[8.22 -C](#) on page 8-351.

[8.120 --list\\_macros](#) on page 8-460.

[8.129 --md](#) on page 8-469.

[8.138 -o filename](#) on page 8-478.

[8.141 --old\\_style\\_preprocessing](#) on page 8-484.

[8.145 -P](#) on page 8-488.

### Related information

[Why does armcc -E preprocessing result in linker undefined symbol error?.](#)

## 8.70 --echo

Displays the complete expanded command line, and any separate commands that invoke other external applications, such as `armasm` or `armlink`.

This command is useful when specifying options that cause multiple command invocations, such as GCC fallback.

### Usage

If you use `--echo` when performing GCC fallback, you must specify it using `-Wasmcc,-echo`.

### Examples

---

To compile and link:

```
armcc --echo foo.c -o foo.axf
[armcc --echo -ofoo.axf foo.c]
[armlink -o foo.axf foo.o --fpu=SoftVFP --li]
```

To compile only:

```
armcc -c --echo foo.c -o foo.axf
[armcc --echo -c -ofoo.axf foo.c]
```

---

### Related references

[8.199 -Wasmcc,option\[,option,...\]](#) on page 8-549.

[8.200 -Wasmcc,--gcc\\_fallback](#) on page 8-550.

## 8.71 `--emit_frame_directives`, `--no_emit_frame_directives`

Places DWARF FRAME directives into disassembly output.

### Default

The default is `--no_emit_frame_directives`.

### Examples

---

```
armcc --asm --emit_frame_directives foo.c
```

```
armcc -S emit_frame_directives foo.c
```

---

### Related references

[8.13 `--asm` on page 8-341.](#)

[8.167 `-S` on page 8-510.](#)

### Related information

[Frame directives.](#)

## 8.72 `--enum_is_int`

Forces the size of all enumeration types to be at least four bytes.

———— **Note** ————

ARM does not recommend the `--enum_is_int` option for general use.

————

### Default

This option is switched off by default. The smallest data type that can hold the values of all enumerators is used. However, if you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line, `--enum_is_int` is switched on by default.

### Related references

[8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)

[8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)

[8.109 `--interface\_enums\_are\_32\_bit` on page 8-447.](#)

[11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++ on page 11-804.](#)

## 8.73 --errors=filename

Redirects the output of diagnostic messages from stderr to the specified errors file.

### Syntax

`--errors=filename`

Where:

*filename*

is the name of the file to which errors are to be redirected.

Diagnostics that relate to problems with the command options are not redirected, for example, if you type an option name incorrectly. However, if you specify an invalid argument to an option, for example

`--cpu=999`, the related diagnostic is redirected to the specified *filename*.

### Usage

This option is useful on systems where output redirection of files is not well supported.

### Related references

[8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.

[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.

[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.

[8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

[8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

[8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.

[8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.

[8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.

[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.

[8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.



## 8.74 `--exceptions`, `--no_exceptions`

Enables and disables exception handling.

In C++, the `--exceptions` option enables the use of `throw` and `try/catch`, causes function exception specifications to be respected, and causes the compiler to emit unwinding tables to support exception propagation at runtime.

In C++, when the `--no_exceptions` option is specified, `throw` and `try/catch` are not permitted in source code. However, function exception specifications are still parsed, but most of their meaning is ignored.

In C, the behavior of code compiled with `--no_exceptions` is undefined if an exception is thrown through the compiled functions. You must use `--exceptions`, if you want exceptions to propagate correctly through C functions.

### Default

The default is `--no_exceptions`. However, if you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_g++`, the default changes to `--exceptions`.

### Related references

[8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)

[8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)

[11.11 C++ exception handling in ARM C++ on page 11-816.](#)

[8.75 `--exceptions\_unwind`, `--no\_exceptions\_unwind` on page 8-410.](#)

[10.83 `#pragma exceptions\_unwind`, `#pragma no\_exceptions\_unwind` on page 10-696.](#)

## 8.75 `--exceptions_unwind`, `--no_exceptions_unwind`

Enables and disables function unwinding for exception-aware code. This option is only effective if `--exceptions` is enabled.

When you use `--no_exceptions_unwind` and `--exceptions` then no exception can propagate through the compiled functions. `std::terminate` is called instead.

### Default

The default is `--exceptions_unwind`.

### Related references

[11.11 C++ exception handling in ARM C++](#) on page 11-816.

[8.74 `--exceptions`, `--no\_exceptions`](#) on page 8-409.

[10.83 `#pragma exceptions\_unwind`, `#pragma no\_exceptions\_unwind`](#) on page 10-696.

## 8.76 `--execstack`, `--no_execstack`

Generates a `.note.GNU-stack` section marking the stack as either executable or non-executable.

If neither of these options are used, the note section is not generated.

`--arm_linux` implies `--no_execstack`, unless `--execstack` is explicitly specified.

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)
- [8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)
- [8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)

## 8.77 --execute\_only

Generates execute-only code by adding the EXEONLY attribute to the AREA directive for all code sections, preventing the compiler from generating any data accesses to code sections.

To keep code and data in separate sections, the compiler disables literal pools and branch tables. That is, specifying --execute\_only implicitly specifies the following compiler options:

- --no\_integer\_literal\_pools.
- --no\_float\_literal\_pools.
- --no\_string\_literal\_pools.
- --no\_branch\_tables.

### Restrictions

Execute-only code must be Thumb code.

Execute-only code is only supported for:

- Processors that support the ARMv7-M architecture, such as Cortex-M3, Cortex-M4, and Cortex-M7.
- Processors that support the ARMv6-M architecture.

#### ———— Note ————

ARM has only performed limited testing of execute-only code on ARMv6-M targets.

If your application calls library functions, the library objects included in the image are not execute-only compliant. You must ensure these objects are not assigned to an execute-only memory region.

#### ———— Note ————

ARM does not provide libraries that are built without literal pools. The libraries still use literal pools, even when you use the various --no\_\*\_literal\_pools options.

### Related concepts

[4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.](#)

### Related references

[8.108 --integer\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_integer\\_literal\\_pools on page 8-446.](#)

[8.177 --string\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_string\\_literal\\_pools on page 8-522.](#)

[8.18 --branch\\_tables, --no\\_branch\\_tables on page 8-346.](#)

[8.82 --float\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_float\\_literal\\_pools on page 8-417.](#)

### Related information

[AREA \(assembler directive\).](#)

[Building applications for execute-only memory.](#)

## 8.78 `--export_all_vtbl`, `--no_export_all_vtbl`

Controls how dynamic symbols are exported in C++.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_export_all_vtbl`.

### Usage

Use the option `--export_all_vtbl` to export all virtual function tables and RTTI for classes with a key function. A *key function* is the first virtual function of a class, in declaration order, that is not inline, and is not pure virtual.

#### ———— **Note** ————

You can disable export for specific classes by using `__declspec(notshared)`.

### Related references

[8.105 `--import\_all\_vtbl` on page 8-443.](#)

[10.28 `\_\_declspec\(notshared\)` on page 10-638.](#)

## 8.79 `--export_defs_implicitly`, `--no_export_defs_implicitly`

Controls how dynamic symbols are exported.

### Default

The default is `--no_export_defs_implicitly`.

### Usage

Use the option `--export_defs_implicitly` to export definitions where the prototype is marked `__declspec(dllexport)`.

### Related references

[10.24 `\_\_declspec\(dllimport\)`](#) on page 10-634.

## 8.80 `--extended_initializers`, `--no_extended_initializers`

Enables and disables the use of extended constant initializers even when compiling with `--strict` or `--strict_warnings`.

When certain nonportable but widely supported constant initializers such as the cast of an address to an integral type are used, `--extended_initializers` causes the compiler to produce the same general warning concerning constant initializers that it normally produces in nonstrict mode, rather than specific errors stating that the expression must have a constant value or have arithmetic type.

### Default

The default is `--no_extended_initializers` when compiling with `--strict` or `--strict_warnings`.

The default is `--extended_initializers` when compiling in nonstrict mode.

### Related references

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)

[8.176 `--strict\_warnings` on page 8-521.](#)

[9.16 Constant expressions on page 9-573.](#)

## 8.81 --feedback=filename

Enables the linker to communicate with the compiler to eliminate unused functions.

### Syntax

--feedback=*filename*

Where:

*filename*

is the feedback file created by a previous execution of the ARM linker.

### Usage

You can perform multiple compilations using the same feedback file. The compiler places each unused function identified in the feedback file into its own ELF section in the corresponding object file.

The feedback file contains information about a previous build. Because of this:

- The feedback file might be out of date. That is, a function previously identified as being unused might be used in the current source code. The linker removes the code for an unused function only if it is not used in the current source code.

#### ————— Note —————

- For this reason, eliminating unused functions using linker feedback is a safe optimization, but there might be a small impact on code size.
  - The usage requirements for reducing compilation required for interworking are more strict than for eliminating unused functions. If you are reducing interworking compilation, it is critical that you keep your feedback file up to date with the source code that it was generated from.
- 
- You have to do a full compile and link at least twice to get the maximum benefit from linker feedback. However, a single compile and link using feedback from a previous build is usually sufficient.

### Related references

[8.174 --split\\_sections](#) on page 8-518.

[2.15 Linker feedback during compilation](#) on page 2-60.

### Related information

[--feedback\\_type=type](#) linker option.



## 8.82 `--float_literal_pools`, `--no_float_literal_pools`

Controls whether the compiler places floating-point and vector constants in literal pools.

With the `--float_literal_pools` option, where there are floating-point or vector constants in source code and hardware support is available, the compiler generates code that loads those constants from literal pools using VFP or NEON instructions:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size   : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
main
    0x00000000:    ed9f0a00    ....    VLDR    s0,[pc,#0] ; [0x8] = 0x42280000
    0x00000004:    eaffffff    ....    B      f
$d
    0x00000008:    42280000    ..(B    DCD    1109917696
```

With the `--no_float_literal_pools` option, the compiler generates code that loads these constants using core instruction set loads and reinterprets them as floats or vectors:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size   : 16 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
main
    0x00000000:    e59f0004    ....    LDR     r0,[pc,#4] ; [0xc] = 0x42280000
    0x00000004:    ee000a10    ....    VMOV    s0,r0
    0x00000008:    eaffffff    ....    B      f
$d
    0x0000000c:    42280000    ..(B    DCD    1109917696
```

If you also specify the `--no_integer_literal_pools` option, the compiler constructs these constants with sequences of MOVW and MOVT instructions.

This option also controls integer vectors.

### Default

The default is `--float_literal_pools`.

`--execute_only` implies `--no_float_literal_pools`, unless `--float_literal_pools` is explicitly specified.

#### --- Note ---

Do not use `--execute_only` in conjunction with `--float_literal_pools`. If you do, then the compiler places the literal pool in an unreadable, execute-only code region.

### Related concepts

[4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.](#)

### Related references

[8.108 `--integer\_literal\_pools`, `--no\_integer\_literal\_pools` on page 8-446.](#)

[8.177 `--string\_literal\_pools`, `--no\_string\_literal\_pools` on page 8-522.](#)

[8.18 `--branch\_tables`, `--no\_branch\_tables` on page 8-346.](#)

[8.77 `--execute\_only` on page 8-412.](#)

## 8.83 --force\_new\_nothrow, --no\_force\_new\_nothrow

Controls the behavior of new expressions in C++.

The C++ standard states that only a no throw operator new declared with throw() is permitted to return NULL on failure. Any other operator new is never permitted to return NULL and the default operator new throws an exception on failure.

If you use --force\_new\_nothrow, the compiler treats expressions such as new T(...args...), that use the global ::operator new or ::operator new[], as if they are new (std::nothrow) T(...args...).

--force\_new\_nothrow also causes any class-specific operator new or any overloaded global operator new to be treated as no throw.

---

### Note

The option --force\_new\_nothrow is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is --no\_force\_new\_nothrow.

### Examples

---

```
struct S
{
    void* operator new(std::size_t);
    void* operator new[](std::size_t);
};
void *operator new(std::size_t, int);
```

With the --force\_new\_nothrow option in effect, this is treated as:

```
struct S
{
    void* operator new(std::size_t) throw();
    void* operator new[](std::size_t) throw();
};
void *operator new(std::size_t, int) throw();
```

---

### Related references

[11.5 Using the ::operator new function in ARM C++ on page 11-809.](#)

## 8.84 `--forceinline`

Forces all inline functions to be treated as if they are qualified with `__forceinline`.

Inline functions are functions that are qualified with `inline` or `__inline`. In C++, inline functions are functions that are defined inside a struct, class, or union definition.

If you use `--forceinline`, the compiler always attempts to inline those functions, if possible. However, it does not inline a function if doing so causes problems. For example, a recursive function is inlined into itself only once.

`__forceinline` behaves like `__inline` except that the compiler tries harder to do the inlining.

### Related references

[8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline` on page 8-445.](#)

[10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)

[10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)

[10.32 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(always\_inline\)\)` function attribute on page 10-644.](#)

## 8.85 --fp16\_format=format

Enables the use of half-precision floating-point numbers as an optional extension to the VFPv3 architecture. If a format is not specified, use of the `__fp16` data type is faulted by the compiler.

### Syntax

`--fp16_format=format`

Where *format* is one of:

#### alternative

An alternative to `ieee` that provides additional range, but has no NaN or infinity values.

#### ieee

Half-precision binary floating-point format defined by IEEE 754r, a revision to the IEEE 754 standard.

#### none

This is the default setting. It is equivalent to not specifying a format and means that the compiler faults use of the `__fp16` data type.

### Restrictions

The following restrictions apply when you use the `__fp16` data type:

- When used in a C or C++ expression, an `__fp16` type is promoted to single precision. Subsequent promotion to double precision can occur if required by one of the operands.
- A single precision value can be converted to `__fp16`. A double precision value is converted to single precision and then to `__fp16`, that could involve double rounding. This reflects the lack of direct double-to-16-bit conversion in the ARM architecture.
- When using `fpmode=fast`, no floating-point exceptions are raised when converting to and from half-precision floating-point format.
- Function formal arguments cannot be of type `__fp16`. However, pointers to variables of type `__fp16` can be used as function formal argument types.
- `__fp16` values can be passed as actual function arguments. In this case, they are converted to single-precision values.
- `__fp16` cannot be specified as the return type of a function. However, a pointer to an `__fp16` type can be used as a return type.
- An `__fp16` value is converted to a single-precision or double-precision value when used as a return value for a function that returns a `float` or `double`.

### Related concepts

[5.47 Compiler and library support for half-precision floating-point numbers on page 5-214.](#)

### Related references

[8.86 --fpmode=model on page 8-421.](#)

[18.3 NEON intrinsics on page 18-933.](#)

## 8.86 --fpmode=model

Specifies floating-point standard conformance. This controls which floating-point optimizations the compiler can perform, and also influences library selection.

### Syntax

--fpmode=*model*

Where *model* is one of:

#### ieee\_full

All facilities, operations, and representations guaranteed by the IEEE standard are available in single and double-precision. Modes of operation can be selected dynamically at runtime.

This defines the symbols:

```
__FP_IEEE
__FP_FENV_EXCEPTIONS
__FP_FENV_ROUNDING
__FP_INEXACT_EXCEPTION
```

#### ieee\_fixed

IEEE standard with round-to-nearest and no inexact exceptions.

This defines the symbols:

```
__FP_IEEE
__FP_FENV_EXCEPTIONS
```

#### ieee\_no\_fenv

IEEE standard with round-to-nearest and no exceptions. This mode is stateless and is compatible with the Java floating-point arithmetic model.

This defines the symbol `__FP_IEEE`.

#### none

The compiler permits `--fpmode=none` as an alternative to `--fpu=none`, indicating that source code is not permitted to use floating-point types of any kind.

#### std

IEEE finite values with denormals flushed to zero, round-to-nearest, and no exceptions. This is compatible with standard C and C++ and is the default option.

Normal finite values are as predicted by the IEEE standard. However:

- NaNs and infinities might not be produced in all circumstances defined by the IEEE model. When they are produced, they might not have the same sign.
- The sign of zero might not be that predicted by the IEEE model.
- Using NaNs in arithmetic operations with `--fpmode=std` causes undefined behavior.

**fast**

Perform more aggressive floating-point optimizations that might cause a small loss of accuracy to provide a significant performance increase. This option defines the symbol `__FP_FAST`.

This option results in behavior that is not fully compliant with the ISO C or C++ standard. However, numerically robust floating-point programs are expected to behave correctly.

A number of transformations might be performed, including:

- Double-precision math functions might be converted to single precision equivalents if all floating-point arguments can be exactly represented as single precision values, and the result is immediately converted to a single-precision value.

This transformation is only performed when the selected library contains the single-precision equivalent functions, for example, when the selected library is `armcc` or `aeabi_glibc`.

For example:

```
float f(float a)
{
    return sqrt(a);
}
```

is transformed to

```
float f(float a)
{
    return sqrtf(a);
}
```

- Double-precision floating-point expressions that are narrowed to single-precision are evaluated in single-precision when it is beneficial to do so. For example, `float y = (float)(x + 1.0)` is evaluated as `float y = (float)x + 1.0f`.
- Division by a floating-point constant is replaced by multiplication with the inverse. For example, `x / 3.0` is evaluated as `x * (1.0 / 3.0)`.
- It is not guaranteed that the value of `errno` is compliant with the ISO C or C++ standard after math functions have been called. This enables the compiler to inline the VFP square root instructions in place of calls to `sqrt()` or `sqrtf()`.

Using a NaN with `--fpmode=fast` can produce undefined behavior.

---

**Note**


---

Initialization code might be required to enable the VFP.

---

**Default**

The default is `--fpmode=std`.

**Related concepts**

[5.45 Limitations on hardware handling of floating-point arithmetic on page 5-211.](#)

**Related references**

[8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.](#)

**Related information**

[ARM Application Note 133 - Using VFP with RVDS.](#)

## 8.87 `--fpu=list`

Lists the FPU architectures that are supported by the `--fpu=name` option.

Deprecated options are not listed.

### Related references

[8.88 `--fpu=name` compiler option](#) on page 8-424.

## 8.88 --fpu=name compiler option

Specifies the target FPU architecture.

If you specify this option, it overrides any implicit FPU option that appears on the command line, for example, where you use the --cpu option.

The compiler sets a build attribute corresponding to name in the object file. The linker determines compatibility between object files, and selection of libraries, accordingly.

To obtain a full list of FPU architectures use the --fpu=list option.

### Syntax

--fpu=name

Where *name* is one of:

vfp

This is a synonym for vfpv2.

vfpv2

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to architecture VFPv2.

#### ———— Note ————

If you enter `armcc --thumb --fpu=vfpv2` on the command line, the compiler compiles as much of the code using the Thumb instruction set as possible, but hard floating-point sensitive functions are compiled to ARM code. In this case, the value of the predefine `__thumb` is not correct.

vfpv3

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to architecture VFPv3. VFPv3 is backwards compatible with VFPv2 except that VFPv3 cannot trap floating-point exceptions.

vfpv3\_fp16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to architecture VFPv3 that also provides the half-precision extensions.

vfpv3\_d16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3-D16 architecture.

vfpv3\_d16\_fp16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3-D16 architecture, that also provides the half-precision extensions.

vfpv4

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to the VFPv4 architecture.

vfpv4\_d16

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to the VFPv4-D16 architecture.

fpv4-sp

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to the single precision variant of the FPv4 architecture.

softvfp

Selects software floating-point support where floating-point operations are performed by a floating-point library, `fp11b`. This is the default if you do not specify a --fpu option, or if you select a processor that does not have an FPU.



#### softvfp+vfpv2

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv2, with software floating-point linkage. Select this option if you are interworking Thumb code with ARM code on a system that implements a VFP unit.

If you select this option:

- Building with `--thumb` behaves in a similar way to `--fpu=softvfp` except that it links with floating-point libraries that use VFP instructions.
- Building with `--arm` behaves in a similar way to `--fpu=vfpv2` except that all functions are given software floating-point linkage. This means that functions pass and return floating-point arguments and results in the same way as `--fpu=softvfp`, but use VFP instructions internally.

---

#### Note

If you specify `softvfp+vfpv2` with the `--arm` or `--thumb` option for C code, it ensures that your interworking floating-point code is compiled to use software floating-point linkage.

---

#### softvfp+vfpv3

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+vfpv3\_fp16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3-fp16, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+vfpv3\_d16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3-D16, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+vfpv3\_d16\_fp16

Selects a hardware vector floating-point unit conforming to VFPv3-D16-fp16, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+vfpv4

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to FPv4, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+vfpv4\_d16

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to VFPv4-D16, with software floating-point linkage.

#### softvfp+fpv4-sp

Selects a hardware floating-point unit conforming to FPv4-SP, with software floating-point linkage.

## Usage

Any FPU explicitly selected using the `--fpu` option always overrides any FPU implicitly selected using the `--cpu` option. For example, the option `--cpu=ARM1136JF-S --fpu=softvfp` generates code that uses the software floating-point library `fp1lib`, even though the choice of processor implies the use of architecture VFPv2.

To control floating-point linkage without affecting the choice of FPU, you can use `--apcs=/softfp` or `--apcs=/hardfp`.

## Restrictions

The compiler only permits hardware VFP architectures (for example, `--fpu=vfpv3`, `--fpu=softvfp+vfpv2`), to be specified when MRRC and MCRR instructions are supported in the processor instruction set. MRRC and MCRR instructions are not supported in 4, 4T, 5T and 6-M. Therefore, the compiler does not allow the use of these architectures with hardware VFP architectures.

Other than this, the compiler does not check that `--cpu` and `--fpu` combinations are valid. Beyond the scope of the compiler, additional architectural constraints apply. For example, VFPv3 is not supported

with architectures prior to ARMv7. Therefore, the combination of `--fpu` and `--cpu` options permitted by the compiler does not necessarily translate to the actual device in use.

The compiler only generates scalar floating-point operations. If you want to use VFP vector operations, you must do this using assembly code.

NEON support is disabled for `softvfp`.

## Default

The default target FPU architecture is derived from the use of the `--cpu` option.

If the processor specified with `--cpu` has a VFP coprocessor, the default target FPU architecture is the VFP architecture for that processor. For example, the option `--cpu ARM1136JF-S` implies the option `--fpu vfpv2`. If a VFP coprocessor is present, VFP instructions are generated.

If you are building ARM Linux applications with `--arm_linux` or `--arm_linux_paths`, the default is always software floating-point linkage. Even if you specify a CPU that implies an FPU (for example, `--cpu=ARM1136JF-S`), the compiler still defaults to `--fpu=softvfp+vfp`, not `--fpu=vfp`.

If there is no VFP coprocessor, the compiler generates code that makes calls to the software floating-point library `fp11b` to carry out floating-point operations.

## Related concepts

[5.44 Vector Floating-Point \(VFP\) architectures on page 5-209.](#)

[5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage on page 5-216.](#)

## Related references

[8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier` on page 8-327.](#)

[8.7 `--arm` on page 8-332.](#)

[8.41 `--cpu=name compiler option` on page 8-372.](#)

[8.86 `--fpmode=model` on page 8-421.](#)

[8.179 `--thumb` on page 8-525.](#)

[10.15 `\_\_softfp` on page 10-623.](#)

## Related information

[MRC and MRC2.](#)

[ARM and Thumb floating-point build options \(ARMv6 and earlier\).](#)

[ARM and Thumb floating-point build options \(ARMv7 and later\).](#)

## 8.89 `--friend_injection`, `--no_friend_injection`

Controls the visibility of `friend` declarations in C++.

In C++, it controls whether or not the name of a class or function that is declared only in `friend` declarations is visible when using the normal lookup mechanisms.

When `friend` names are declared, they are visible to these lookups. When `friend` names are not declared as required by the standard, function names are visible only when using argument-dependent lookup, and class names are never visible.

---

### **Note**

---

The option `--friend_injection` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### **Mode**

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### **Default**

The default is `--no_friend_injection`.

### **Related references**

[9.27 `friend` on page 9-584](#).

## 8.90 -g

Enables the generation of debug tables.

The compiler produces the same code regardless of whether -g is used. The only difference is the existence of debug tables.

Using -g does not affect optimization settings.

### Default

By default, using the -g option alone is equivalent to:

```
-g --dwarf3 --debug_macros
```

### Related references

[8.45 --debug, --no\\_debug](#) on page 8-379.

[8.46 --debug\\_macros, --no\\_debug\\_macros](#) on page 8-380.

[8.67 --dwarf2](#) on page 8-402.

[8.68 --dwarf3](#) on page 8-403.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

## 8.91 `--global_reg=reg_name[,reg_name,...]`

Treats the specified register names as fixed registers, and prevents the compiler from generating code that uses these registers.

---

### **Note**

Try to avoid using this option, because it restricts the compiler in terms of register allocation and can potentially give a negative effect on code generation and performance.

---

### **Syntax**

```
--global_reg=reg_name[,reg_name,...]
```

Where *reg\_name* is the AAPCS name of the register, denoted by an integer value in the range 1 to 8.

Register names 1 to 8 map sequentially onto registers `r4` to `r11`.

If *reg\_name* is unspecified, the compiler faults use of `--global_reg`.

### **Restrictions**

This option has the same restrictions as the `__global_reg` storage class specifier.

---

### **Examples**

```
--global_reg=1,4,5
```

Reserves registers `r4`, `r7` and `r8`

---

### **Related references**

[10.7 `\_\_global\_reg` on page 10-613.](#)

## 8.92 --gnu

Enables the GNU compiler extensions that the ARM compiler supports.

The version of GCC the extensions are compatible with can be determined by inspecting the predefined macros `__GNUC__` and `__GNUC_MINOR__`.

In addition, in GNU mode, the ARM compiler emulates GCC in its conformance to the C/C++ standards, whether more or less strict.

### Usage

This option can also be combined with other source language command-line options. For example, `armcc -c90 -gnu`.

### Related references

[8.23 -c90 on page 8-352.](#)

[8.24 -c99 on page 8-353.](#)

[8.37 -cpp on page 8-367.](#)

[8.175 -strict, -no\\_strict on page 8-519.](#)

[8.38 -cpp11 on page 8-368.](#)

[8.39 -cpp\\_compat on page 8-369.](#)

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

[8.93 -gnu\\_defaults on page 8-431.](#)

[8.95 -gnu\\_version=version on page 8-433.](#)

[9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.](#)

[10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)

## 8.93 `--gnu_defaults`

Alters the default settings of certain other options to match the default behavior found in GCC. Platform-specific settings, such as those targeting ARM Linux, are unaffected.

### Usage

`--gnu_defaults` does not imply specific targeting of ARM Linux.

When you use `--gnu_defaults`, the following options are enabled:

- `--allow_null_this`.
- `--gnu`.
- `--no_debug_macros`.
- `--no_hide_all`.
- `--no_implicit_include`.
- `--signed_bitfields`.
- `--wchar32`.

`--gnu` does not set these defaults. It only enables the GNU compiler extensions.

### Default

When you use `--arm_linux` and other ARM Linux-targeting options, `--gnu_defaults` is automatically implied.

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)
- [8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)
- [8.76 `--execstack`, `--no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)
- [8.3 `--allow\_null\_this`, `--no\_allow\_null\_this` on page 8-324.](#)
- [8.46 `--debug\_macros`, `--no\_debug\_macros` on page 8-380.](#)
- [8.92 `--gnu` on page 8-430.](#)
- [8.98 `--hide\_all`, `--no\_hide\_all` on page 8-436.](#)
- [8.101 `--implicit\_include`, `--no\_implicit\_include` on page 8-439.](#)
- [8.171 `--signed\_bitfields`, `--unsigned\_bitfields` on page 8-515.](#)
- [8.201 `--wchar`, `--no\_wchar` on page 8-551.](#)

## 8.94 `--gnu_instrument`, `--no_gnu_instrument`

Inserts GCC-style instrumentation calls for profiling entry and exit to functions.

### ———— **Note** ————

The `--gnu_instrument` option is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards.

### Usage

After function entry and before function exit, the following profiling functions are called with the address of the current function and its call site:

```
void __cyg_profile_func_enter(void *current_func, void *callsite);
```

```
void __cyg_profile_func_exit(void *current_func, void *callsite);
```

### Restrictions

You must provide definitions of `__cyg_profile_func_enter()` and `__cyg_profile_func_exit()`.

It is necessary to explicitly mark `__cyg_profile_func_enter()` and `__cyg_profile_func_exit()` with `__attribute__((no_instrument_function))`.

### Related references

[10.40 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(no\_instrument\_function\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-652.



## 8.95 --gnu\_version=version

Attempts to make the compiler compatible with a particular version of GCC.

### Syntax

--gnu\_version=version

Where *version* is a decimal number denoting the version of GCC that you are attempting to make the compiler compatible with.

---

#### Note

Currently, the maximum supported value for --gnu\_version in armcc v4.0 and later is 40400, that is gcc 4.4. Although version numbers larger than this are permitted, armcc treats them the same as 40400.

---

### Mode

This option is for when GNU compatibility mode is being used.

### Usage

This option is for expert use. It is provided for dealing with legacy code. You are not normally required to use it.

### Default

In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, the default is 40200. This corresponds to GCC version 4.2.0.

---

### Examples

---

--gnu\_version=30401 makes the compiler compatible with GCC 3.4.1 as far as possible.

---

### Related references

[8.92 --gnu](#) on page 8-430.

[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.

## 8.96 --guiding\_decls, --no\_guiding\_decls

Enables and disables the recognition of guiding declarations for template functions in C++.

A *guiding declaration* is a function declaration that matches an instance of a function template but has no explicit definition because its definition derives from the function template.

If `--no_guiding_decls` is combined with `--old_specializations`, a specialization of a nonmember template function is not recognized. It is treated as a definition of an independent function.

---

### Note

The option `--guiding_decls` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_guiding_decls`.

---

### Examples

```
template <class T> void f(T)
{
    ...
}
void f(int);
```

When regarded as a guiding declaration, `f(int)` is an instance of the template. Otherwise, it is an independent function so you must supply a definition.

---

### Related references

[8.140 --old\\_specializations, --no\\_old\\_specializations](#) on page 8-483.

[8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier](#) on page 8-327.

## 8.97 --help

Displays a summary of the main command-line options.

### Default

This is the default if you specify `armcc` without any options or source files.

### Related references

[8.170 --show\\_cmdline](#) on page 8-514.

[8.197 --vsn](#) on page 8-547.

## 8.98 `--hide_all`, `--no_hide_all`

Controls symbol visibility when building SVr4 shared objects.

### Usage

Use `--no_hide_all` to force the compiler to use STV\_DEFAULT visibility for all extern variables and functions if they do not use `__declspec(dll*)` or `__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))`. This also forces them to be pre-emptible at runtime by a dynamic loader.

When building a System V or ARM Linux shared library, use `--no_hide_all` together with `--apcs /fpic`.

Use `--hide_all` to set the visibility to STV\_HIDDEN, so that symbols cannot be dynamically linked.

### Default

The default is `--hide_all`.

### Related references

[8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier` on page 8-327.](#)

[10.52 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` function attribute on page 10-664.](#)

[10.70 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-682.](#)

[10.23 `\_\_declspec\(dllexport\)` on page 10-632.](#)

[10.24 `\_\_declspec\(dllimport\)` on page 10-634.](#)

[8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)

[8.195 `--visibility\_inlines\_hidden` on page 8-545.](#)

### Related information

[--symver\\_script=filename linker option.](#)

[Symbol visibility for BPABI models.](#)

## 8.99 -Idir[,dir,...]

Adds the specified directory, or comma-separated list of directories, to the list of places that are searched to find included files.

If you specify more than one directory, the directories are searched in the same order as the -I options specifying them.

### Syntax

`-Idir[,dir,...]`

Where:

`dir[,dir,...]`

is a comma-separated list of directories to be searched for included files.

At least one directory must be specified.

When specifying multiple directories, do not include spaces between commas and directory names in the list.

### Related concepts

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files](#) on page 2-53.

### Related references

[8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\]](#) on page 8-449.

[8.112 --kandr\\_include](#) on page 8-450.

[8.154 --preinclude=filename](#) on page 8-497.

[8.178 --sys\\_include](#) on page 8-524.

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths](#) on page 2-54.

## 8.100 `--ignore_missing_headers`

Prints dependency lines for header files even if the header files are missing.

This option only takes effect when dependency generation options (`-md` or `-M`) are specified.

Warning and error messages on missing header files are suppressed, and compilation continues.

### Usage

This option is used for automatically updating makefiles. It is analogous to the GCC `-MG` command-line option.

### Related references

[8.50 `--depend=filename` on page 8-384.](#)

[8.52 `--depend\_format=string` on page 8-386.](#)

[8.54 `--depend\_system\_headers`, `--no\_depend\_system\_headers` on page 8-389.](#)

[8.55 `--depend\_target=target` on page 8-390.](#)

[8.128 `-M` on page 8-468.](#)

[8.129 `--md` on page 8-469.](#)

[8.152 `--phony\_targets` on page 8-495.](#)

## 8.101 `--implicit_include`, `--no_implicit_include`

Controls the implicit inclusion of source files as a method of finding definitions of template entities to be instantiated in C++.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--implicit_include`.

### Related references

[8.102 `--implicit\_include\_searches`, `--no\_implicit\_include\_searches` on page 8-440.](#)

[8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)

[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)

## 8.102 `--implicit_include_searches`, `--no_implicit_include_searches`

Controls how the compiler searches for implicit include files for templates in C++.

When the option `--implicit_include_searches` is selected, the compiler uses the search path to look for implicit include files based on partial names of the form *filename.\**. The search path is determined by `-I`, `-J`, the `ARMCC5INC` environment variable, and the `ARMINC` environment variable. The search path also includes the default `./include` directory if `-J`, `ARMCC5INC`, and `ARMINC` are not set.

When the option `--no_implicit_include_searches` is selected, the compiler looks for implicit include files based on the full names of files, including path names.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_implicit_include_searches`.

### Related references

[8.99 `-Idir\[,dir,...\]` on page 8-437.](#)

[8.101 `--implicit\_include`, `--no\_implicit\_include` on page 8-439.](#)

[8.111 `-Jdir\[,dir,...\]` on page 8-449.](#)

[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

### Related information

[Toolchain environment variables.](#)



## 8.103 `--implicit_key_function`, `--no_implicit_key_function`

Controls whether an implicitly instantiated template member function can be selected as a key function.

Normally the key, or decider, function for a class is its first non-inline virtual function, in declaration order, that is not pure virtual. However, in the case of an implicitly instantiated template function, the function would have vague linkage, that is, might be multiply defined.

Remark #2819-D is produced when a key function is implicit. This remark can be seen with `--remarks` or with `--diag_warning=2819`.

### Default

The default is `--implicit_key_function`.

### Related references

[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)

[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)

## 8.104 `--implicit_typename`, `--no_implicit_typename`

Controls the implicit determination, from context, whether a template parameter dependent name is a type or nontype in C++.

---

**Note**

The option `--implicit_typename` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_implicit_typename`.

---

**Note**

The `--implicit_typename` option has no effect unless you also specify `--no_parse_templates`.

---

### Related references

[8.49 `--dep\_name`, `--no\_dep\_name` on page 8-383.](#)

[8.146 `--parse\_templates`, `--no\_parse\_templates` on page 8-489.](#)

[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)

## 8.105 `--import_all_vtbl`

Causes external references to class impedimenta variables (vtables, RTTI, for example) to be marked as having dynamic linkage.

The `--import_all_vtbl` option does not cause definitions of class impedimenta to have dynamic linkage.

### Related references

[8.78 `--export\_all\_vtbl`, `--no\_export\_all\_vtbl` on page 8-413.](#)

## 8.106 --info=totals

Reports total sizes of the object code and data for each object file.

The compiler returns the same totals that `fromelf` returns when `fromelf --text -z` is used, in a similar format. The totals include embedded assembly code sizes when embedded assembly exists in the source code.

### Example

Code (inc. data)	RO Data	RW Data	ZI Data	Debug	File Name
3308 1556	0	44	10200	8402	dhry_1.o
Code (inc. data)	RO Data	RW Data	ZI Data	Debug	File Name
416 28	0	0	0	7722	dhry_2.o

The (inc. data) column gives the size of constants, string literals, and other data items used as part of the code. The Code column, shown in the example, *includes* this value.

### Related concepts

[5.9 Code metrics](#) on page 5-167.

### Related references

[8.118 --list](#) on page 8-457.

### Related information

*--info=topic[,topic,...] linker option.*

*--info=topic[,topic,...] fromelf option.*

*--text fromelf option.*

## 8.107 `--inline`, `--no_inline`

Enables and disables the inlining of functions. Disabling the inlining of functions can help to improve the debug illusion.

When the option `--inline` is selected, the compiler considers inlining each function. Compiling your code with `--inline` does not guarantee that all functions are inlined, as the compiler uses a complex decision tree to decide whether to inline a particular function.

When the option `--no_inline` is selected, the compiler does not attempt to inline functions, other than functions qualified with `__forceinline`.

### Default

The default is `--inline`.

### Related references

- [8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)
- [8.15 `--autoinline`, `--no\_autoinline` on page 8-343.](#)
- [8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)
- [8.142 `-Ospace` on page 8-485.](#)
- [8.143 `-Otime` on page 8-486.](#)
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)
- [10.8 `\_\_inline` on page 10-615.](#)
- [2.15 \*Linker feedback during compilation\* on page 2-60.](#)

## 8.108 `--integer_literal_pools`, `--no_integer_literal_pools`

Controls whether the compiler places integer and address constants in literal pools.

With the `--integer_literal_pools` option, when the compiler cannot construct integer and address constants in a single instruction, it often places them in literal pools:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size   : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
f
    0x00000000: e59f0000 .... LDR    r0,[pc,#0] ; [0x8] = 0xdeadbeef
    0x00000004: e12fff1e ../.  BX      lr
$d
    0x00000008: deadbeef .... DCD     3735928559
```

The `--no_integer_literal_pools` option instructs the compiler to use sequences of `MOVW` and `MOVT` instructions to construct these constants:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size   : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
f
    0x00000000: e30b0eef .... MOV    r0,#0xbeef
    0x00000004: e34d0ead ..M.  MOVT   r0,#0xdead
    0x00000008: e12fff1e ../.  BX      lr
```

64-bit integers are constructed with two `MOVW` instructions and two `MOVT` instructions.

———— **Note** ————

You cannot use the `--no_integer_literal_pools` option with target architectures earlier than v6T2.

### Default

The default is `--integer_literal_pools`.

`--execute_only` implies `--no_integer_literal_pools`, unless `--integer_literal_pools` is explicitly specified.

———— **Note** ————

Do not use `--execute_only` in conjunction with `--integer_literal_pools`. If you do, then the compiler places the literal pool in an unreadable, execute-only code region.

### Related concepts

[4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.](#)

### Related references

[8.177 `--string\_literal\_pools`, `--no\_string\_literal\_pools` on page 8-522.](#)

[8.18 `--branch\_tables`, `--no\_branch\_tables` on page 8-346.](#)

[8.82 `--float\_literal\_pools`, `--no\_float\_literal\_pools` on page 8-417.](#)

[8.77 `--execute\_only` on page 8-412.](#)

## 8.109 `--interface_enums_are_32_bit`

Helps to provide compatibility between external code interfaces, with regard to the size of enumerated types.

### Usage

It is not possible to link an object file compiled with `--enum_is_int`, with another object file that is compiled without `--enum_is_int`. The linker is unable to determine whether or not the enumerated types are used in a way that affects the external interfaces, so on detecting these build differences, it produces a warning or an error. You can avoid this by compiling with `--interface_enums_are_32_bit`. The resulting object file can then be linked with any other object file, without the linker-detected conflict that arises from different enumeration type sizes.

---

### Note

When you use this option, you are making a promise to the compiler that all the enumerated types used in your external interfaces are 32 bits wide. For example, if you ensure that every enum you declare includes at least one value larger than 2 to the power of 16, the compiler is forced to make the enum 32 bits wide, whether or not you use `--enum_is_int`. It is up to you to ensure that the promise you are making to the compiler is true. (Another method of satisfying this condition is to ensure that you have no enums in your external interface.)

---

### Default

By default, the smallest data type that can hold the values of all enumerators is used.

### Related references

[8.72 `--enum\_is\_int` on page 8-407.](#)

## 8.110 --interleave

Interleaves C or C++ source code line by line as comments within the assembly listing.

### Usage

Use the `--interleave` option with the `--asm` option or `-S` option.

The action of `--interleave` depends on the combination of options used:

**Table 8-4 Compiling with the `--interleave` option**

Compiler option	Action
<code>--asm --interleave</code>	<p>Writes a listing to a file of the disassembly of the compiled source, interleaving the source code with the disassembly.</p> <p>The link step is also performed, unless the <code>-c</code> option is used.</p> <p>The disassembly is written to a text file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension <code>.txt</code></p>
<code>-S --interleave</code>	<p>Writes a listing to a file of the disassembly of the compiled source, interleaving the source code with the disassembly.</p> <p>The disassembly is written to a text file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension <code>.txt</code></p>

### Restrictions

- You cannot re-assemble an assembly listing generated with `--asm --interleave` or `-S --interleave`.
  - Preprocessed source files contain `#line` directives. When compiling preprocessed files using `--asm --interleave` or `-S --interleave`, the compiler searches for the original files indicated by any `#line` directives, and uses the correct lines from those files. This ensures that compiling a preprocessed file gives exactly the same output and behavior as if the original files were compiled.
- If the compiler cannot find the original files, it is unable to interleave the source. Therefore, if you have preprocessed source files with `#line` directives, but the original unpreprocessed files are not present, you must remove all the `#line` directives before you compile with `--interleave`.

### Related references

[8.13 `--asm` on page 8-341.](#)

[8.167 `-S` on page 8-510.](#)



## 8.111 -Jdir[,dir,...]

Adds the specified directory, or comma-separated list of directories, to the list of system includes.

Downgradable errors, warnings, and remarks are suppressed, even if `--diag_error` is used.

Angle-bracketed include files are searched for first in the list of system includes, followed by any include list specified with the option `-I`.

### ———— Note —————

On Windows systems, you must enclose `ARMCC5INC` in double quotes if you specify this environment variable on the command line, because the default path defined by the variable contains spaces. For example:

```
armcc -J"%ARMCC5INC%" -c main.c
```

### Syntax

`-Jdir[,dir,...]`

Where:

`dir[,dir,...]`

is a comma-separated list of directories to be added to the list of system includes.

At least one directory must be specified.

When specifying multiple directories, do not include spaces between commas and directory names in the list.

### Related concepts

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files](#) on page 2-53.

### Related references

[8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\]](#) on page 8-437.

[8.112 --kandr\\_include](#) on page 8-450.

[8.154 --preinclude=filename](#) on page 8-497.

[8.178 --sys\\_include](#) on page 8-524.

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths](#) on page 2-54.

### Related information

[Toolchain environment variables](#).

## 8.112 --kandr\_include

Ensures that Kernighan and Ritchie search rules are used for locating included files.

The current place is defined by the original source file and is not stacked.

### Default

If you do not specify --kandr\_include, Berkeley-style searching applies.

### Related concepts

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

[8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-449.](#)

[8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-437.](#)

[8.154 --preinclude=filename on page 8-497.](#)

[8.178 --sys\\_include on page 8-524.](#)

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

## 8.113 -Lopt

Specifies command-line options to pass to the linker when a link step is being performed after compilation.

Options can be passed when creating a partially-linked object or an executable image.

### Syntax

`-Lopt`

Where:

*opt*

is a command-line option to pass to the linker.

### Restrictions

If an unsupported linker option is passed to it using `-L`, an error is generated by the linker.

### Example

---

```
armcc main.c -L--map
```

---

### Related references

[8.1 -Aopt](#) on page 8-322.

[8.170 --show\\_cmdline](#) on page 8-514.

## 8.114 --library\_interface=lib

Generates code that is compatible with the selected library type.

### Syntax

--library\_interface=*Lib*

Where *Lib* is one of:

#### none

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C90 library.

In general, the compiler avoids the use of AEABI-defined library functions. For example, this option suppresses the use of AEABI-defined functions that are introduced only as an optimization such as `__aeabi_memcpy`.

AEABI-defined library functions are only used to handle operations that do not have a short machine code equivalent. For example, the `__aeabi_uidiv` function is used for integer division where there is no divide instruction available in the target instruction set.

#### armcc

Specifies that the compiler output works with the ARM runtime libraries in ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.

#### armcc\_c90

Behaves similarly to `--library_interface=armcc`. The difference is that references in the input source code to function names that are not reserved by C90, are not modified by the compiler. Otherwise, some C99 `math.h` function names might be prefixed with `__hardfp_`, for example `__hardfp_tgamma`.

#### aeabi\_clib90

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C90 library compliant with the *ARM Embedded Application Binary Interface* (AEABI).

#### aeabi\_clib99

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C99 library compliant with the AEABI.

#### aeabi\_clib

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C library compliant with the AEABI.

Selecting the option `--library_interface=aeabi_clib` is equivalent to specifying either `--library_interface=aeabi_clib90` or `--library_interface=aeabi_clib99`, depending on the choice of source language used.

The choice of source language is dependent both on the command-line options selected and on the filename suffixes used.

#### aeabi\_glibc

Specifies that the compiler output works with an AEABI-compliant version of the GNU C library.

#### aeabi\_clib90\_hardfp

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C90 library compliant with the AEABI, and causes calls to the C library (including the math libraries) to call hardware floating-point library functions.

#### aeabi\_clib99\_hardfp

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C99 library compliant with the AEABI, and causes calls to the C library (including the math libraries) to call hardware floating-point library functions.

#### **aeabi\_clib\_hardfp**

Specifies that the compiler output works with any ISO C library compliant with the AEABI.

Selecting the option `--library_interface=aeabi_clib_hardfp` is equivalent to specifying either `--library_interface=aeabi_clib90_hardfp` or `--library_interface=aeabi_clib99_hardfp`, depending on the choice of source language used.

The choice of source language is dependent both on the command-line options selected and on the filename suffixes used.

Causes calls to the C library (including the math libraries) to call hardware floating-point library functions.

#### **aeabi\_glibc\_hardfp**

Specifies that the compiler output works with an AEABI-compliant version of the GNU C library, and causes calls to the C library (including the math libraries) to call hardware floating-point library functions.

#### **rvct30**

Specifies that the compiler output is compatible with RVCT 3.0 runtime libraries.

#### **rvct30\_c90**

Behaves similarly to `rvct30`. In addition, specifies that the compiler output is compatible with any ISO C90 library.

#### **rvct31**

Specifies that the compiler output is compatible with RVCT 3.1 runtime libraries.

#### **rvct31\_c90**

Behaves similarly to `rvct31`. In addition, specifies that the compiler output is compatible with any ISO C90 library.

#### **rvct40**

Specifies that the compiler output is compatible with RVCT 4.0 runtime libraries.

#### **rvct40\_c90**

Behaves similarly to `rvct40`. In addition, specifies that the compiler output is compatible with any ISO C90 library.

### **Default**

If you do not specify `--library_interface`, the compiler assumes `--library_interface=armcc`.

### **Usage**

- Use the option `--library_interface=armcc` to exploit the full range of compiler and library optimizations when linking.
- Use an option of the form `--library_interface=aeabi_*` when linking with an ABI-compliant C library. Options of the form `--library_interface=aeabi_*` ensure that the compiler does not generate calls to any optimized functions provided by the ARM C library.
- It is an error to use any of the `_hardfp` library interfaces when compiling with `--fpu=softvfp`.

### **Examples**

---

If your code calls functions, provided by an embedded operating system, that replace functions provided by the ARM C library, then compile your code with the option `--library_interface=aeabi_clib`. This option disables calls to any special ARM variants of the library functions replaced by the operating system.

---

### **Related information**

*[Compliance with the Application Binary Interface \(ABI\) for the ARM architecture.](#)*

## 8.115 --library\_type=lib

Enables the selected library to be used at link time.

---

**Note**

This option can be overridden at link time by providing it to the linker.

---

### Syntax

`--library_type=lib`

Where *lib* is one of:

#### **standardlib**

Specifies that the full ARM runtime libraries are selected at link time.

Use this option to exploit the full range of compiler optimizations when linking.

#### **microlib**

Specifies that the C micro-library (microlib) is selected at link time.

### Default

If you do not specify `--library_type`, the compiler assumes `--library_type=standardlib`.

### Related information

[\*--library\\_type=lib linker option.\*](#)

[\*About microlib.\*](#)

[\*Building an application with microlib.\*](#)

## 8.116 --licretry

If you are using floating licenses, this option makes up to 10 attempts to obtain a license when you invoke armcc.

### Usage

Use this option if your builds are failing to obtain a license from your license server, and only after you have ruled out any other problems with the network or the license server setup.

It is recommended that you place this option in the ARMCC5\_CCOPT environment variable. In this way, you do not have to modify your build files.

### Related information

*--licretry assembler option.*

*--licretry linker option.*

*Toolchain environment variables.*

*--licretry fromelf option.*

*ARM DS-5 License Management Guide.*

## 8.117 --link\_all\_input, --no\_link\_all\_input

Enables and disables the suppression of errors for unrecognized input filename extensions.

When enabled, the compiler suppresses errors for unrecognized input filename extensions, and treats all unrecognized input files as object files or libraries to be passed to the linker.

### Default

The default is --no\_link\_all\_input.

### Related references

[8.27 --compile\\_all\\_input, --no\\_compile\\_all\\_input](#) on page 8-357.

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler](#) on page 2-50.



**8.118 --list**

Generates raw listing information for a source file.

The name of the raw listing file defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension `.lst`.

If you specify multiple source files on the command line, the compiler generates listings for all of the source files, writing each to a separate listing file whose name is generated from the corresponding source file name. However, when `--multifile` is used, a concatenated listing is written to a single listing file, whose name is generated from the first source file name.

**Usage**

Typically, you use raw listing information to generate a formatted listing. The raw listing file contains raw source lines, information on transitions into and out of include files, and diagnostics generated by the compiler. Each line of the listing file begins with any of the following key characters that identifies the type of line:

N

A normal line of source. The rest of the line is the text of the line of source.

X

The expanded form of a normal line of source. The rest of the line is the text of the line. This line appears following the N line, and only if the line contains nontrivial modifications. Comments are considered trivial modifications, and macro expansions, line splices, and trigraphs are considered nontrivial modifications. Comments are replaced by a single space in the expanded-form line.

S

A line of source skipped by an `#if` or similar. The rest of the line is text.

———— **Note** —————

The `#else`, `#elseif`, or `#endif` that ends a skip is marked with an N.

L

Indicates a change in source position. That is, the line has a format similar to the `#` line-identifying directive output by the preprocessor:

```
L Line-number "filename" key
```

where *key* can be:

1

For entry into an include file.

2

For exit from an include file.

Otherwise, *key* is omitted. The first line in the raw listing file is always an L line identifying the primary input file. L lines are also output for `#line` directives where *key* is omitted. L lines indicate the source position of the following source line in the raw listing file.

R/W/E

Indicates a diagnostic, where:

R

Indicates a remark.

W

Indicates a warning.

E

Indicates an error.

The line has the form:

```
type "filename" line-number column-number message-text
```

where *type* can be R, W, or E.

Errors at the end of file indicate the last line of the primary source file and a column number of zero.

Command-line errors are errors with a filename of "<command line>". No line or column number is displayed as part of the error message.

Internal errors are errors with position information as usual, and message-text beginning with (Internal fault).

When a diagnostic message displays a list, for example, all the contending routines when there is ambiguity on an overloaded call, the initial diagnostic line is followed by one or more lines with the same overall format. However, the code letter is the lowercase version of the code letter in the initial line. The source position in these lines is the same as that in the corresponding initial line.

## Examples

```
/* main.c */
#include <stdbool.h>
int main(void)
{
    return(true);
}
```

Compiling this code with the option `--list` produces the raw listing file:

```
L 1 "main.c"
N#include <stdbool.h>
L 1 "...\\include\\...\\stdbool.h" 1
N/* stdbool.h */
N
...
N #ifndef __cplusplus /* In C++, 'bool', 'true' and 'false' and keywords */
N #define bool _Bool
N #define true 1
N #define false 0
N #endif
...
L 2 "main.c" 2
N
Nint main(void)
N{
N    return(true);
X    return(1);
N}
```

## Related references

- [8.13 --asm on page 8-341.](#)
- [8.21 -c on page 8-350.](#)
- [8.50 --depend=filename on page 8-384.](#)
- [8.52 --depend\\_format=string on page 8-386.](#)
- [8.106 --info=totals on page 8-444.](#)
- [8.110 --interleave on page 8-448.](#)
- [8.119 --list\\_dir=directory\\_name on page 8-459.](#)
- [8.129 --md on page 8-469.](#)
- [8.167 -S on page 8-510.](#)
- [6.1 Severity of compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-259.](#)

## 8.119 --list\_dir=directory\_name

Specifies a directory for --list output.

### Examples

---

```
armcc -c --list_dir=lst --list f1.c f2.c
```

Result:

```
lst/f1.lst  
lst/f2.lst
```

---

### Related references

- [8.14 --asm\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-342.
- [8.51 --depend\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-385.
- [8.118 --list](#) on page 8-457.
- [8.144 --output\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-487.

## 8.120 --list\_macros

Lists macro definitions to stdout after processing a specified source file.

The listed output contains macro definitions that are used on the command line, predefined by the compiler, and found in header and source files, depending on usage.

### Usage

To list macros that are defined on the command line, predefined by the compiler, and found in header and source files, use `--list_macros` with a non-empty source file.

To list only macros predefined by the compiler and specified on the command line, use `--list_macros` with an empty source file.

### Restrictions

Code generation is suppressed.

### Related references

[10.155 Predefined macros](#) on page 10-789.

[8.43 -Dname\[\(parm-list\)\]\[=def\]](#) on page 8-376.

[8.69 -E](#) on page 8-404.

[8.170 --show\\_cmdline](#) on page 8-514.

[8.194 --via=filename](#) on page 8-544.

## 8.121 `--littleend`

Generates code suitable for an ARM processor using little-endian memory.

With little-endian memory, the least significant byte of a word has the lowest address.

### Default

The compiler assumes `--littleend` unless `--bigend` is explicitly specified.

### Related references

[8.16 `--bigend` on page 8-344](#).

## 8.122 --locale=lang\_country

Specifies the locale for source files.

### Syntax

```
--locale=lang_country
```

Where:

*lang\_country*  
is the new default locale.

Use this option in combination with --multibyte\_chars.

### Default

If you do not specify this option, the system locale is used.

### Restrictions

The locale name might be case-sensitive, depending on the host platform.

The permitted settings of locale are determined by the host platform.

Ensure that you have installed the appropriate locale support for the host platform.

#### ———— Note —————

If the source file encoding is UTF-8 or UTF-16, and the file starts with a byte order mark then the compiler ignores the --locale and --[no\_]multibyte\_chars options and interprets the file as UTF-8 or UTF-16.

### Example

To compile Japanese source files on an English-based Windows workstation, use:

```
--multibyte_chars --locale=japanese
```

and on a UNIX workstation use:

```
--multibyte_chars --locale=ja_JP
```

### Related references

[8.130 --message\\_locale=lang\\_country\[.codepage\]](#) on page 8-470.

[8.133 --multibyte\\_chars, --no\\_multibyte\\_chars](#) on page 8-473.

## 8.123 --long\_long

Permits use of the **long long** data type in strict mode.

### Examples

---

To successfully compile the following code in strict mode, you must use `--strict --long_long`.

```
long long f(long long x, long long y)
{
    return x*y;
}
```

---

### Related references

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict](#) on page 8-519.

## 8.124 `--loop_optimization_level=opt`

Trades code size for performance by controlling how much loop optimization the compiler performs.

The compiler can use several different techniques for specifically targeting loop optimizations, such as loop unrolling and inlining. However, these techniques can impact code size.

### Syntax

`--loop_optimization_level=opt`

Where *opt* is one of:

**0**

Specifies that the compiler does not perform any loop optimization. This option is usually best for code size.

**1**

Specifies that the compiler performs some loop optimization. This option tries to balance code size and performance.

**2**

Specifies that the compiler performs high-level optimization, including aggressive loop optimization. This option is usually best for performance.

### Restrictions

This option can only be used when both `-O3` and `-Otime` options are given. That is:

`armcc -O3 -Otime --loop_optimization_level=2 ...`

### Default

The default is 1.

Specifying `-O3 -Otime` implies `--loop_optimization_level=1`.

### Related concepts

[5.20 Inline functions](#) on page 5-179.

[5.7 Loop unrolling in C code](#) on page 5-163.

### Related references

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.



## 8.125 --loose\_implicit\_cast

Makes illegal implicit casts legal, such as implicit casts of a nonzero integer to a pointer.

### Examples

---

```
int *p = 0x8000;
```

Compiling this example without the option `--loose_implicit_cast`, generates an error.

Compiling this example with the option `--loose_implicit_cast`, generates a warning message, that you can suppress.

---

## 8.126 `--lower_ropi`, `--no_lower_ropi`

Enables and disables less restrictive C when compiling with `--apcs=/ropi`.

### Default

The default is `--no_lower_ropi`.

---

#### Note

If you compile with `--lower_ropi`, then the static initialization is done at runtime by the C++ constructor mechanism for both C and C++ code. This enables these static initializations to work with ROPI code.

---

### Related concepts

[2.13 Code compatibility between separately compiled and assembled modules](#) on page 2-57.

### Related references

[8.127 `--lower\_rwpi`, `--no\_lower\_rwpi`](#) on page 8-467.

[8.6 `--apcs=qualifier...qualifier`](#) on page 8-327.

## 8.127 --lower\_rwpi, --no\_lower\_rwpi

Enables and disables less restrictive C and C++ when compiling with --apcs=/rwpi.

### Default

The default is --lower\_rwpi.

---

#### Note

If you compile with --lower\_rwpi, then the static initialization is done at runtime by the C++ constructor mechanism, even for C. This enables these static initializations to work with RWPI code.

---

### Related concepts

[2.13 Code compatibility between separately compiled and assembled modules on page 2-57.](#)

### Related references

[8.126 --lower\\_ropi, --no\\_lower\\_ropi on page 8-466.](#)

[8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.](#)

## 8.128 -M

Produces a list of makefile dependency lines suitable for use by a make utility.

The compiler executes only the preprocessor step of the compilation. By default, output is on the standard output stream.

If you specify multiple source files, a single dependency file is created.

If you specify the `-o filename` option, the dependency lines generated on standard output make reference to `filename.o`, and not to `source.o`. However, no object file is produced with the combination of `-M -o filename`.

Use the `--md` option to generate dependency lines and object files for each source file.

### Examples

---

You can redirect output to a file by using standard UNIX and MS-DOS notation, for example:

```
armcc -M source.c > Makefile
```

---

### Related references

[8.22 -C](#) on page 8-351.

[8.50 --depend=filename](#) on page 8-384.

[8.54 --depend\\_system\\_headers, --no\\_depend\\_system\\_headers](#) on page 8-389.

[8.69 -E](#) on page 8-404.

[8.129 --md](#) on page 8-469.

[8.53 --depend\\_single\\_line, --no\\_depend\\_single\\_line](#) on page 8-388.

[8.138 -o filename](#) on page 8-478.

## 8.129 --md

Creates makefile dependency lists.

Make utilities use makefile dependency lists to determine dependencies between files, for example to determine header file dependencies.

The compiler names the makefile dependency list *filename.d*, where *filename* is the name of the source file. If you specify multiple source files, a dependency file is created for each source file.

If you want to produce makefile dependencies and preprocessor source file output in a single step, you can do so using the combination `--md -E` (or `--md -P` to suppress line number generation).

### Related references

[8.50 --depend=filename](#) on page 8-384.

[8.52 --depend\\_format=string](#) on page 8-386.

[8.54 --depend\\_system\\_headers, --no\\_depend\\_system\\_headers](#) on page 8-389.

[8.69 -E](#) on page 8-404.

[8.128 -M](#) on page 8-468.

[8.53 --depend\\_single\\_line, --no\\_depend\\_single\\_line](#) on page 8-388.

[8.138 -o filename](#) on page 8-478.

## 8.130 `--message_locale=lang_country[.codepage]`

Specifies the language for error and warning messages.

### Syntax

```
--message_locale=lang_country[.codepage]
```

Where:

*lang\_country[.codepage]*

is the new default language for the display of error and warning messages.

The permitted languages are independent of the host platform.

The following settings are supported:

- `en_US`.
- `ja_JP`.

### Default

If you do not specify `--message_locale`, the compiler assumes `--message_locale=en_US`.

### Restrictions

Ensure that you have installed the appropriate locale support for the host platform.

The locale name might be case-sensitive, depending on the host platform.

The ability to specify a codepage, and its meaning, depends on the host platform.

### Errors

If you specify a setting that is not supported, the compiler generates an error message.

### Examples

---

To display messages in Japanese, use:

```
--message_locale=ja_JP
```

---

### Related references

[8.122 `--locale=lang\_country` on page 8-462.](#)

[8.133 `--multibyte\_chars`, `--no\_multibyte\_chars` on page 8-473.](#)

## 8.131 --min\_array\_alignment=opt

Specifies the minimum alignment of arrays.

### Syntax

--min\_array\_alignment=opt

Where:

*opt*

specifies the minimum alignment of arrays. The value of *opt* is one of:

- 1  
byte alignment, or unaligned
- 2  
two-byte, halfword alignment
- 4  
four-byte, word alignment
- 8  
eight-byte, doubleword alignment.

### Usage

ARM does not recommend using this option, unless required in certain specialized cases. For example, porting code to systems that have different data alignment requirements. Use of this option can result in increased code size at the higher *opt* values, and reduced performance at the lower *opt* values. If you only want to affect the alignment of specific arrays (rather than all arrays), use the `__align` keyword instead.

### Default

If you do not use this option, arrays are unaligned (byte aligned).

### Example

---

Compiling the following code with --min\_array\_alignment=8 gives the alignment described in the comments:

```
char arr_c1[1];    // alignment == 8
char c1;           // alignment == 1
```

---

### Related references

[10.2 \\_\\_align](#) on page 10-608.

[10.3 \\_\\_ALIGNOF\\_\\_](#) on page 10-609.

## 8.132 --mm

This option has the same effect as `-M --no_depend_system_headers`.

### Related references

[8.128 -M](#) on page 8-468.

[8.54 --depend\\_system\\_headers, --no\\_depend\\_system\\_headers](#) on page 8-389.



## 8.133 --multibyte\_chars, --no\_multibyte\_chars

Enables and disables processing for multibyte character sequences in comments, string literals, and character constants.

### Default

--multibyte\_chars is the default, but the option only has an effect in locales that use multibyte characters.

### Usage

Multibyte encodings are used for character sets such as the Japanese *Shift-Japanese Industrial Standard* (Shift-JIS).

---

#### Note

If the source file encoding is UTF-8 or UTF-16, and the file starts with a byte order mark then the compiler ignores the --locale and --[no\_]multibyte\_chars options and interprets the file as UTF-8 or UTF-16.

---

### Related references

[8.122 --locale=lang\\_country](#) on page 8-462.

[8.130 --message\\_locale=lang\\_country\[.codepage\]](#) on page 8-470.

## 8.134 `--multifile`, `--no_multifile`

Enables and disables multifile compilation.

When `--multifile` is selected, the compiler performs optimizations across all files specified on the command line, instead of on each individual file. The specified files are compiled into one single object file.

The combined object file is named after the first source file you specify on the command line. To specify a different name for the combined object file, use the `-o filename` option.

To meet the requirements of standard make systems, an empty object file is created for each subsequent source file specified on the command line. However, only a single combined object file is created if you also specify `-o filename`.

---

### **Note**

Compiling with `--multifile` has no effect if only a single source file is specified on the command line.

---

### **Default**

The default is `--no_multifile`.

### **Usage**

When `--multifile` is selected, the compiler might be able to perform additional optimizations by compiling across several source files.

There is no limit to the number of source files that can be specified on the command line. However, depending on the number of source files and structure of the program, the compiler might require significantly more memory and significantly more compilation time. For the best optimization results, choose small groups of functionally related source files.

As a guideline, you can expect `--multifile` to scale well up to modules in the low hundreds of thousands of lines of code.

### **Examples**

---

```
armcc -c --multifile test1.c ... testn.c -o test.o
```

Because `-o` is used, a single combined object file named `test.o` is created..

---

### **Related references**

[8.21 `-c` on page 8-350.](#)

[8.48 `--default\_extension=ext` on page 8-382.](#)

[8.138 `-o filename` on page 8-478.](#)

[8.139 `-Onum` on page 8-480.](#)

[8.204 `--whole\_program` on page 8-554.](#)

[10.155 \*Predefined macros\* on page 10-789.](#)

## 8.135 --multiply\_latency=cycles

Tells the compiler the number of cycles used by the hardware multiplier.

### Syntax

```
--multiply_latency=cycles
```

Where *cycles* is the number of cycles used.

### Usage

Use this option to tell the compiler how many cycles the MUL instruction takes to use the multiplier block and related parts of the chip. Until finished, these parts of the chip cannot be used for another instruction and the result of the MUL is not available for any later instructions to use.

It is possible that a processor might have two or more multiplier options that are set for a given hardware implementation. For example, one implementation might be configured to take one cycle to execute. The other implementation might take 33 cycles to execute. This option lets you convey the correct number of cycles for a given processor.

### Default

The default number of cycles used by the hardware multiplier is processor-specific. See the Technical Reference Manual for the processor architecture you are compiling for.

### Examples

---

```
--multiply_latency=33
```

---

### Related information

[MUL](#).

## 8.136 --narrow\_volatile\_bitfields

Accesses volatile bitfields using the smallest access size that contains the entire bitfield.

The AEABI specifies that volatile bitfields are accessed as the size of their container type. However, some versions of GCC instead use the smallest access size that contains the entire bitfield.

--narrow\_volatile\_bitfields emulates this non-AEABI compliant behavior.

### Related information

*[Application Binary Interface \(ABI\) for the ARM Architecture.](#)*

## 8.137 `--nonstd_qualifier_deduction`, `--no_nonstd_qualifier_deduction`

Controls whether or not nonstandard template argument deduction is performed in the qualifier portion of a qualified name in C++.

With this feature enabled, a template argument for the template parameter `T` can be deduced in contexts like `A<T>::B` or `T::B`. The standard deduction mechanism treats these as nondeduced contexts that use the values of template parameters that were either explicitly specified or deduced elsewhere.

---

**Note**

The option `--nonstd_qualifier_deduction` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_nonstd_qualifier_deduction`.

## 8.138 -o filename

Specifies the name of the output file.

The full name of the output file produced depends on the combination of options used, as described in the following tables.

### Syntax

If you specify a -o option, the compiler names the output file according to the conventions described by the following table.

**Table 8-5 Compiling with the -o option**

Compiler option	Action	Usage notes
-o-	writes output to the standard output stream	<i>filename</i> is <code>-.S</code> is assumed unless <code>-E</code> is specified.
-o <i>filename</i>	produces an executable image with name <i>filename</i>	
-c -o <i>filename</i>	produces an object file with name <i>filename</i>	
-S -o <i>filename</i>	produces an assembly language file with name <i>filename</i>	
-E -o <i>filename</i>	produces a file containing preprocessor output with name <i>filename</i>	

———— **Note** ————

This option overrides the `--default_extension` option.

### Default

If you do not specify a -o option, the compiler names the output file according to the conventions described by the following table.

**Table 8-6 Compiling without the -o option**

Compiler option	Action	Usage notes
-c	produces an object file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension <code>.o</code>	
-S	produces an output file whose name defaults to the name of the input file with the filename extension <code>.s</code>	
-E	writes output from the preprocessor to the standard output stream	
(No option)	produces an executable image with the default name of <code>__image.axf</code>	none of <code>-o</code> , <code>-c</code> , <code>-E</code> or <code>-S</code> is specified on the command line

### Related references

[8.13 --asm on page 8-341.](#)

[8.21 -c on page 8-350.](#)

[8.48 --default\\_extension=ext on page 8-382.](#)

[8.50 --depend=filename on page 8-384.](#)

[8.52 --depend\\_format=string on page 8-386.](#)

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

[8.110 --interleave on page 8-448.](#)

8.118 --list on page 8-457.  
8.129 --md on page 8-469.  
8.167 -S on page 8-510.

## 8.139 -Onum

Specifies the level of optimization to be used when compiling source files.

### Syntax

`-Onum`

Where *num* is one of the following:

**0**

Minimum optimization. Turns off most optimizations. When debugging is enabled, this option gives the best possible debug view because the structure of the generated code directly corresponds to the source code. All optimization that interferes with the debug view is disabled. In particular:

- Breakpoints can be set on any reachable point, including dead code.
- The value of a variable is available everywhere within its scope, except where it is uninitialized.
- Backtrace gives the stack of open function activations that is expected from reading the source.

---

#### Note

Although the debug view produced by `-00` corresponds most closely to the source code, users might prefer the debug view produced by `-01` because this improves the quality of the code without changing the fundamental structure.

---

#### Note

Dead code includes reachable code that has no effect on the result of the program, for example an assignment to a local variable that is never used. Unreachable code is specifically code that cannot be reached via any control flow path, for example code that immediately follows a return statement.

**1**

Restricted optimization. The compiler only performs optimizations that can be described by debug information. Removes unused inline functions and unused static functions. Turns off optimizations that seriously degrade the debug view. If used with `--debug`, this option gives a generally satisfactory debug view with good code density.

The differences in the debug view from `-00` are:

- Breakpoints cannot be set on dead code.
- Values of variables might not be available within their scope after they have been initialized. For example if their assigned location has been reused.
- Functions with no side-effects might be called out of sequence, or might be omitted if the result is not needed.
- Backtrace might not give the stack of open function activations that is expected from reading the source because of the presence of tailcalls.

The optimization level `-01` produces good correspondence between source code and object code, especially when the source code contains no dead code. The generated code can be significantly smaller than the code at `-00`, which can simplify analysis of the object code.



## 2

High optimization. If used with `--debug`, the debug view might be less satisfactory because the mapping of object code to source code is not always clear. The compiler might perform optimizations that cannot be described by debug information.

This is the default optimization level.

The differences in the debug view from `-O1` are:

- The source code to object code mapping might be many to one, because of the possibility of multiple source code locations mapping to one point of the file, and more aggressive instruction scheduling.
- Instruction scheduling is allowed to cross sequence points. This can lead to mismatches between the reported value of a variable at a particular point, and the value you might expect from reading the source code.
- The compiler automatically inlines functions.

## 3

Maximum optimization. When debugging is enabled, this option typically gives a poor debug view. ARM recommends debugging at lower optimization levels.

If you use `-O3` and `-Otime` together, the compiler performs extra optimizations that are more aggressive, such as:

- High-level scalar optimizations, including loop unrolling. This can give significant performance benefits at a small code size cost, but at the risk of a longer build time.
- More aggressive inlining and automatic inlining.

These optimizations effectively rewrite the input source code, resulting in object code with the lowest correspondence to source code and the worst debug view. The `--loop_optimization_level=option` controls the amount of loop optimization performed at `-O3 -Otime`. The higher the amount of loop optimization the worse the correspondence between source and object code.

Use of the `--vectorize` option also lowers the correspondence between source and object code.

For extra information about the high level transformations performed on the source code at `-O3 -Otime` use the `--remarks` command-line option.

---

**Note**

The performance of floating-point code can be influenced by selecting an appropriate numerical model using the `--fpmode` option.

---

**Note**

Do not rely on the implementation details of these optimizations, because they might change in future releases.

---

**Note**

By default, the compiler optimizes to reduce image size at the expense of a possible increase in execution time. That is, `-Ospace` is the default, rather than `-Otime`. Note that `-Ospace` is not affected by the optimization level `-Onum`. That is, `-O3 -Ospace` enables more optimizations than `-O2 -Ospace`, but does not perform more aggressive size reduction.

## Default

If you do not specify `-Onum`, the compiler assumes `-O2`.

## Related concepts

- [5.1 The compiler as an optimizing compiler](#) on page 5-154.
- [5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view](#) on page 5-156.

## Related references

- [8.15 --autoinline, --no\\_autoinline](#) on page 8-343.
- [8.45 --debug, --no\\_debug](#) on page 8-379.
- [8.84 --forceinline](#) on page 8-419.
- [8.86 --fpmode=model](#) on page 8-421.
- [8.107 --inline, --no\\_inline](#) on page 8-445.
- [8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile](#) on page 8-474.
- [8.142 -Ospace](#) on page 8-485.
- [8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.
- [8.124 --loop\\_optimization\\_level=opt](#) on page 8-464.

## 8.140 `--old_specializations`, `--no_old_specializations`

Controls the acceptance of old-style template specializations in C++.

Old-style template specializations do not use the `template<>` syntax.

---

**Note**

The option `--old_specializations` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_old_specializations`.

## 8.141 --old\_style\_preprocessing

Performs preprocessing in the style of legacy compilers that do not follow the ISO C Standard.

### Related references

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

## 8.142 -Ospace

Performs optimizations to reduce image size at the expense of a possible increase in execution time.

Use this option if code size is more critical than performance. For example, when the -Ospace option is selected, large structure copies are done by out-of-line function calls instead of inline code.

If required, you can compile the time-critical parts of your code with -Otime, and the rest with -Ospace.

### Default

If you do not specify either -Ospace or -Otime, the compiler assumes -Ospace.

### Related references

[10.91 #pragma Onum on page 10-704.](#)

[10.94 #pragma Otime on page 10-707.](#)

[10.93 #pragma Ospace on page 10-706.](#)

[8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)

[8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)

## 8.143 -Otime

Performs optimizations to reduce execution time at the expense of a possible increase in image size.

Use this option if execution time is more critical than code size. If required, you can compile the time-critical parts of your code with -Otime, and the rest with -Ospace.

### Default

If you do not specify -Otime, the compiler assumes -Ospace.

### Examples

---

When the -Otime option is selected, the compiler compiles:

```
while (expression) body;
```

as:

```
if (expression)
{
    do body;
    while (expression);
}
```

---

### Related references

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile](#) on page 8-474.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.142 -Ospace](#) on page 8-485.

[10.91 #pragma Onum](#) on page 10-704.

[10.93 #pragma Ospace](#) on page 10-706.

[10.94 #pragma Otime](#) on page 10-707.

## 8.144 --output\_dir=directory\_name

Specifies an output directory for object files and depending on the other options you use, certain other types of compiler output.

The directory for assembler output can be specified using `--asm_dir`. The directory for dependency output can be specified using `--depend_dir`. The directory for `--list` output can be specified using `--list_dir`. If these options are not used, the corresponding output is placed in the directory specified by `--output_dir`, or if `--output_dir` is not specified, in the default location (for example, the current directory).

The executable is placed in the default location.

### Example

---

```
armcc -c --output_dir=obj f1.c f2.c
```

Result:

```
obj/f1.o  
obj/f2.o
```

---

### Related references

[8.14 --asm\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-342.

[8.51 --depend\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-385.

[8.119 --list\\_dir=directory\\_name](#) on page 8-459.

## 8.145 -P

Preprocesses source code without compiling, but does not generate line markers in the preprocessed output.

### Usage

This option can be of use when the preprocessed output is destined to be parsed by a separate script or utility.

### Related references

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)



## 8.146 `--parse_templates`, `--no_parse_templates`

Enables and disables the parsing of nonclass templates in their generic form in C++, that is, when the template is defined and before it is instantiated.

---

**Note**

The option `--no_parse_templates` is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

---

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--parse_templates`.

---

**Note**

`--no_parse_templates` cannot be used with `--dep_name`, because parsing is done by default if dependent name processing is enabled. Combining these options generates an error.

---

### Related references

[8.49 `--dep\_name`, `--no\_dep\_name` on page 8-383.](#)

[11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.](#)

## 8.147 --pch

Uses a PCH file if it exists, creates a PCH file otherwise.

---

**Note**

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

When the option `--pch` is specified, the compiler searches for a PCH file with the name *filename.pch*, where *filename.\** is the name of the primary source file. The compiler uses the PCH file *filename.pch* if it exists, and creates a PCH file named *filename.pch* in the same directory as the primary source file otherwise.

### Restrictions

This option has no effect if you include either the option `--use_pch=filename` or the option `--create_pch=filename` on the same command line.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)

### Related references

[8.42 --create\\_pch=filename on page 8-375.](#)

[8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir on page 8-491.](#)

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages on page 8-492.](#)

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose on page 8-493.](#)

[8.189 --use\\_pch=filename on page 8-539.](#)

[10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)

[10.90 #pragma no\\_pch on page 10-703.](#)

## 8.148 --pch\_dir=dir

Specifies the directory where PCH files are stored.

---

### Note

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

The directory is accessed whenever PCH files are created or used.

You can use this option with automatic or manual PCH mode.

### Syntax

--pch\_dir=dir

Where:

dir

is the name of the directory where PCH files are stored.

If *dir* is unspecified, the compiler faults use of --pch\_dir.

### Errors

If the specified directory *dir* does not exist, the compiler generates an error.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)

### Related references

[8.42 --create\\_pch=filename on page 8-375.](#)

[8.147 --pch on page 8-490.](#)

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages on page 8-492.](#)

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose on page 8-493.](#)

[8.189 --use\\_pch=filename on page 8-539.](#)

[10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)

[10.90 #pragma no\\_pch on page 10-703.](#)

## 8.149 `--pch_messages`, `--no_pch_messages`

Enables and disables the display of messages indicating that a PCH file is used in the current compilation.

---

**Note**

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

### Default

The default is `--pch_messages`.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-137.

### Related references

- [8.42 `--create\_pch=filename`](#) on page 8-375.
- [8.147 `--pch`](#) on page 8-490.
- [8.148 `--pch\_dir=dir`](#) on page 8-491.
- [8.150 `--pch\_verbose`, `--no\_pch\_verbose`](#) on page 8-493.
- [8.189 `--use\_pch=filename`](#) on page 8-539.
- [10.85 `#pragma hdrstop`](#) on page 10-698.
- [10.90 `#pragma no\_pch`](#) on page 10-703.

## 8.150 `--pch_verbose`, `--no_pch_verbose`

Enables and disables the display of messages giving reasons why a file cannot be precompiled.

---

### **Note**

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

In automatic PCH mode, this option ensures that for each PCH file that cannot be used for the current compilation, a message is displayed giving the reason why the file cannot be used.

### **Default**

The default is `--no_pch_verbose`.

### **Related concepts**

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files](#) on page 4-137.

### **Related references**

- [8.42 `--create\_pch=filename`](#) on page 8-375.
- [8.147 `--pch`](#) on page 8-490.
- [8.148 `--pch\_dir=dir`](#) on page 8-491.
- [8.149 `--pch\_messages`, `--no\_pch\_messages`](#) on page 8-492.
- [8.189 `--use\_pch=filename`](#) on page 8-539.
- [10.85 `#pragma hdrstop`](#) on page 10-698.
- [10.90 `#pragma no\_pch`](#) on page 10-703.

## 8.151 --pending\_instantiations=*n*

Specifies the maximum number of concurrent instantiations of a template in C++.

### Syntax

--pending\_instantiations=*n*

Where:

*n*

is the maximum number of concurrent instantiations permitted.

If *n* is zero, there is no limit.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

If you do not specify a --pending\_instantiations option, then the compiler assumes --pending\_instantiations=64.

### Usage

Use this option to detect runaway recursive instantiations.

## 8.152 --phony\_targets

Emits dummy makefile rules. These rules work around make errors that are generated if you remove header files without a corresponding update to the makefile.

This option is analogous to the GCC command-line option, `-MP`.

### Examples

---

Example output:

```
source.o: source.c
source.o: header.h
header.h:
```

### Related references

[8.50 --depend=filename](#) on page 8-384.

[8.52 --depend\\_format=string](#) on page 8-386.

[8.54 --depend\\_system\\_headers, --no\\_depend\\_system\\_headers](#) on page 8-389.

[8.55 --depend\\_target=target](#) on page 8-390.

[8.100 --ignore\\_missing\\_headers](#) on page 8-438.

[8.128 -M](#) on page 8-468.

[8.129 --md](#) on page 8-469.

## 8.153 --pointer\_alignment=num

Specifies unaligned pointer support required for an application.

### Syntax

--pointer\_alignment=*num*

Where *num* is one of:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | Accesses through pointers have an alignment of one, that is, byte-aligned or unaligned.        |
| 2 | Accesses through pointers have an alignment of at most two, that is, at most halfword aligned. |
| 4 | Accesses through pointers have an alignment of at most four, that is, at most word aligned.    |
| 8 | Accesses through pointers have normal alignment, that is, at most doubleword aligned.          |

If *num* is unspecified, the compiler faults use of --pointer\_alignment.

### Usage

This option can help you port source code that has been written for architectures without alignment requirements. You can achieve finer control of access to unaligned data, with less impact on the quality of generated code, using the `__packed` qualifier.

### Restrictions

De-aligning pointers might increase the code size, even on processors with unaligned access support. This is because only a subset of the load and store instructions benefit from unaligned access support. The compiler is unable to use multiple-word transfers or coprocessor-memory transfers, including hardware floating-point loads and stores, directly on unaligned memory objects.

———— **Note** —————

- Code size might increase significantly when compiling for processors without hardware support for unaligned access, for example, pre-v6 architectures.
- This option does not affect the placement of objects in memory, nor the layout and padding of structures.

### Related references

[10.12 \\_\\_packed on page 10-619.](#)

[10.95 #pragma pack\(n\) on page 10-708.](#)

[5.32 Compiler storage of data objects by natural byte alignment on page 5-193.](#)



## 8.154 --preinclude=filename

Includes the source code of the specified file at the beginning of the compilation.

### Syntax

`--preinclude=filename`

Where:

`filename`

is the name of the file whose source code is to be included.

If *filename* is unspecified, the compiler faults use of `--preinclude`.

### Usage

Use this option to establish standard macro definitions. The *filename* is searched for in the directories on the include search list.

It is possible to repeatedly specify this option on the command line. This results in pre-including the files in the order specified.

### Restrictions

Sub-directories of directories specified on the include search list are not searched unless you use `--arm_linux`. If you use `--arm_linux`, the compiler includes the `arm_linux` subdirectory in its search for pre-include files.

### Examples

---

```
armcc --preinclude file1.h --preinclude file2.h -c source.c
```

---

### Related concepts

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

[8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-449.](#)

[8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-437.](#)

[8.112 --kandr\\_include on page 8-450.](#)

[8.178 --sys\\_include on page 8-524.](#)

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

## 8.155 --preprocess\_assembly

Relaxes certain rules when producing preprocessed compiler output, to provide greater flexibility when preprocessing assembly language source code.

### Usage

Use this option to relax certain preprocessor rules when generating preprocessed output from assembly language source files. Specifically, the following special cases are permitted that would normally produce a compiler error:

- Lines beginning with a '#' character followed by a space and a number, that would normally indicate a GNU non-standard line marker, are ignored and copied verbatim into the preprocessed output.
- Unrecognized preprocessing directives are ignored and copied verbatim into the preprocessed output.
- Where the token-paste '#' operator is used in a function-like macro, if it is used with a name that is not a macro parameter, the name is copied verbatim into the preprocessed output together with the preceding '#' character.

For example if the source file contains:

```
# define mymacro(arg) foo #bar arg  
mymacro(x)
```

using the --preprocess\_assembly option produces a preprocessed output that contains:

```
foo #bar x
```

### Restrictions

This option is only valid when producing preprocessed output without continuing compilation, for example when using the -E, -P or -C command line options. It is ignored in other cases.

### Related references

[8.145 -P on page 8-488.](#)

[8.22 -C on page 8-351.](#)

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

## 8.156 --preprocessed

Forces the preprocessor to handle files with `.i` filename extensions as if macros have already been substituted.

### Usage

This option gives you the opportunity to use a different preprocessor. Generate your preprocessed code and then give the preprocessed code to the compiler in the form of a *filename.i* file, using `--preprocessed` to inform the compiler that the file has already been preprocessed.

### Restrictions

This option only applies to macros. Trigraphs, line concatenation, comments and all other preprocessor items are preprocessed by the preprocessor in the normal way.

If you use `--compile_all_input`, the `.i` file is treated as a `.c` file. The preprocessor behaves as if no prior preprocessing has occurred.

### Examples

---

```
armcc --preprocessed foo.i -c -o foo.o
```

---

### Related references

[8.27 --compile\\_all\\_input, --no\\_compile\\_all\\_input](#) on page 8-357.

[8.69 -E](#) on page 8-404.

## 8.157 `--protect_stack`, `--no_protect_stack`

Inserts a guard variable onto the stack frame for each vulnerable function.

The guard variable is inserted between any buffers and the return address entry.

A function is considered vulnerable if it contains a vulnerable array. A vulnerable array is one that has:

- Automatic storage duration.
- A character type (`char` or `wchar_t`).

In addition to inserting the guard variable and check, the compiler also moves vulnerable arrays to the top of the stack, immediately preceding the guard variable. The compiler stores a copy of the guard variable's value at another location, and uses the copy to check that the guard has not been overwritten, indicating a buffer overflow.

### Usage

Use `--protect_stack` to enable the stack protection feature. Use `--no_protect_stack` to explicitly disable this feature. If both options are specified, the last option specified takes effect.

The `--protect_stack_all` option adds this protection to all functions regardless of their vulnerability.

With stack protection, when a vulnerable function is called, the initial value of its guard variable is taken from a global variable:

```
void *__stack_chk_guard;
```

You must provide this variable with a suitable value, such as a random value. The value can change during the life of the program. For example, a suitable implementation might be to have the value constantly changed by another thread. In addition, you must implement this function:

```
void __stack_chk_fail(void);
```

It is called by the checking code on detection of corruption of the guard. In general, such a function would exit, possibly after reporting a fault.

For consistency with GNU tools, the option `-fstack-protector` is treated identically to `--protect_stack`. Similarly, the `-fstack-protector-all` option is treated identically to `--protect_stack_all`.

### Examples

In the following function, the array `buf` is vulnerable and the function is protected when compiled with `--protect_stack`:

```
void copy(const char *p)
{
    char buf[4];
    strcpy(buf, p);
}
```

### Default

The default is `--no_protect_stack`.

## 8.158 `--reassociate_saturation`, `--no_reassociate_saturation`

Enables and disables more aggressive optimization in loops that use saturating arithmetic.

### Usage

Saturating addition is not associative. That is,  $(x+y)+z$  might not be equal to  $x+(y+z)$ . For example, with a saturating maximum of 50,  $(40+20)-10 = 40$  while  $40+(20-10) = 50$ .

Some compiler optimizations rely on associativity, using re-association to rearrange expressions into a more efficient sequence.

The `--no_reassociate_saturation` option prohibits re-association of saturating addition, and therefore limits the level of optimization on saturating arithmetic.

The `--reassociate_saturation` option instructs the compiler to re-associate saturating additions, enabling the following optimizations:

- Vectorization of saturating arithmetic when compiling with `--vectorize`.
- Other optimizations might be performed when compiling without `--vectorize`, for example with `-O3 -Otime`.

### Restriction

Saturating addition is not associative, so enabling `--reassociate_saturation` could affect the result with a reduction in accuracy.

### Default

The default is `--no_reassociate_saturation`.

### Examples

The following code contains the function `L_mac`, which performs saturating additions. Therefore the compiler does not vectorize this code unless `--reassociate_saturation` and `--vectorize` are specified.

```
#include <dspfn.h>
int f(short *a, short *b)
{
    int i;
    int r = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < 100; i++)
        r=L_mac(r,a[i],b[i]);
    return r;
}
```

### Related concepts

[3.6 Automatic vectorization on page 3-78.](#)

### Related references

[8.191 `--vectorize`, `--no\_vectorize` on page 8-541.](#)

## 8.159 --reduce\_paths, --no\_reduce\_paths

Enables and disables the elimination of redundant path name information in file paths.

When elimination of redundant path name information is enabled, the compiler removes sequences of the form `xyz\..` from directory paths passed to the operating system. This includes system paths constructed by the compiler itself, for example, for `#include` searching.

---

### Note

The removal of sequences of the form `xyz\..` might not be valid if `xyz` is a link.

---

### Mode

This option is effective on Windows systems only.

### Usage

Windows systems impose a 260 character limit on file paths. Where path names exist whose absolute names expand to longer than 260 characters, you can use the `--reduce_paths` option to reduce absolute path name length by matching up directories with corresponding instances of `..` and eliminating the `directory/..` sequences in pairs.

---

### Note

ARM recommends that you avoid using long and deeply nested file paths, in preference to minimizing path lengths using the `--reduce_paths` option.

---

### Default

The default is `--no_reduce_paths`.

### Examples

---

Compiling the file

```
..\..\..\xyzy\xyzy\objects\file.c
```

from the directory

```
\foo\bar\baz\gazonk\quux\bop
```

results in an actual path of

```
\foo\bar\baz\gazonk\quux\bop..\..\..\xyzy\xyzy\objects\file.o
```

Compiling the same file from the same directory using the option `--reduce_paths` results in an actual path of

```
\foo\bar\baz\xyzy\xyzy\objects\file.c
```

---

## 8.160 `--relaxed_ref_def`, `--no_relaxed_ref_def`

Permits multiple object files to use tentative definitions of global variables.

Some traditional programs are written using this declaration style.

### Usage

This option is primarily provided for compatibility with GNU C. ARM does not recommend using this option for new application code.

### Default

The default is strict references and definitions. (Each global variable can only be declared in one object file.) However, if you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_gcc`, the default is `--relaxed_ref_def`.

### Restrictions

This option is not available in C++.

### Related references

[8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)

[8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)

[8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)

## 8.161 --remarks

Enables the display of remark messages, including any messages redesignated to remark severity using `--diag_remark`.

---

**Note**

The compiler does not issue remarks by default.

---

### Related references

- [8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.
- [8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.
- [8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.
- [8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.
- [8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.
- [8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.
- [8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.
- [8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.
- [8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.
- [8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.
- [10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.
- [10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.
- [10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.
- [6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.



## 8.162 `--remove_unneeded_entities`, `--no_remove_unneeded_entities`

Controls whether debug information is generated for all source symbols, or only for those source symbols actually used.

### Usage

Use `--remove_unneeded_entities` to reduce the amount of debug information in an ELF object. Faster linkage times can also be achieved.

---

#### Caution

Although `--remove_unneeded_entities` can help to reduce the amount of debug information generated per file, it has the disadvantage of reducing the number of debug sections that are common to many files. This reduces the number of common debug sections that the linker is able to remove at final link time, and can result in a final debug image that is larger than necessary. For this reason, use `--remove_unneeded_entities` only when necessary.

---

### Restrictions

The effects of these options are restricted to debug information.

### Default

The default is `--no_remove_unneeded_entities`.

### Related information

*The DWARF Debugging Standard*, <http://dwarfstd.org/>.

## 8.163 --restrict, --no\_restrict

Enables and disables the use of the C99 keyword **restrict**.

---

### Note

The alternative keywords `__restrict` and `__restrict__` are supported as synonyms for **restrict**. These alternative keywords are always available, regardless of the use of the `--restrict` option.

---

### Default

When compiling ISO C99 source code, use of the C99 keyword **restrict** is enabled by default.

When compiling ISO C90 or ISO C++ source code, use of the C99 keyword **restrict** is disabled by default.

### Related references

[9.13 restrict on page 9-570](#).

## 8.164 --retain=option

Restricts the optimizations performed by the compiler.

### Syntax

--retain=option

Where *option* is one of the following:

#### fns

prevents the removal of unused functions

#### inlinefns

prevents the removal of unused inline functions

#### noninlinefns

prevents the removal of unused non-inline functions

#### paths

prevents path-removing optimizations, such as `a | | b` transformed to `a | b`. This supports *Modified Condition Decision Coverage* (MCDC) testing.

#### calls

prevents calls being removed, for example by inlining or tailcalling.

#### calls:distinct

prevents calls being merged, for example by cross-jumping (that is, common tail path merging).

#### libcalls

prevents calls to library functions being removed, for example by inline expansion.

#### data

prevents data being removed.

#### rodata

prevents read-only data being removed.

#### rwdata

prevents read-write data being removed.

#### data:order

prevents data being reordered.

If *option* is unspecified, the compiler faults use of --retain.

### Usage

This option might be useful when performing validation, debugging, and coverage testing. In most other cases, it is not required.

Using this option can have a negative effect on code size and performance.

### Related references

[10.41 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(nomerge\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-653.

[10.44 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(notailcall\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-656.

## 8.165 --rtti, --no\_rtti

Controls support for the RTTI features `dynamic_cast` and `typeid` in C++.

### Usage

Use `--no_rtti` to disable source-level RTTI features such as `dynamic_cast`.

---

#### Note

You are permitted to use **`dynamic_cast`** without `--rtti` in cases where RTTI is not required, such as dynamic cast to an unambiguous base, and dynamic cast to `(void *)`. If you try to use **`dynamic_cast`** without `--rtti` in cases where RTTI is required, the compiler generates an error.

---

### Mode

These options are effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--rtti`.

### Related references

[8.65 --dllimport\\_runtime, --no\\_dllimport\\_runtime](#) on page 8-400.

[8.166 --rtti\\_data, --no\\_rtti\\_data](#) on page 8-509.

## 8.166 `--rtti_data`, `--no_rtti_data`

Enables and disables the generation of C++ RTTI data.

### Usage

Use `--no_rtti_data` to disable both source-level features and the generation of most RTTI data. Even if `--no_rtti_data` is set, RTTI data are generated for exceptions.

---

#### **Note**

In RVCT 4.0 and later, the GCC option `-fno-rtti` implies `--no_rtti_data` when using GCC command-line translation.

---

### Mode

These options are effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--rtti_data`.

### Related references

[8.65 `--dllimport\_runtime`, `--no\_dllimport\_runtime` on page 8-400.](#)

[8.74 `--exceptions`, `--no\_exceptions` on page 8-409.](#)

[8.165 `--rtti`, `--no\_rtti` on page 8-508.](#)

[8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)

[8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)

[8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)

**8.167 -S**

Outputs the disassembly of the machine code generated by the compiler to a file.

Unlike the `--asm` option, object modules are not generated. The name of the assembly output file defaults to *filename.s* in the current directory, where *filename* is the name of the source file stripped of any leading directory names. The default filename can be overridden with the `-o` option.

You can use `armasm` to assemble the output file and produce object code. The compiler adds `ASSERT` directives for command-line options such as AAPCS variants and byte order to ensure that compatible compiler and assembler options are used when re-assembling the output. You must specify the same AAPCS settings to both the assembler and the compiler.

**Related references**

[8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.](#)

[8.13 --asm on page 8-341.](#)

[8.21 -c on page 8-350.](#)

[8.106 --info=totals on page 8-444.](#)

[8.110 --interleave on page 8-448.](#)

[8.118 --list on page 8-457.](#)

[8.138 -o filename on page 8-478.](#)

**Related information**

[armasm User Guide.](#)

## 8.168 `--share_inlineable_strings`, `--no_share_inlineable_strings`

Controls whether multiple instances of the same inlined string literal use the same object.

With the `--share_inlineable_strings` option, all instances of an inlined string literal use the same object. Specifically:

- String literals in the same translation unit are the same object in that translation unit.
- String literals in externally-visible inline functions are the same object in all translation units.

This can also cause different string literals with the same value to be the same object.

The `--no_share_inlineable_strings` option suppresses this behavior. That is, the compiler only shares string literals if it provides a performance or code size benefit. For example, consider a string literal that is out of range of an ADR instruction. In this case, the address must be loaded from a literal pool, which costs 4 bytes and is slower than an ADR instruction. As a result, with `-Otime` the compiler would not share any strings that were out of range, and with `-Ospace` the compiler would not share any strings smaller than 4 bytes.

---

### Note

The `--share_inlineable_strings` and `--no_share_inlineable_strings` options affect string literals in:

- C or C++ functions not declared inline, but which the compiler has chosen to inline.
- C inline functions.

The behavior of strings in C++ inline functions is separate from these options, and is defined by the [C++ ABI](#).

---

### Example

Consider the following example code:

```
#include <stdio.h>

extern inline char *getString(void) { return "abc"; }

int main(int argc, char **argv)
{
    char *a = getString();
    char *(*ptr)() = getString;
    char *b = ptr();

    int a_addr=(int)a;
    int b_addr=(int)b;

    printf("String \"%s\" from getString() called directly is an object at address:      %d\n", a, a_addr);
    printf("String \"%s\" from getString() called using a pointer is an object at address:  %d\n", b, b_addr);

    if (a_addr == b_addr) {
        printf("Objects are the same.\n");
    } else {
        printf("Objects are different.\n");
    }
}
```

By default (that is, with the `--share_inlineable_strings` option) both instances of the string literal use a single, shared, object:

```
armcc --share_inlineable_strings --c99 test.c -o-
```

Running the compiled image produces the following output:

```
String "abc" from getString() called directly is an object at address:    36812
String "abc" from getString() called using a pointer is an object at address: 36812
Objects are the same.
```

Compiling the same code with the `--no_share_inlineable_strings` option results in multiple string objects:

```
armcc --no_share_inlineable_strings --c99 test.c -o-
```

Running the compiled image produces the following output:

```
String "abc" from getString() called directly is an object at address:    33004
String "abc" from getString() called using a pointer is an object at address: 36616
Objects are different.
```

## Related references

[8.142 `-Ospace` on page 8-485.](#)

[8.143 `-Otime` on page 8-486.](#)



## 8.169 --shared

Enables a shared library to be generated when building for ARM Linux with the `--arm_linux_paths` option.

It enables the selection of libraries and initialization code suitable for use in a shared library, based on the ARM Linux configuration.

### Restrictions

You must use this option in conjunction with `--arm_linux_paths` and `--apcs=/fpic`.

### Examples

---

Link two object files, `obj1.o` and `obj2.o`, into a shared library named `libexample.o`:

```
armcc --arm_linux_paths --arm_linux_config_file=my_config_file --shared -o
libexample.so obj1.o obj2.o
```

---

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.  
[8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.  
[8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths](#) on page 8-338.  
[8.29 --configure\\_cpp\\_headers=path](#) on page 8-359.  
[8.181 --translate\\_gcc](#) on page 8-528.  
[8.182 --translate\\_gld](#) on page 8-530.  
[8.30 --configure\\_extra\\_includes=paths](#) on page 8-360.  
[8.31 --configure\\_extra\\_libraries=paths](#) on page 8-361.  
[8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path](#) on page 8-363.  
[8.34 --configure\\_gcc\\_version=version](#) on page 8-364.  
[8.35 --configure\\_gld=path](#) on page 8-365.  
[8.180 --translate\\_g++](#) on page 8-526.  
[8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.  
[8.76 --execstack, --no\\_execstack](#) on page 8-411.  
[8.36 --configure\\_sysroot=path](#) on page 8-366.  
[8.8 --arm\\_linux](#) on page 8-333.

### Related information

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries](#) linker option.  
[--library=name](#) linker option.  
[--arm\\_linux](#) linker option.

## 8.170 --show\_cmdline

Outputs the command line used by the compiler.

### Usage

Shows the command line after processing by the compiler, and can be useful to check:

- The command line a build system is using.
- How the compiler is interpreting the supplied command line, for example, the ordering of command-line options.

The commands are shown normalized, and the contents of any via files are expanded.

The output is sent to the standard error stream (`stderr`).

---

#### **Note**

If using this option with the ARM Linux translation options, you must use `-Warmcc`. For example, `armcc -Warmcc,--show_cmdline --translate_gcc ...`

---

### Related references

[8.1 -Aopt](#) on page 8-322.

[8.70 --echo](#) on page 8-405.

[8.113 -Lopt](#) on page 8-451.

[8.194 --via=filename](#) on page 8-544.

[8.199 -Warmcc,option\[,option,...\]](#) on page 8-549.

[8.97 --help](#) on page 8-435.

## 8.171 `--signed_bitfields`, `--unsigned_bitfields`

Makes bitfields of type `int` signed or unsigned.

The C Standard specifies that if the type specifier used in declaring a bitfield is either `int`, or a `typedef` name defined as `int`, then whether the bitfield is signed or unsigned is dependent on the implementation.

### Default

The default is `--unsigned_bitfields`. However, if you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_gcc` or `--translate_g++`, the default is `--signed_bitfields`.

---

#### Note

The AAPCS requirement for bitfields to default to unsigned on ARM, is relaxed in version 2.03 of the standard.

---

### Examples

---

```
typedef int integer;
struct
{
    integer x : 1;
} bf;
```

Compiling this code with `--signed_bitfields` causes `x` to be treated as a signed bitfield.

---

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)

### Related information

*Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.*

## 8.172 --signed\_chars, --unsigned\_chars

Makes the char type signed or unsigned.

When **char** is signed, the macro `__FEATURE_SIGNED_CHAR` is also defined by the compiler.

---

### **Note**

- Care must be taken when mixing translation units that have been compiled with and without this option, and that share interfaces or data structures.
  - The ARM ABI defines **char** as an unsigned byte, and this is the interpretation used by the C++ libraries.
- 

### **Default**

The default is `--unsigned_chars`.

### **Related references**

[10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789](#).

## 8.173 --split\_ldm

Splits LDM and STM instructions performing large numbers of register transfers into multiple LDM or STM instructions, to help reduce interrupt latency on some ARM systems.

When --split\_ldm is selected, the maximum number of register transfers for an LDM or STM instruction is limited to:

- Five, for all STMs.
- Five, for LDMs that do not load the PC.
- Four, for LDMs that load the PC.

Where register transfers beyond these limits are required, multiple LDM or STM instructions are used.

### Usage

The --split\_ldm option can reduce interrupt latency on ARM systems that:

- Do not have a cache or a write buffer, for example, a cacheless ARM7TDMI.
- Use zero-wait-state, 32-bit memory.

---

#### Note

Using --split\_ldm increases code size and decreases performance slightly.

---

### Restrictions

- Inline assembler LDM and STM instructions are split by default when --split\_ldm is used. However, the compiler might subsequently recombine the separate instructions into an LDM or STM.
- Only LDM and STM instructions are split when --split\_ldm is used.
- Some target hardware does not benefit from code built with --split\_ldm. For example:
  - It has no significant benefit for cached systems, or for processors with a write buffer.
  - It has no benefit for systems with non zero-wait-state memory, or for systems with slow peripheral devices. Interrupt latency in such systems is determined by the number of cycles required for the slowest memory or peripheral access. Typically, this is much greater than the latency introduced by multiple register transfers.

### Related concepts

[7.16 Inline assembler and instruction expansion in C and C++ code on page 7-285.](#)

## 8.174 --split\_sections

Generates one ELF section for each function in the source file.

Output sections are named with the same name as the function that generates the section, but with an `i.` prefix.

---

### Note

If you want to place specific data items or structures in separate sections, mark them individually with `__attribute__((section(...)))`.

If you want to remove unused functions, ARM recommends that you use the linker feedback optimization in preference to this option. This is because linker feedback produces smaller code by avoiding the overhead of splitting all sections.

---

### Restrictions

This option reduces the potential for sharing addresses, data, and string literals between functions. Consequently, it might increase code size slightly for some functions.

### Examples

---

```
int f(int x)
{
    return x+1;
}
```

Compiling this code with `--split_sections` produces:

```
f PROC      AREA ||i.f||, CODE, READONLY, ALIGN=2
            ADD     r0,r0,#1
            BX      lr
            ENDP
```

---

### Related references

[8.44 --data\\_reorder, --no\\_data\\_reorder](#) on page 8-378.

[8.81 --feedback=filename](#) on page 8-416.

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile](#) on page 8-474.

[10.48 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-660.

[10.77 #pragma arm section \[section\\_type\\_list\]](#) on page 10-689.

[2.15 Linker feedback during compilation](#) on page 2-60.

## 8.175 --strict, --no\_strict

Enforces or relaxes strict C or strict C++, depending on the choice of source language used.

When --strict is selected:

- Features that conflict with ISO C or ISO C++ are disabled.
- Error messages are returned when nonstandard features are used.

### Default

The default is --no\_strict.

### Usage

--strict enforces compliance with:

#### ISO C90

- ISO/IEC 9899:1990, the 1990 International Standard for C.
- ISO/IEC 9899 AM1, the 1995 Normative Addendum 1.

#### ISO C99

ISO/IEC 9899:1999, the 1999 International Standard for C.

#### ISO C++

ISO/IEC 14822:2003, the 2003 International Standard for C++.

### Errors

When --strict is in force and a violation of the relevant ISO standard occurs, the compiler issues an error message.

The severity of diagnostic messages can be controlled using the --diag\_error, --diag\_remark, and --diag\_warning options.

### Examples

```
void foo(void)
{
    long long i; /* okay in nonstrict C90 */
}
```

Compiling this code with --strict generates an error.

### Related references

- [8.5 --anachronisms, --no\\_anachronisms](#) on page 8-326.
- [8.23 --c90](#) on page 8-352.
- [8.24 --c99](#) on page 8-353.
- [8.92 --gnu](#) on page 8-430.
- [8.37 --cpp](#) on page 8-367.
- [8.38 --cpp11](#) on page 8-368.
- [8.39 --cpp\\_compat](#) on page 8-369.
- [1.2 Source language modes of the compiler](#) on page 1-31.
- [2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler](#) on page 2-50.
- [8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.
- [8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.

[8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)  
[8.176 `--strict\_warnings` on page 8-521.](#)  
[9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers on page 9-576.](#)



## 8.176 --strict\_warnings

Diagnostics that are errors in --strict mode are downgraded to warnings, where possible.

It is sometimes not possible for the compiler to downgrade a strict error, for example, where it cannot construct a legitimate program to recover.

### Errors

When --strict\_warnings is in force and a violation of the relevant ISO standard occurs, the compiler normally issues a warning message.

The severity of diagnostic messages can be controlled using the --diag\_error, --diag\_remark, and --diag\_warning options.

---

#### Note

In some cases, the compiler issues an error message instead of a warning when it detects something that is strictly illegal, and terminates the compilation. For example:

```
#ifdef $Super$
extern void $Super$__aeabi_idiv0(void); /* intercept __aeabi_idiv0 */
#endif
```

Compiling this code with --strict\_warnings generates an error if you do not use the --dollar option.

---

---

### Examples

```
void foo(void)
{
    long long i; /* okay in nonstrict C90 */
}
```

Compiling this code with --strict\_warnings generates a warning message.

Compilation continues, even though the expression **long long** is strictly illegal.

---

### Related references

- [8.5 --anachronisms, --no\\_anachronisms](#) on page 8-326.
- [8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.
- [8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.
- [8.176 --strict\\_warnings](#) on page 8-521.
- [9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers](#) on page 9-576.
- [1.2 Source language modes of the compiler](#) on page 1-31.

## 8.177 --string\_literal\_pools, --no\_string\_literal\_pools

Controls whether the compiler places string constants in literal pools.

With the --string\_literal\_pools option, where there are string literals in source code, the compiler usually places the character data in a literal pool:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size : 32 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
main
    0x00000000: e92d4010 .@-. PUSH {r4,lr}
    0x00000004: e28f0008 .... ADR r0,{pc}+0x10 ; 0x14
    0x00000008: ebfffffe .... BL puts
    0x0000000c: e3a00000 .... MOV r0,#0
    0x00000010: e8bd8010 .... POP {r4,pc}

$d
    0x00000014: 6c6c6548 Hell DCD 1819043144
    0x00000018: 6f77206f o wo DCD 1870078063
    0x0000001c: 00646c72 rld. DCD 6581362
```

The --no\_string\_literal\_pools option instructs the compiler to place string constants in a separate .constdata section and load the address of the character data from an integer literal pool, as follows:

```
** Section #1 '.text' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC + SHF_EXECINSTR]
Size : 24 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

$a
.text
main
    0x00000000: e59f000c .... LDR r0,[pc,#12] ; [0x14] = 0
    0x00000004: e92d4010 .@-. PUSH {r4,lr}
    0x00000008: ebfffffe .... BL puts
    0x0000000c: e3a00000 .... MOV r0,#0
    0x00000010: e8bd8010 .... POP {r4,pc}

$d
    0x00000014: 00000000 .... DCD 0

** Section #4 '.constdata' (SHT_PROGBITS) [SHF_ALLOC]
Size : 12 bytes (alignment 4)
Address: 0x00000000

0x000000: 48 65 6c 6c 6f 20 77 6f 72 6c 64 00 Hello world.
```

If you also specify the --no\_integer\_literal\_pools option, the compiler constructs the address of the character data with a pair of MOVW/MOVT instructions.

### Default

The default is --string\_literal\_pools.

--execute\_only implies --no\_string\_literal\_pools, unless --string\_literal\_pools is explicitly specified.

#### ———— Note ————

Do not use --execute\_only in conjunction with --string\_literal\_pools. If you do, then the compiler places the literal pool in an unreadable, execute-only code region.

### Related concepts

[4.21 Compiler support for literal pools on page 4-134.](#)

### Related references

[8.108 --integer\\_literal\\_pools, --no\\_integer\\_literal\\_pools on page 8-446.](#)

[8.18 --branch\\_tables, --no\\_branch\\_tables on page 8-346.](#)

8.82 `--float_literal_pools`, `--no_float_literal_pools` on page 8-417.  
8.77 `--execute_only` on page 8-412.

## 8.178 --sys\_include

Removes the current place from the include search path.

Quoted include files are treated in a similar way to angle-bracketed include files, except that quoted include files are always searched for first in the directories specified by -I, and angle-bracketed include files are searched for first in the -J directories.

### Related concepts

[2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files on page 2-53.](#)

### Related references

[8.111 -Jdir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-449.](#)

[8.99 -Idir\[,dir,...\] on page 8-437.](#)

[8.112 --kandr\\_include on page 8-450.](#)

[8.154 --preinclude=filename on page 8-497.](#)

[2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths on page 2-54.](#)

## 8.179 --thumb

Targets the Thumb instruction set.

### Default

This is the default option for targets that do not support the ARM instruction set.

### Related tasks

[5.4 Selecting the target processor at compile time on page 5-159.](#)

### Related references

[8.7 --arm on page 8-332.](#)

[10.76 #pragma arm on page 10-688.](#)

[10.99 #pragma thumb on page 10-713.](#)

### Related information

[ARM architectures supported by the toolchain.](#)

## 8.180 `--translate_g++`

Helps to emulate the GNU compiler in C++ mode by enabling the translation of command lines from the GNU tools.

### Usage

You can use this option to provide either of the following:

- A full GCC emulation targeting ARM Linux.
- A subset of full GCC emulation in the form of translating individual GCC command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents.

To provide a full ARM Linux GCC emulation, you must also use `--arm_linux_config_file`. This combination of options selects the appropriate GNU header files and libraries specified by the configuration file, and includes changes to some default behaviors.

To translate GCC command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents without aiming for full GCC emulation, use `--translate_g++` to emulate `g++`, but do not use it with `--arm_linux_config_file`. Because you are not aiming for full GCC emulation with this method, the default behavior of the ARM compilation tools is retained, and no defaults are set for targeting ARM Linux. The library paths and option defaults for the ARM compilation tools remained unchanged.

Specifying multiple GNU translation modes on the same command line is ambiguous to the compiler. The first specified translation mode is used, and the compiler generates a warning message. For example, given `armcc --translate_g++ --translate_gld`, the compiler uses `--translate_g++`, ignores `--translate_gld`, and generates a warning message.

If you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_g++`, this alters the default settings for:

- `--exceptions`, `--no_exceptions`.
- `--bss_threshold`.
- `--relaxed_ref_def`, `--no_relaxed_ref_def`
- `--signed_bitfields`, `--unsigned_bitfields`.

To selectively specify options that are not to be translated, use `-warmcc`.

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)
- [8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)
- [8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)
- [8.76 `--execstack`, `--no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)
- [8.20 `--bss\_threshold=num` on page 8-349.](#)

- 8.34 --configure\_gcc\_version=version on page 8-364.*
- 8.36 --configure\_sysroot=path on page 8-366.*
- 8.74 --exceptions, --no\_exceptions on page 8-409.*
- 8.160 --relaxed\_ref\_def, --no\_relaxed\_ref\_def on page 8-503.*
- 8.171 --signed\_bitfields, --unsigned\_bitfields on page 8-515.*
- 8.199 -Warmcc,option[,option,...] on page 8-549.*
- 8.200 -Warmcc,--gcc\_fallback on page 8-550.*
- 10.36 \_\_attribute\_\_((destructor[(priority)])) function attribute on page 10-648.*
- 10.34 \_\_attribute\_\_((constructor[(priority)])) function attribute on page 10-646.*

### **Related information**

- search\_dynamic\_libraries, --no\_search\_dynamic\_libraries linker option.*
- library=name linker option.*
- arm\_linux linker option.*

## 8.181 `--translate_gcc`

Helps to emulate GCC by enabling the translation of command lines from the GNU tools.

### Usage

You can use this option to provide either of the following:

- A full GCC emulation targeting ARM Linux.
- A subset of full GCC emulation in the form of translating individual GCC command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents.

To provide a full GCC emulation, you must also use `--arm_linux_config_file`. This combination of options selects the appropriate GNU header files and libraries specified by the configuration file, and includes changes to some default behaviors.

To translate individual GCC command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents without aiming for full GCC emulation, use `--translate_gcc` to emulate `gcc`, but do not use it with `--arm_linux_config_file`. Because you are not aiming for full GCC emulation with this method, the default behavior of the ARM compilation tools is retained, and no defaults are set for targeting ARM Linux. The library paths and option defaults for the ARM compilation tools remained unchanged.

To selectively specify options that are not to be translated, use `-warmcc`.

Specifying multiple GNU translation modes on the same command line is ambiguous to the compiler. The first specified translation mode is used, and the compiler generates a warning message. For example, given `armcc --translate_gcc --translate_gld`, the compiler uses `--translate_gcc`, ignores `--translate_gld`, and generates a warning message.

If you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line and you use `--translate_gcc`, this alters the default settings for:

- `--bss_threshold`.
- `--relaxed_ref_def`, `--no_relaxed_ref_def`.
- `--signed_bitfields`, `--unsigned_bitfields`.

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld` on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)
- [8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)
- [8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)
- [8.76 `--execstack`, `--no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)
- [8.20 `--bss\_threshold=num` on page 8-349.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)



[8.74 `--exceptions`, `--no\_exceptions` on page 8-409.](#)  
[8.160 `--relaxed\_ref\_def`, `--no\_relaxed\_ref\_def` on page 8-503.](#)  
[8.171 `--signed\_bitfields`, `--unsigned\_bitfields` on page 8-515.](#)  
[8.199 `-Warmcc,option\[,option,...\]` on page 8-549.](#)  
[8.200 `-Warmcc,--gcc\_fallback` on page 8-550.](#)  
[10.36 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(destructor\[<priority>\]\)\)` function attribute on page 10-648.](#)  
[10.34 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(constructor\[<priority>\]\)\)` function attribute on page 10-646.](#)

#### **Related information**

[--search\\_dynamic\\_libraries, --no\\_search\\_dynamic\\_libraries linker option.](#)  
[--library=name linker option.](#)  
[--arm\\_linux linker option.](#)

## 8.182 `--translate_gld`

Helps to emulate GNU ld by enabling the translation of command lines from the GNU tools.

### Usage

You can use this option to provide either of the following:

- A full GNU ld emulation targeting ARM Linux
- A subset of full GNU ld emulation in the form of translating individual GNU ld command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents.

To provide a full GNU ld emulation, you must also use `--arm_linux_config_file`. This combination of options selects the appropriate GNU library paths specified by the configuration file, and includes changes to some default behaviors.

To translate individual GNU ld command-line arguments into their ARM compiler equivalents without aiming for full GNU ld emulation, use `--translate_gld` to emulate GNU ld, but do not use it with `--arm_linux_config_file`. Because you are not aiming for full GNU ld emulation with this method, default behavior of the ARM compilation tools is retained, and no defaults are set for targeting ARM Linux. The library paths and option defaults for the ARM compilation tools remained unchanged.

### ———— Note ————

- `--translate_gld` is used by invoking `armcc` as if it were the GNU linker. This is intended only for use by existing build scripts that involve the GNU linker directly.
- In `gcc` and `g++` modes, `armcc` reports itself with `--translate_gld` as the linker it uses. For example, `gcc -print-file-name=ld`.

To selectively specify options that are not to be translated, use `-warmcc`.

Specifying multiple GNU translation modes on the same command line is ambiguous to the compiler. The first specified translation mode is used, and the compiler generates a warning message. For example, given `armcc --translate_gcc --translate_gld`, the compiler uses `--translate_gcc`, ignores `--translate_gld`, and generates a warning message.

### Related references

- [8.9 `--arm\_linux\_config\_file=path` on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.10 `--arm\_linux\_configure` on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.11 `--arm\_linux\_paths` on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.29 `--configure\_cpp\_headers=path` on page 8-359.](#)
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc` on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.30 `--configure\_extra\_includes=paths` on page 8-360.](#)
- [8.31 `--configure\_extra\_libraries=paths` on page 8-361.](#)
- [8.33 `--configure\_gcc=path` on page 8-363.](#)
- [8.34 `--configure\_gcc\_version=version` on page 8-364.](#)
- [8.35 `--configure\_gld=path` on page 8-365.](#)
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++` on page 8-526.](#)
- [8.93 `--gnu\_defaults` on page 8-431.](#)
- [8.169 `--shared` on page 8-513.](#)
- [8.76 `--execstack, --no\_execstack` on page 8-411.](#)
- [8.36 `--configure\_sysroot=path` on page 8-366.](#)
- [8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)
- [8.20 `--bss\_threshold=num` on page 8-349.](#)

- 8.34 --configure\_gcc\_version=version* on page 8-364.
- 8.36 --configure\_sysroot=path* on page 8-366.
- 8.74 --exceptions, --no\_exceptions* on page 8-409.
- 8.160 --relaxed\_ref\_def, --no\_relaxed\_ref\_def* on page 8-503.
- 8.171 --signed\_bitfields, --unsigned\_bitfields* on page 8-515.
- 8.199 -Warmcc,option[,option,...]* on page 8-549.
- 8.200 -Warmcc,--gcc\_fallback* on page 8-550.
- 10.36 \_\_attribute\_\_((destructor[(priority)])) function attribute* on page 10-648.
- 10.34 \_\_attribute\_\_((constructor[(priority)])) function attribute* on page 10-646.

## **Related information**

- search\_dynamic\_libraries, --no\_search\_dynamic\_libraries linker option.*
- library=name linker option.*
- arm\_linux linker option.*

## 8.183 --trigraphs, --no\_trigraphs

Enables and disables trigraph recognition.

### Default

The default is --trigraphs, except in GNU mode, where the default is --no\_trigraphs.

### Related information

[\*ISO/IEC 9899:TC2.\*](#)

## 8.184 `--type_traits_helpers`, `--no_type_traits_helpers`

Enables and disables support for C++ type traits helpers (such as `__is_union` and `__has_virtual_destructor`).

Type traits helpers are enabled in non-GNU C++ mode by default, and in GNU C++ mode when emulating g++ 4.3 and later.

### Related references

[8.95 `--gnu\_version=version` on page 8-433](#).

## 8.185 -Uname

Removes any initial definition of the specified macro.

The macro *name* can be either:

- A predefined macro.
- A macro specified using the -D option.

---

**Note**

Not all compiler predefined macros can be undefined.

---

### Syntax

-U*name*

Where:

*name*

is the name of the macro to be undefined.

### Usage

Specifying -U*name* has the same effect as placing the text `#undef name` at the head of each source file.

### Restrictions

The compiler defines and undefines macros in the following order:

1. Compiler predefined macros.
2. Macros defined explicitly, using -D*name*.
3. Macros explicitly undefined, using -U*name*.

### Related references

[8.22 -C on page 8-351.](#)

[8.43 -D\*name\*\[\(\*parm-list\*\)\] \[=def\] on page 8-376.](#)

[8.69 -E on page 8-404.](#)

[8.128 -M on page 8-468.](#)

[10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)

## 8.186 `--unaligned_access`, `--no_unaligned_access`

Enables and disables unaligned accesses to data on ARM architecture-based processors.

### Default

The default is `--unaligned_access` on ARM-architecture based processors that support unaligned accesses to data. This includes:

- All ARMv6 architecture-based processors.
- ARMv7-A, ARMv7-R, and ARMv7-M architecture-based processors.

The default is `--no_unaligned_access` on ARM-architecture based processors that do not support unaligned accesses to data. This includes:

- All pre-ARMv6 architecture-based processors.
- ARMv6-M architecture-based processors.

### Usage

#### `--unaligned_access`

Use `--unaligned_access` on processors that support unaligned accesses to data, for example `--cpu=ARM1136J-S`, to speed up accesses to packed structures.

To enable unaligned support in ARMv6, except ARMv6-M, you must:

- Clear the A bit, bit 1, of CP15 register 1 in your initialization code.
- Set the U bit, bit 22, of CP15 register 1 in your initialization code.

The initial value of the U bit is determined by the **UBITINIT** input to the processor. The MMU must be on, and the memory marked as normal memory.

ARMv6-M faults all unaligned data accesses.

To enable unaligned support in ARMv7:

- In ARMv7-A and ARMv7-R, clear the A bit, bit 1, in the *System Control Register* (SCTLR).
- In ARMv7-M, clear the UNALIGN\_TRP bit, bit 3, in the *Configuration and Control Register* (CCR).

The libraries include special versions of certain library functions designed to exploit unaligned accesses. When unaligned access support is enabled, the compilation tools use these library functions to take advantage of unaligned accesses.

#### `--no_unaligned_access`

Use `--no_unaligned_access` to disable the generation of unaligned word and halfword accesses on ARMv6 and ARMv7 processors.

To enable modulo four-byte alignment checking on an ARMv6 target without unaligned accesses, you must:

- Set the A bit, bit 1, of CP15 register 1 in your initialization code.
- Set the U bit, bit 22, of CP15 register 1 in your initialization code.

The initial value of the U bit is determined by the **UBITINIT** input to the processor.

To enable alignment fault checking in ARMv7:

- In ARMv7-A and ARMv7-R, set the A bit, bit 1, in the SCTLR.
- In ARMv7-M, set the UNALIGN\_TRP bit, bit 3, in the CCR.

---

#### **Note**

ARM processors do not provide support for unaligned doubleword accesses, for example unaligned accesses to **long long** integers. Doubleword accesses must be either eight-byte or four-byte aligned.

---

The libraries include special versions of certain library functions designed to exploit unaligned accesses. To prevent these enhanced library functions being used when unaligned access support is disabled, you have to specify `--no_unaligned_access` on both the compiler command line and the assembler command line when compiling a mixture of C and C++ source files and assembly language source files.

#### Restrictions

Code compiled for processors supporting unaligned accesses to data can run correctly only if the choice of alignment support in software matches the choice of alignment support on the processor.

#### Related references

[8.41 `--cpu=name` compiler option](#) on page 8-372.

#### Related information

[--unaligned\\_access](#), [--no\\_unaligned\\_access](#) assembler option.



## 8.187 --use\_frame\_pointer, --no\_use\_frame\_pointer

Sets the frame pointer to the current stack frame.

Using the --use\_frame\_pointer option reserves a register to store the frame pointer.

For newer processors that support Thumb-2 technology (ARMv6T2 and later), the reserved register is always R11.

For older processors that do not support Thumb-2 technology, the reserved register is R11 in ARM code and R7 in Thumb code.

### Default

The default is --no\_use\_frame\_pointer. That is, register R11 (or register R7 for Thumb code on older processors) is available for use as a general-purpose register.

### Related information

*ARM registers.*

*General-purpose registers.*

## 8.188 --use\_gas

Invokes the GNU assembler (gas) rather than armasm when you compile source files ending in .s or .S.

It is only applicable when using GNU translation (-warmcc).

### Usage

During translation, invoke gas with -warmcc, --use\_gas.

### Related references

[8.32 --configure\\_gas=path](#) on page 8-362.

[8.199 -Warmcc,option\[,option,...\]](#) on page 8-549.

## 8.189 --use\_pch=filename

Uses the specified PCH file as part of the current compilation.

---

### Note

This option is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

This option takes precedence if you include --pch on the same command line.

### Syntax

--use\_pch=filename

Where:

*filename*

is the PCH file to be used as part of the current compilation.

### Restrictions

The effect of this option is negated if you include --create\_pch=filename on the same command line.

### Errors

If the specified file does not exist, or is not a valid PCH file, the compiler generates an error.

### Related concepts

[4.24 Precompiled Header \(PCH\) files on page 4-137.](#)

### Related references

[8.42 --create\\_pch=filename on page 8-375.](#)

[8.147 --pch on page 8-490.](#)

[8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir on page 8-491.](#)

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages on page 8-492.](#)

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose on page 8-493.](#)

[10.85 #pragma hdrstop on page 10-698.](#)

[10.90 #pragma no\\_pch on page 10-703.](#)

## 8.190 `--using_std`, `--no_using_std`

Enables or disables implicit use of the `std` namespace when standard header files are included in C++.

———— **Note** ————

This option is provided only as a migration aid for legacy source code that does not conform to the C++ standard. ARM does not recommend its use.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--no_using_std`.

### Related references

[11.10 Namespaces in ARM C++ on page 11-814.](#)

## 8.191 --vectorize, --no\_vectorize

Enables and disables the generation of NEON vector instructions directly from C or C++ code.

### Default

The default is `--no_vectorize`.

### Restrictions

The following options must be specified for loops to vectorize:

`--cpu=name`

Target processor must have NEON capability.

`-Otime`

Type of optimization to reduce execution time.

`-Onum`

Level of optimization. One of the following must be used:

- `-O2` High optimization. This is the default.
- `-O3` Maximum optimization.

### Examples

This example invokes automatic vectorization on the Cortex-A8 processor.

```
armcc --vectorize --cpu=Cortex-A8 -O3 -Otime -c file.c
```

Using the command-line options `-O3` and `-Otime` ensures that the code achieves significant performance benefits in addition to those of vectorization.

---

#### **Note**

You can also compile with `-O2 -Otime`. However, this does not give the maximum code performance.

---

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option](#) on page 8-372.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.

[8.158 --reassociate\\_saturation, --no\\_reassociate\\_saturation](#) on page 8-501.

[3 Using the NEON Vectorizing Compiler](#) on page 3-70.

### Related information

[Introducing NEON Development Article.](#)

## 8.192 --version\_number

Displays the version of armcc you are using.

### Usage

The compiler displays the version number in the format nnnbbbb, where:

- nnn is the version number.
- bbbb is the build number.

### Example

Version 5.05 build 0019 is displayed as 5050019.

### Related references

[8.197 --vsn on page 8-547.](#)

[8.97 --help on page 8-435.](#)

## 8.193 --vfe, --no\_vfe

Enables and disables Virtual Function Elimination (VFE) in C++.

VFE enables unused virtual functions to be removed from code. When VFE is enabled, the compiler places the information in special sections with the prefix `.arm_vfe_`. These sections are ignored by linkers that are not VFE-aware, because they are not referenced by the rest of the code. Therefore, they do not increase the size of the executable. However, they increase the size of the object files.

### Mode

This option is effective only if the source language is C++.

### Default

The default is `--vfe`, except for the case where legacy object files compiled with a pre-RVCT v2.1 compiler do not contain VFE information.

### Related references

[16.2 Calling a pure virtual function on page 16-920.](#)

### Related information

[Elimination of unused virtual functions.](#)

## 8.194 --via=filename

Reads an additional list of input filenames and compiler options from *filename*.

### Syntax

```
--via=filename
```

Where *filename* is the name of a via file containing options to be included on the command line.

### Usage

You can enter multiple `--via` options on the compiler command line. The `--via` options can also be included within a via file.

### Examples

---

Given a source file `main.c`, a via file `apcs.txt` containing the line:

```
--apcs=/rwpi --no_lower_rwpi --via=L_apcs.txt
```

and a second via file `L_apcs.txt` containing the line:

```
-L--rwpi -L--callgraph
```

compiling `main.c` with the command line:

```
armcc main.c -L-o"main.axf" --via=apcs.txt
```

compiles `main.c` using the command line:

```
armcc --no_lower_rwpi --apcs=/rwpi -L--rwpi -L--callgraph -L-o"main.axf" main.c
```

---

### Related references

[13.2 Via file syntax rules](#) on page 13-893.

### Related information

[Methods of specifying command-line options.](#)



## 8.195 --visibility\_inlines\_hidden

Stops inline member functions acquiring dynamic linkage.

Inline member functions stop acquiring dynamic linkage (default visibility) from:

- `class __declspec(dllexport)`.
- A class visibility attribute.
- `--no_hide_all`.

Non-member functions are not affected.

### Related references

[10.23 `\_\_declspec\(dllexport\)`](#) on page 10-632.

[10.52 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-664.

[8.98 `--hide\_all`, `--no\_hide\_all`](#) on page 8-436.

## 8.196 --vla, --no\_vla

Enables or disables support for variable length arrays.

### Default

C90 and Standard C++ do not support variable length arrays by default. Select the option `--vla` to enable support for variable length arrays in C90 or Standard C++.

Variable length arrays are supported both in Standard C and the GNU compiler extensions. The option `--vla` is implicitly selected either when the source language is C99 or the option `--gnu` is specified.

---

### Note

Memory for variable length arrays is allocated at runtime, on the heap.

---

### Examples

---

```
size_t arr_size(int n)
{
    char array[n];           // variable length array, dynamically allocated
    return sizeof array;     // evaluated at runtime
}
```

---

### Related references

[8.23 --c90](#) on page 8-352.

[8.24 --c99](#) on page 8-353.

[8.37 --cpp](#) on page 8-367.

[8.92 --gnu](#) on page 8-430.

## 8.197 --vsn

Displays the version information and the license details.

Example output:

```
> armcc --vsn
Product: ARM Compiler N.nn
Component: ARM Compiler N.nn (toolchain_build_number)
Tool: armcc [build_number]
License_type
Software supplied by: ARM Limited
```

### Related references

[8.192 --version\\_number](#) on page 8-542.

[8.97 --help](#) on page 8-435.

## 8.198 -W

Suppresses all warning messages.

### Related references

- [8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.
- [8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.
- [8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.
- [8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.
- [8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.
- [8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.
- [8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.
- [8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.
- [8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.
- [10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.
- [10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.
- [10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.
- [8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.
- [6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 8.199 -Warmcc,option[,option,...]

Enables normal compiler command-line options to be passed to the compiler in GCC emulation mode.

The options associated with -Warmcc are passed verbatim to the compiler, that is, without translation. These options also override any translation options that are specified.

### Syntax

`-Warmcc,option[,option,...]`

Where:

*option*

is a normal ARM compiler option.

### Usage

Use this option to take advantage of features specific to the ARM compilation tools when in GCC emulation mode.

### Examples

---

In this example, -Warmcc enables the command-line options -A and -L to be used for passing options to the assembler and the linker without translation, while in GCC emulation mode.

```
armcc --translate_gcc --arm_linux_config_file=linux_config -o example.axf example.s -  
Warmcc,-A--predefine="my_variable SETA 20" -Warmcc,-L--inline
```

---

### Related concepts

[2.14 Using GCC fallback when building applications on page 2-58.](#)

### Related references

[8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path on page 8-335.](#)

[8.1 -Aopt on page 8-322.](#)

[8.113 -Lopt on page 8-451.](#)

[8.180 --translate\\_g++ on page 8-526.](#)

[8.181 --translate\\_gcc on page 8-528.](#)

[8.182 --translate\\_gld on page 8-530.](#)

### Related information

[--predefine directive assembler option.](#)

[--inline, --no\\_inline linker option.](#)

## 8.200 -Warmcc,--gcc\_fallback

Uses GCC to retry a failed build step, when building for ARM Linux.

### Usage

When using `armcc` in GCC emulation mode, GCC incompatibilities might cause a compile, assembly or link step to fail. Using this option instructs the compiler to automatically retry the failed step using GCC. Any build step that succeeds with the `armcc` does not get rebuilt using GCC. Each failed step is retried using GCC. For example, if you specify this option for all of the source files in your build and one of them contains an unsupported GNU extension, such as inline assembly code with the GCC syntax, `armcc` generates a warning and the compiler retries the failed command lines using the GNU tools.

---

#### Note

You must escape the option using `-Warmcc`, for example `-Warmcc,--gcc_fallback`.

---

### Restrictions

This option can only be used with a GNU emulation mode (that is when using `--translate_gcc`, `--translate_g++`, or `--translate_gld`) and an ARM Linux configuration file specified with `--arm_linux_config_file`. An existing GNU toolchain must be present (either automatically found on the `PATH` environment variable or specified with `--configure_gcc`) to create the configuration file.

### Examples

---

```
armcc -c --translate_gcc --arm_linux_config_file=linux_config -Warmcc,--gcc_fallback -o  
example.o example.c
```

---

### Related references

- [8.180 --translate\\_g++ on page 8-526.](#)
- [8.181 --translate\\_gcc on page 8-528.](#)
- [8.182 --translate\\_gld on page 8-530.](#)
- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path on page 8-335.](#)
- [8.11 --arm\\_linux\\_paths on page 8-338.](#)
- [8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure on page 8-336.](#)
- [8.33 --configure\\_gcc=path on page 8-363.](#)

## 8.201 --wchar, --no\_wchar

Permits or forbids the use of `wchar_t`.

It does not necessarily fault declarations, providing they are unused.

### Usage

Use this option to create an object file that is independent of `wchar_t` size.

### Restrictions

If `--no_wchar` is specified:

- `wchar_t` fields in structure declarations are faulted by the compiler, regardless of whether or not the structure is used.
- `wchar_t` in a typedef is faulted by the compiler, regardless of whether or not the typedef is used.

### Default

The default is `--wchar`.

### Related references

[8.202 --wchar16 on page 8-552.](#)

[8.203 --wchar32 on page 8-553.](#)

## 8.202 --wchar16

Changes the type of `wchar_t` to unsigned short.

Selecting this option modifies both the type of the defined type `wchar_t` in C and the type of the native type `wchar_t` in C++. It also affects the values of `WCHAR_MIN` and `WCHAR_MAX`.

### Default

The compiler assumes `--wchar16` unless `--wchar32` is explicitly specified.

### Related references

[8.201 --wchar, --no\\_wchar](#) on page 8-551.

[8.203 --wchar32](#) on page 8-553.

[10.155 Predefined macros](#) on page 10-789.



## 8.203 --wchar32

Changes the type of `wchar_t` to unsigned int.

Selecting this option modifies both the type of the defined type `wchar_t` in C and the type of the native type `wchar_t` in C++. It also affects the values of `WCHAR_MIN` and `WCHAR_MAX`.

### Default

The compiler assumes `--wchar16` unless `--wchar32` is explicitly specified, or unless you specify an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line. Specifying an ARM Linux configuration file on the command line turns `--wchar32` on.

### Related references

- [10.155 Predefined macros](#) on page 10-789.
- [8.202 --wchar16](#) on page 8-552.
- [8.201 --wchar, --no\\_wchar](#) on page 8-551.
- [8.93 --gnu\\_defaults](#) on page 8-431.
- [8.10 --arm\\_linux\\_configure](#) on page 8-336.
- [8.9 --arm\\_linux\\_config\\_file=path](#) on page 8-335.

## 8.204 --whole\_program

Promises the compiler that the source files specified on the command line form the whole program.

The compiler is then able to apply optimizations based on the knowledge that the source code visible to it is the complete set of source code for the program being compiled. Without this knowledge, the compiler is more conservative when applying optimizations to the code.

### Usage

Use this option to gain maximum performance from a small program.

### Restriction

Do not use this option if you do not have all of the source code to give to the compiler.

### Related references

[8.134 --multifile, --no\\_multifile](#) on page 8-474.

## 8.205 `--wrap_diagnostics`, `--no_wrap_diagnostics`

Enables and disables the wrapping of error message text when it is too long to fit on a single line.

### Default

The default is `--no_wrap_diagnostics`.

### Related references

- [8.19 `--brief\_diagnostics`, `--no\_brief\_diagnostics` on page 8-348.](#)
- [8.57 `--diag\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-392.](#)
- [8.58 `--diag\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-393.](#)
- [8.59 `--diag\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option` on page 8-394.](#)
- [8.60 `--diag\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-395.](#)
- [8.61 `--diag\_suppress=optimizations` on page 8-396.](#)
- [8.62 `--diag\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 8-397.](#)
- [8.63 `--diag\_warning=optimizations` on page 8-398.](#)
- [8.73 `--errors=filename` on page 8-408.](#)
- [8.198 `-W` on page 8-548.](#)
- [10.79 `#pragma diag\_error tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-692.](#)
- [10.80 `#pragma diag\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-693.](#)
- [10.81 `#pragma diag\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]` on page 10-694.](#)
- [8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)
- [6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

# Chapter 9

## Language Extensions

Describes the language extensions that the compiler supports.  
It contains the following sections:

- [9.1 Preprocessor extensions](#) on page 9-558.
- [9.2 #assert](#) on page 9-559.
- [9.3 #include\\_next](#) on page 9-560.
- [9.4 #unassert](#) on page 9-561.
- [9.5 #warning](#) on page 9-562.
- [9.6 C99 language features available in C90](#) on page 9-563.
- [9.7 // comments](#) on page 9-564.
- [9.8 Subscripting struct](#) on page 9-565.
- [9.9 Flexible array members](#) on page 9-566.
- [9.10 C99 language features available in C++ and C90](#) on page 9-567.
- [9.11 Variadic macros](#) on page 9-568.
- [9.12 long long](#) on page 9-569.
- [9.13 restrict](#) on page 9-570.
- [9.14 Hexadecimal floats](#) on page 9-571.
- [9.15 Standard C language extensions](#) on page 9-572.
- [9.16 Constant expressions](#) on page 9-573.
- [9.17 Array and pointer extensions](#) on page 9-574.
- [9.18 Block scope function declarations](#) on page 9-575.
- [9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers](#) on page 9-576.
- [9.20 Top-level declarations](#) on page 9-577.
- [9.21 Benign redeclarations](#) on page 9-578.

- [9.22 External entities](#) on page 9-579.
- [9.23 Function prototypes](#) on page 9-580.
- [9.24 Standard C++ language extensions](#) on page 9-581.
- [9.25 ? operator](#) on page 9-582.
- [9.26 Declaration of a class member](#) on page 9-583.
- [9.27 friend](#) on page 9-584.
- [9.28 Read/write constants](#) on page 9-585.
- [9.29 Scalar type constants](#) on page 9-586.
- [9.30 Specialization of nonmember function templates](#) on page 9-587.
- [9.31 Type conversions](#) on page 9-588.
- [9.32 Standard C and Standard C++ language extensions](#) on page 9-589.
- [9.33 Address of a register variable](#) on page 9-590.
- [9.34 Arguments to functions](#) on page 9-591.
- [9.35 Anonymous classes, structures and unions](#) on page 9-592.
- [9.36 Assembler labels](#) on page 9-593.
- [9.37 Empty declaration](#) on page 9-594.
- [9.38 Hexadecimal floating-point constants](#) on page 9-595.
- [9.39 Incomplete enums](#) on page 9-596.
- [9.40 Integral type extensions](#) on page 9-597.
- [9.41 Label definitions](#) on page 9-598.
- [9.42 Long float](#) on page 9-599.
- [9.43 Nonstatic local variables](#) on page 9-600.
- [9.44 Structure, union, enum, and bitfield extensions](#) on page 9-601.
- [9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages](#) on page 9-602.

## 9.1 Preprocessor extensions

The compiler supports several extensions to the preprocessor, including the `#assert` preprocessing extensions of System V release 4.

### Related references

[9.2 `#assert` on page 9-559.](#)

[9.3 `#include\_next` on page 9-560.](#)

[9.4 `#unassert` on page 9-561.](#)

[9.5 `#warning` on page 9-562.](#)

## 9.2 #assert

The `#assert` preprocessing extensions of System V release 4 are permitted. These enable definition and testing of predicate names.

Such names are in a namespace distinct from all other names, including macro names.

### Syntax

`#assert name`

`#assert name[(token-sequence)]`

Where:

*name*

is a predicate name

*token-sequence*

is an optional sequence of tokens.

If the token sequence is omitted, *name* is not given a value.

If the token sequence is included, *name* is given the value *token-sequence*.

### Examples

A predicate name defined using `#assert` can be tested in a `#if` expression, for example:

```
#if #name(token-sequence)
```

This has the value 1 if a `#assert` of the name *name* with the token-sequence *token-sequence* has appeared, and 0 otherwise.

A predicate can have multiple values. That is, subsequent assertions do not override preceding assertions. For example:

```
#assert foo(one)      // Assigns the value "one"
#assert foo(two)      // Assigns the value "two"
#assert foo(three)    // Assigns the value "three"
#unassert foo(two)    // Unassigns the value "two"

#if #foo(one)...      // 1
#if #foo(two)...      // 0, because of #unassert
#if #foo(three)...    // 1
#if #foo(three)...    // 0, because this value was never asserted
```

### Related references

[9.4 #unassert on page 9-561.](#)

## 9.3 #include\_next

This preprocessor directive is a variant of the `#include` directive. It searches for the named file only in the directories on the search path that follow the directory where the current source file is found, that is, the one containing the `#include_next` directive.

---

**Note**

This preprocessor directive is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---



## 9.4 #unassert

A predicate name can be deleted using a #unassert preprocessing directive.

### Syntax

```
#unassert name
```

```
#unassert name[(token-sequence)]
```

Where:

*name*

is a predicate name

*token-sequence*

is an optional sequence of tokens.

If the token sequence is omitted, all definitions of *name* are removed.

If the token sequence is included, only the indicated definition is removed. All other definitions are left intact.

### Related references

[9.2 #assert on page 9-559.](#)

## 9.5 #warning

The preprocessing directive `#warning` is supported. Like the `#error` directive, this produces a user-defined warning at compilation time. However, it does not halt compilation.

### Restrictions

The `#warning` directive is not available if the `--strict` option is specified. If used, it produces an error.

### Related references

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict on page 8-519.](#)

## 9.6 C99 language features available in C90

The compiler supports numerous extensions to the ISO C90 standard, for example, C99-style `//` comments. These extensions are available if the source language is C90 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.

These extensions are not available if the source language is C90 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict C90 using the `--strict` compiler option.

---

**Note**

Language features of Standard C and Standard C++, for example C++-style `//` comments, might be similar to the C90 language extensions. Such features continue to remain available if you are compiling strict Standard C or strict Standard C++ using the `--strict` compiler option.

---

### Related references

[9.7 `//` comments](#) on page 9-564.

[9.8 Subscripting `struct`](#) on page 9-565.

[9.9 Flexible array members](#) on page 9-566.

## 9.7 // comments

The character sequence `//` starts a one line comment, like in C99 or C++.

`//` comments in C90 have the same semantics as `//` comments in C99.

### Examples

---

```
// this is a comment
```

---

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

## 9.8 Subscripting struct

In C90, arrays that are not lvalues still decay to pointers, and can be subscripted.

However, you must not modify or use them after the next sequence point, and you must not apply the unary & operator to them. Arrays of this kind can be subscripted in C90, but they do not decay to pointers outside C99 mode.

### Examples

---

```
struct Subscripting_Struct
{
    int a[4];
};
extern struct Subscripting_Struct Subscripting_0(void);
int Subscripting_1 (int index)
{
    return Subscripting_0().a[index];
}
```

---

## 9.9 Flexible array members

The last member of a **struct** can have an incomplete array type.

The last member must not be the only member of the **struct**, otherwise the **struct** is zero in size.

### Examples

---

```
typedef struct
{
    int len;
    char p[]; // incomplete array type, for use in a malloc'd data structure
} str;
```

---

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

## 9.10 C99 language features available in C++ and C90

The compiler supports numerous extensions to the ISO C++ standard and to the C90 language, for example, function prototypes that override old-style nonprototype definitions.

These extensions are available if:

- The source language is C++ and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.
- The source language is C90 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.

These extensions are not available if:

- The source language is C++ and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict Standard C++ using the `--strict` compiler option.
- The source language is C90 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict Standard C using the `--strict` compiler option.

---

**Note**

Language features of Standard C, for example **long long** integers, might be similar to the C++ and C90 language extensions. Such features continue to remain available if you are compiling strict Standard C++ or strict C90 using the `--strict` compiler option.

---

### Related references

[9.11 Variadic macros on page 9-568.](#)

[9.12 long long on page 9-569.](#)

[9.13 restrict on page 9-570.](#)

[9.14 Hexadecimal floats on page 9-571.](#)

## 9.11 Variadic macros

In C90 and C++ you can declare a macro to accept a variable number of arguments.

The syntax for declaring a variadic macro in C90 and C++ follows the C99 syntax for declaring a variadic macro, unless the option `--gnu` is selected. If the option `--gnu` is specified, the syntax follows GNU syntax for variadic macros.

### Examples

---

```
#define debug(format, ...) fprintf (stderr, format, __VA_ARGS__)
void variadic_macros(void)
{
    debug ("a test string is printed out along with %x %x %x\n", 12, 14, 20);
}
```

---

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

### Related references

[8.92 --gnu](#) on page 8-430.



## 9.12 long long

The ARM compiler supports 64-bit integer types through the type specifiers **long long** and **unsigned long long**.

They behave analogously to **long** and **unsigned long** with respect to the usual arithmetic conversions. `__int64` is a synonym for **long long**.

Integer constants can have:

- An `ll` suffix to force the type of the constant to **long long**, if it fits, or to **unsigned long long** if it does not fit.
- A `ull` or `llu` suffix to force the type of the constant to **unsigned long long**.

Format specifiers for `printf()` and `scanf()` can include `ll` to specify that the following conversion applies to a **long long** argument, as in `%lld` or `%llu`.

Also, a plain integer constant is of type **long long** or **unsigned long long** if its value is large enough. There is a warning message from the compiler indicating the change. For example, in strict 1990 ISO Standard C 2147483648 has type **unsigned long**. In ARM C and C++ it has the type **long long**. One consequence of this is the value of an expression such as:

```
2147483648 > -1
```

This expression evaluates to 0 in strict C and C++, and to 1 in ARM C and C++.

The **long long** types are accommodated in the usual arithmetic conversions.

### Related references

[10.9 \\_\\_int64](#) on page 10-616.

## 9.13 restrict

The **restrict** keyword is a C99 feature. It enables you to convey a declaration of intent to the compiler that different pointers and function parameter arrays do not point to overlapping regions of memory at runtime.

This enables the compiler to perform optimizations that can otherwise be prevented because of possible aliasing.

### Usage

The keywords `__restrict` and `__restrict__` are supported as synonyms for **restrict** and are always available.

You can specify `--restrict` to allow the use of the **restrict** keyword in C90 or C++.

### Restrictions

The declaration of intent is effectively a promise to the compiler that, if broken, results in undefined behavior.

### Examples

The following example shows use of the **restrict** keyword applied to function parameter arrays.

```
void copy_array(int n, int *restrict a, int *restrict b)
{
    while (n-- > 0)
        *a++ = *b++;
}
```

The following example shows use of the **restrict** keyword applied to different pointers that exist in the form of local variables.

```
void copy_bytes(int n, int *a, int *b)
{
    int *restrict x;
    int *restrict y;
    x = a;
    y = b;
    while (n-- > 0)
        *x++ = *y++;
}
```

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

### Related references

[8.163 --restrict, --no\\_restrict](#) on page 8-506.

## 9.14 Hexadecimal floats

C90 and C++ support floating-point numbers that can be written in hexadecimal format.

### Examples

---

```
float hex_floats(void)
{
    return 0x1.f3;    // 1.55e1
}
```

---

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99](#) on page 5-233.

## 9.15 Standard C language extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to the ISO C99 standard, for example, function prototypes that override old-style nonprototype definitions.

These extensions are available if:

- The source language is C99 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode
- the source language is C90 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.

None of these extensions is available if:

- The source language is C90 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict C90 using the `--strict` compiler option.
- The source language is C99 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict Standard C using the `--strict` compiler option.
- The source language is C++.

### Related references

- [9.16 Constant expressions on page 9-573.](#)
- [9.17 Array and pointer extensions on page 9-574.](#)
- [9.18 Block scope function declarations on page 9-575.](#)
- [9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers on page 9-576.](#)
- [9.20 Top-level declarations on page 9-577.](#)
- [9.21 Benign redeclarations on page 9-578.](#)
- [9.22 External entities on page 9-579.](#)
- [9.23 Function prototypes on page 9-580.](#)

## 9.16 Constant expressions

Extended constant expressions are supported in initializers.

The following examples show the compiler behavior for the default, `--strict_warnings`, and `--strict` compiler modes.

### Example 1, assigning the address of variable

Your code might contain constant expressions that assign the address of a variable at file scope, for example:

```
int i;
int j = (int)&i; /* but not allowed by ISO */
```

When compiling for C, this produces the following behavior:

- In default mode a warning is produced.
- In `--strict_warnings` mode a warning is produced.
- In `--strict` mode, an error is produced.

### Example 2, constant value initializers

The following table compares the behavior of the ARM compilation tools with the ISO C Standard.

If compiling with `--strict_warnings` in place of `--strict`, the example source code that is not valid with `--strict` become valid. The `--strict` error message is downgraded to a warning message.

**Table 9-1 Behavior of constant value initializers in comparison with ISO Standard C**

Example source code	ISO C Standard	ARM compilation tools	
		<code>--strict</code> mode	Nonstrict mode
<code>extern int const c = 10;</code>	Valid	Valid	Valid
<code>extern int const x = c + 10;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid
<code>static int y = c + 10;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid
<code>static int const z = c + 10;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid
<code>extern int *const cp = (int*)0x100;</code>	Valid	Valid	Valid
<code>extern int *const xp = cp + 0x100;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid
<code>static int *yp = cp + 0x100;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid
<code>static int *const zp = cp + 0x100;</code>	Not valid	Not valid	Valid

### Related references

[8.80 `--extended\_initializers`, `--no\_extended\_initializers` on page 8-415.](#)

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)

[8.176 `--strict\_warnings` on page 8-521.](#)

## 9.17 Array and pointer extensions

The compiler supports a number of array and pointer extensions, for example permitting assignment between pointers to types that are interchangeable but not identical.

The following array and pointer extensions are supported:

- Assignment and pointer differences are permitted between pointers to types that are interchangeable but not identical, for example, **unsigned char \*** and **char \***. This includes pointers to same-sized integral types, typically, **int \*** and **long \***. A warning is issued.

Assignment of a string constant to a pointer to any kind of character is permitted without a warning.

- Assignment of pointer types is permitted in cases where the destination type has added type qualifiers that are not at the top level, for example, assigning **int \*\*** to **const int \*\***. Comparisons and pointer difference of such pairs of pointer types are also permitted. A warning is issued.
- In operations on pointers, a pointer to **void** is always implicitly converted to another type if necessary. Also, a null pointer constant is always implicitly converted to a null pointer of the right type if necessary. In ISO C, some operators permit these, and others do not.
- Pointers to different function types can be assigned or compared for equality (**==**) or inequality (**!=**) without an explicit type cast. A warning or error is issued.

This extension is prohibited in C++ mode.

- A pointer to **void** can be implicitly converted to, or from, a pointer to a function type.
- In an initializer, a pointer constant value can be cast to an integral type if the integral type is big enough to contain it.
- A non lvalue array expression is converted to a pointer to the first element of the array when it is subscripted or similarly used.

## 9.18 Block scope function declarations

The compiler supports the following extensions to block scope function declarations.

- A block-scope function declaration also declares the function name at file scope.
- A block-scope function declaration can have static storage class, thereby causing the resulting declaration to have static linkage by default.

### Examples

---

```
void f1(void)
{
    static void g(void); /* static function declared in local scope */
                          /* use of static keyword is illegal in strict ISO C */
}
void f2(void)
{
    g();                 /* uses previous local declaration */
}
static void g(int i)
{ } /* error - conflicts with previous declaration of g */
```

---

## 9.19 Dollar signs in identifiers

Dollar (\$) signs are permitted in identifiers.

---

### Note

When compiling with the `--strict` option, you can use the `--dollar` command-line option to permit dollar signs in identifiers.

---

---

### Examples

---

```
#define DOLLAR$
```

---

### Related references

[8.66 `--dollar`, `--no\_dollar`](#) on page 8-401.

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict`](#) on page 8-519.



## 9.20 Top-level declarations

A C input file can contain no top-level declarations.

### Errors

A remark is issued if a C input file contains no top-level declarations.

---

**Note**

Remarks are not displayed by default. To see remark messages, use the compiler option `--remarks`.

---

### Related references

[8.161 `--remarks` on page 8-504.](#)

## 9.21 Benign redeclarations

Benign redeclarations of **typedef** names are permitted.

That is, a **typedef** name can be redeclared in the same scope as the same type.

### Examples

---

```
typedef int INT;  
typedef int INT; /* redeclaration */
```

---

## 9.22 External entities

External entities declared in other scopes are visible.

### Errors

The compiler generates a warning if an external entity declared in another scope is visible.

### Examples

---

```
void f1(void)
{
    extern void f();
}
void f2(void)
{
    f(); /* Out of scope declaration */
}
```

---

## 9.23 Function prototypes

The compiler recognizes function prototypes that override old-style nonprototype definitions that appear at a later position in your code.

### Errors

The compiler generates a warning message if you use old-style function prototypes.

### Examples

---

```
int function_prototypes(char);  
// Old-style function definition.  
int function_prototypes(x)  
    char x;  
{  
    return x == 0;  
}
```

---

## 9.24 Standard C++ language extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to the ISO C++ standard, for example, qualified names in the declaration of class members.

These extensions are available if the source language is C++ and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.

These extensions are not available if the source language is C++ and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict Standard C++ using the `--strict` compiler option.

### Related references

[9.25 ? operator](#) on page 9-582.

[9.26 Declaration of a class member](#) on page 9-583.

[9.27 friend](#) on page 9-584.

[9.28 Read/write constants](#) on page 9-585.

[9.29 Scalar type constants](#) on page 9-586.

[9.30 Specialization of nonmember function templates](#) on page 9-587.

[9.31 Type conversions](#) on page 9-588.

## 9.25 ? operator

A ? operator whose second and third operands are string literals or wide string literals can be implicitly converted to `char *` or `wchar_t *`.

In C++ string literals are `const`. There is an implicit conversion that enables conversion of a string literal to `char *` or `wchar_t *`, dropping the `const`. That conversion, however, applies only to simple string literals. Permitting it for the result of a ? operation is an extension.

### Examples

---

```
char *p = x ? "abc" : "def";
```

---

## 9.26 Declaration of a class member

A qualified name can be used in the declaration of a class member.

### Errors

A warning is issued if a qualified name is used in the declaration of a class member.

### Examples

---

```
struct A
{
    int A::f(); // is the same as int f();
};
```

---

## 9.27 friend

A **friend** declaration for a **class** can omit the class keyword.

Access checks are not carried out on **friend** declarations by default. Use the `--strict` command-line option to force access checking.

### Examples

---

```
class B;
class A
{
    friend B; // is the same as "friend class B"
};
```

---

### Related references

[8.175 --strict, --no\\_strict](#) on page 8-519.



## 9.28 Read/write constants

A linkage specification for external constants indicates that a constant can be dynamically initialized or have mutable members.

---

### Note

The use of "C++:read/write" linkage is only necessary for code compiled with `--apcs /rwp`. If you recompile existing code with this option, you must change the linkage specification for external constants that are dynamically initialized or have mutable members.

---

Compiling C++ with the `--apcs /rwp` option deviates from the ISO C++ Standard. The declarations in this example assume that `x` is in a read-only segment:

```
extern const T x;
extern "C++" const T x;
extern "C" const T x;
```

Dynamic initialization of `x` including user-defined constructors is not possible for constants and `T` cannot contain mutable members. The new linkage specification in this example declares that `x` is in a read/write segment even if it is initialized with a constant. Dynamic initialization of `x` is permitted and `T` can contain mutable members. The definitions of `x`, `y`, and `z` in another file must have the same linkage specifications.

```
extern const int z;                // in read-only segment, cannot
                                   // be dynamically initialized
extern "C++:read/write" const int y; // in read/write segment
                                   // can be dynamically
                                   // initialized
extern "C++:read/write"
{
    const int i=5;                // placed in read-only segment,
                                   // not extern because implicitly
                                   // static
    extern const T x=6;            // placed in read/write segment
    struct S
    {
        static const T T x;        // placed in read/write segment
    };
}
```

Constant objects must not be redeclared with another linkage. The code in the following example produces a compile error.

```
extern "C++" const T x;
extern "C++:read/write" const T x; /* error */
```

---

### Note

Because C does not have the linkage specifications, you cannot use a **const** object declared in C++ as `extern "C++:read/write"` from C.

---

### Related references

[8.6 --apcs=qualifier...qualifier on page 8-327.](#)

## 9.29 Scalar type constants

Constants of scalar type can be defined within classes. This is an old form. The modern form uses an initialized static data member.

### Errors

A warning is issued if you define a member of constant integral type within a class.

### Examples

---

```
class A
{
    const int size = 10; // must be static const int size = 10;
    int a[size];
};
```

---

## 9.30 Specialization of nonmember function templates

As an extension, it is permitted to specify a storage class on a specialization of a nonmember function template.

## 9.31 Type conversions

Type conversion between a pointer to an extern "C" function and a pointer to an extern "C++" function is permitted.

### Examples

---

```
extern "C" void f();    // f's type has extern "C" linkage
void (*pf)() = &f;     // pf points to an extern "C++" function
                      // error unless implicit conversion is allowed
```

---

## 9.32 Standard C and Standard C++ language extensions

The compiler supports numerous extensions to both the ISO C99 and the ISO C++ Standards, such as various integral type extensions, various floating-point extensions, hexadecimal floating-point constants, and anonymous classes, structures, and unions.

These extensions are available if:

- The source language is C++ and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.
- The source language is C99 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.
- The source language is C90 and you are compiling in nonstrict mode.

These extensions are not available if:

- The source language is C++ and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict C++ using the `--strict` compiler option.
- The source language is C99 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict Standard C using the `--strict` compiler option.
- The source language is C90 and the compiler is restricted to compiling strict C90 using the `--strict` compiler option.

### Related references

- [9.33 Address of a register variable on page 9-590.](#)
- [9.34 Arguments to functions on page 9-591.](#)
- [9.35 Anonymous classes, structures and unions on page 9-592.](#)
- [9.36 Assembler labels on page 9-593.](#)
- [9.37 Empty declaration on page 9-594.](#)
- [9.38 Hexadecimal floating-point constants on page 9-595.](#)
- [9.39 Incomplete enums on page 9-596.](#)
- [9.40 Integral type extensions on page 9-597.](#)
- [9.41 Label definitions on page 9-598.](#)
- [9.42 Long float on page 9-599.](#)
- [9.43 Nonstatic local variables on page 9-600.](#)
- [9.44 Structure, union, enum, and bitfield extensions on page 9-601.](#)

## 9.33 Address of a register variable

The address of a variable with **register** storage class can be taken.

### Errors

The compiler generates a warning if you take the address of a variable with **register** storage class.

### Examples

---

```
void foo(void)
{
    register int i;
    int *j = &i;
}
```

---

## 9.34 Arguments to functions

Default arguments can be specified for function parameters other than those of a top-level function declaration. For example, they are accepted on `typedef` declarations and on pointer-to-function and pointer-to-member-function declarations.

## 9.35 Anonymous classes, structures and unions

Anonymous classes, structures, and unions are supported as an extension. Anonymous structures and unions are supported in C and C++.

Anonymous unions are available by default in C++. However, you must specify the `anon_unions` pragma if you want to use:

- Anonymous unions and structures in C.
- Anonymous classes and structures in C++.

An anonymous union can be introduced into a containing class by a **typedef** name. Unlike a true anonymous union, it does not have to be declared directly. For example:

```
typedef union
{
    int i, j;
} U;           // U identifies a reusable anonymous union.
#pragma anon_unions
class A
{
    U;           // Okay -- references to A::i and A::j are allowed.
};
```

The extension also enables anonymous classes and anonymous structures, as long as they have no C++ features. For example, no static data members or member functions, no nonpublic members, and no nested types (except anonymous classes, structures, or unions) are allowed in anonymous classes and anonymous structures. For example:

```
#pragma anon_unions
struct A
{
    struct
    {
        int i, j;
    };           // Okay -- references to i and j
};               // through class A are allowed.
int foo(int m)
{
    A a;
    a.i = m;
    return a.i;
}
```

### Related references

[10.75 `#pragma anon\_unions`, `#pragma no\_anon\_unions` on page 10-687.](#)

### Related information

*Which GNU language extensions are supported by the ARM Compiler?*



## 9.36 Assembler labels

Assembly labels specify the assembly code name to use for a C symbol.

For example, you might have assembly code and C code that uses the same symbol name, such as `counter`. Therefore, you can export a different name to be used by the assembler:

```
int counter __asm__("counter_v1") = 0;
```

This exports the symbol `counter_v1` and not the symbol `counter`.

### Related references

[10.5 `\_\_asm` on page 10-611](#).

## 9.37 Empty declaration

An empty declaration, that is a semicolon with nothing before it, is permitted.

### Examples

---

```
; // do nothing
```

---

## 9.38 Hexadecimal floating-point constants

The ARM compiler implements an extension to the syntax of numeric constants in C to enable explicit specification of floating-point constants as IEEE bit patterns.

### Syntax

The syntax for specifying floating-point constants as IEEE bit patterns is:

`0f_n`

Interpret an 8-digit hex number *n* as a **float** constant. There must be exactly eight digits.

`0d_nn`

Interpret a 16-digit hex number *nn* as a **double** constant. There must be exactly 16 digits.

## 9.39 Incomplete enums

Forward declarations of enums are supported.

### Examples

---

```
enum Incomplete_Enums_0;  
int Incomplete_Enums_2 (enum Incomplete_Enums_0 * passon)  
{  
    return 0;  
}  
int Incomplete_Enums_1 (enum Incomplete_Enums_0 * passon)  
{  
    return Incomplete_Enums_2(passon);  
}  
enum Incomplete_Enums_0 { ALPHA, BETA, GAMMA };
```

---

## 9.40 Integral type extensions

In an integral constant expression, an integral constant can be cast to a pointer type and then back to an integral type.

## 9.41 Label definitions

In Standard C and Standard C++, a statement must follow a label definition. In C and C++, a label definition can be followed immediately by a right brace.

### Errors

The compiler generates a warning if a label definition is followed immediately by a right brace.

### Examples

---

```
void foo(char *p)
{
    if (p)
    {
        /* ... */
label:
    }
}
```

---

## 9.42 Long float

**long float** is accepted as a synonym for **double**.

## 9.43 Nonstatic local variables

Nonstatic local variables of an enclosing function can be referenced in a non-evaluated expression.

For example, a `sizeof` expression inside a local class. A warning is issued.



## 9.44 Structure, union, enum, and bitfield extensions

The following structure, union, enum, and bitfield extensions are supported.

- In C, the element type of a file-scope array can be an incomplete **struct** or **union** type. The element type must be completed before its size is required, for example, if the array is subscripted. If the array is not **extern**, the element type must be completed by the end of the compilation.
- The final semicolon preceding the closing brace `}` of a **struct** or **union** specifier can be omitted. A warning is issued.
- An initializer expression that is a single value and initializes an entire static array, **struct**, or **union**, does not have to be enclosed in braces. ISO C requires the braces.
- An extension is supported to enable constructs similar to C++ anonymous unions, including the following:
  - Not only anonymous unions but also anonymous structs are permitted. The members of anonymous structs are promoted to the scope of the containing **struct** and looked up like ordinary members.
  - They can be introduced into the containing **struct** by a **typedef** name. That is, they do not have to be declared directly, as is the case with true anonymous unions.
  - A tag can be declared but only in C mode.

To enable support for anonymous structures and unions, you must use the `anon_unions` pragma.

- An extra comma is permitted at the end of an **enum** list but a remark is issued.
- **enum** tags can be incomplete. You can define the tag name and resolve it later, by specifying the brace-enclosed list.
- The values of enumeration constants can be given by expressions that evaluate to unsigned quantities that fit in the **unsigned int** range but not in the **int** range. For example:

```
/* When ints are 32 bits: */
enum a { w = -2147483648 }; /* No error */
enum b { x = 0x80000000 }; /* No error */
enum c { y = 0x80000001 }; /* No error */
enum d { z = 2147483649 }; /* Error */
```

- In C, oversized bitfields are supported. Oversized bitfields are part of standard C++. The semantics of oversized bitfields in ARM C is the same as for standard C++.

An oversized bitfield is a field in a structure which has the form *basetype v:N* or *basetype:N* where the size in bits of *basetype* is less than *N*. For example, in `char a:16;` type `char` has 8 bits while the bitfield has 16 bits. The extra bits are treated as padding.

- Bitfields can have base types that are **enum** types or integral types besides **int** and **unsigned int**.

### Related concepts

[5.59 New language features of C99 on page 5-233.](#)

### Related references

[10.74 Pragmas on page 10-686.](#)

## 9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages

GNU provides many extensions to the C and C++ languages, and the ARM compiler supports many of these extensions. In GNU mode, all the GNU extensions to the relevant source language are available. Some GNU extensions are also available when you compile in a nonstrict mode.

To compile in GNU mode, use `--gnu`.

The following Standard C99 features are supported as GNU extensions in C90 and C++ when GNU mode is enabled:

- Compound literals.
- Designated initializers.
- Elements of an aggregate initializer for an automatic variable are not required to be constant expressions.

The `asm` keyword is a Standard C++ feature that is supported as a GNU extension in C90 when GNU mode is enabled.

The following features are not part of any ISO standard but are supported as GNU extensions in either C90, C99, or C++ modes, when GNU mode is enabled:

- Alternate keywords (C90, C99, C++).
- Case ranges (C90, C99, C++).
- Character escape sequence `'\e'` for escape character `<ESC>` (ASCII 27), (C90, C99, C++).
- Dollar signs in identifiers (C90, C99, C++).
- Labels as values (C90, C99 and C++).
- Omission of middle operand in conditional statement if result is to be same as the test (C90, C99, C++).
- Pointer arithmetic on `void` pointers and function pointers (C90 and C99 only).
- Statement expressions (C90, C99 and C++).
- Union casts (C90 and C99 only).
- Unnamed fields in embedded structures and unions (C90, C99 and C++).
- Zero-length arrays (C90 and C99 only).

### Related references

[2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.](#)

[14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.](#)

### Related information

[Which GNU language extensions are supported by the ARM Compiler?.](#)

# Chapter 10

## Compiler-specific Features

Describes compiler-specific features including ARM extensions to the C and C++ Standards, ARM-specific pragmas and intrinsics, and predefined macros.

It contains the following sections:

- [10.1 Keywords and operators](#) on page 10-607.
- [10.2 `\_\_align`](#) on page 10-608.
- [10.3 `\_\_ALIGNOF`](#) on page 10-609.
- [10.4 `\_\_alignof`](#) on page 10-610.
- [10.5 `\_\_asm`](#) on page 10-611.
- [10.6 `\_\_forceinline`](#) on page 10-612.
- [10.7 `\_\_global\_reg`](#) on page 10-613.
- [10.8 `\_\_inline`](#) on page 10-615.
- [10.9 `\_\_int64`](#) on page 10-616.
- [10.10 `\_\_INTADDR`](#) on page 10-617.
- [10.11 `\_\_irq`](#) on page 10-618.
- [10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.
- [10.13 `\_\_pure`](#) on page 10-621.
- [10.14 `\_\_smc`](#) on page 10-622.
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- [10.18 `\_\_svc\_indirect\_r7`](#) on page 10-626.
- [10.19 `\_\_value\_in\_regs`](#) on page 10-627.
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- 10.21 `__writeonly` on page 10-630.
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- 10.42 `__attribute__((nonnull))` function attribute on page 10-654.
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## 10.1 Keywords and operators

This topic lists the function keywords and operators that the compiler `armcc` supports.

The following table lists keywords that are ARM extensions to the C and C++ Standards. Standard C and Standard C++ keywords that do not have behavior or restrictions specific to the ARM compiler are not documented in the table.

**Table 10-1 Keyword extensions that the ARM compiler supports**

Keywords		
<code>__align</code>	<code>__int64</code>	<code>__svc</code>
<code>__ALIGNOF__</code>	<code>__INTADDR__</code>	<code>__svc_indirect</code>
<code>__asm</code>	<code>__irq</code>	<code>__svc_indirect_r7</code>
<code>__declspec</code>	<code>__packed</code>	<code>__value_in_regs</code>
<code>__forceinline</code>	<code>__pure</code>	<code>__weak</code>
<code>__global_reg</code>	<code>__softfp</code>	<code>__writeonly</code>
<code>__inline</code>	<code>__smc</code>	

## 10.2 `__align`

The `__align` keyword instructs the compiler to align a variable on an  $n$ -byte boundary.

`__align` is a storage class modifier. It does not affect the type of the function.

### Syntax

```
__align(n)
```

Where:

*n*

is the alignment boundary.

For local variables, *n* can take the values 1, 2, 4, or 8.

For global variables, *n* can take any value up to 0x80000000 in powers of 2.

### Usage

`__align(n)` is useful when the normal alignment of the variable being declared is less than *n*. Eight-byte alignment can give a significant performance advantage with VFP instructions.

`__align` can be used in conjunction with **extern** and **static**.

### Restrictions

Because `__align` is a storage class modifier, it cannot be used on:

- Types, including **typedefs** and structure definitions.
- Function parameters.

You can only overalign. That is, you can make a two-byte object four-byte aligned but you cannot align a four-byte object at 2 bytes.

### Examples

```
__align(8) char buffer[128]; // buffer starts on eight-byte boundary

void foo(void)
{
    ...
    __align(16) int i; // this alignment value is not permitted for
                      // a local variable
    ...
}
__align(16) int i; // permitted as a global variable.
```

### Related references

[8.131 `--min\_array\_alignment=opt` on page 8-471.](#)

[10.63 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(aligned\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-675.](#)



## 10.3 `__ALIGNOF__`

The `__ALIGNOF__` keyword returns the alignment requirement for a specified type, or for the type of a specified object.

### Syntax

`__ALIGNOF__(type)`

`__ALIGNOF__(expr)`

Where:

*type*

is a type

*expr*

is an lvalue.

### Return value

`__ALIGNOF__(type)` returns the alignment requirement for the type *type*, or 1 if there is no alignment requirement.

`__ALIGNOF__(expr)` returns the alignment requirement for the type of the lvalue *expr*, or 1 if there is no alignment requirement. The lvalue itself is not evaluated.

### Example

```
typedef struct s_foo { int i; short j; } foo;
typedef __packed struct s_bar { int i; short j; } bar;
return __ALIGNOF(struct s_foo); // returns 4
return __ALIGNOF(foo);         // returns 4
return __ALIGNOF(bar);         // returns 1
```

### Related references

[8.131 `--min\_array\_alignment=opt` on page 8-471.](#)

[10.4 `\_\_alignof\_\_` on page 10-610.](#)

## 10.4 `__alignof__`

The `__alignof__` keyword enables you to enquire about the alignment of a type or variable.

---

**Note**

This keyword is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Syntax

`__alignof__(type)`

`__alignof__(expr)`

Where:

*type*

is a type

*expr*

is an lvalue.

### Return value

`__alignof__(type)` returns the alignment requirement for the type *type*, or 1 if there is no alignment requirement.

`__alignof__(expr)` returns the alignment requirement for the type of the lvalue *expr*, or 1 if there is no alignment requirement.

### Examples

---

```
int Alignment_0(void)
{
    return __alignof__(int);
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.3 `\_\_ALIGNOF\_\_`](#) on page 10-609.

## 10.5 \_\_asm

This keyword passes information from the compiler to the ARM assembler `armasm`.

The precise action of this keyword depends on its usage.

### Usage

#### Embedded assembly

The `__asm` keyword can declare or define an embedded assembly function. For example:

```
__asm void my_strcpy(const char *src, char *dst);
```

#### Inline assembly

The `__asm` keyword can incorporate inline assembly into a function. For example:

```
int qadd(int i, int j)
{
    int res;
    __asm
    {
        QADD    res, i, j
    }
    return res;
}
```

#### Assembly labels

The `__asm` keyword can specify an assembly label for a C symbol. For example:

```
int count __asm__("count_v1"); // export count_v1, not count
```

#### Named register variables

The `__asm` keyword can declare a named register variable. For example:

```
register int foo __asm("r0");
```

### Related concepts

[7.26 Embedded assembler support in the compiler on page 7-296.](#)

[7.1 Compiler support for inline assembly language on page 7-269.](#)

### Related references

[10.153 Named register variables on page 10-776.](#)

[9.36 Assembler labels on page 9-593.](#)

## 10.6 `__forceinline`

The `__forceinline` keyword forces the compiler to compile a C or C++ function inline.

The semantics of `__forceinline` are exactly the same as those of the C++ **`inline`** keyword. The compiler attempts to inline a function qualified as `__forceinline`, regardless of its characteristics. However, the compiler does not inline a function if doing so causes problems. For example, a recursive function is inlined into itself only once.

`__forceinline` is a storage class qualifier. It does not affect the type of a function.

---

**Note**

This keyword has the function attribute equivalent `__attribute__((always_inline))`.

---

### Examples

---

```
__forceinline static int max(int x, int y)
{
    return x > y ? x : y; // always inline if possible
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.32 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(always\_inline\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-644.

[8.84 `--forceinline`](#) on page 8-419.

## 10.7 `__global_reg`

The `__global_reg` storage class specifier causes the compiler to reserve a register for a specific global variable.

### Syntax

`__global_reg(n) type varName`

Where:

*n*

Is an integer between one and eight.

*type*

Is one of the following types:

- Any integer type, except **long long**.
- Any char type.
- Any pointer type.

*varName*

Is the name of a global variable.

### Usage

`__global_reg` assigns a global variable to a specific register. It prevents the compiler from generating code that otherwise uses the register, in the same way as the `--global_reg` command-line option. The register number specified must be in the range 1-8. This corresponds to a register in the range r4 to r11.

### Restrictions

If you use this storage class, you cannot use any additional storage class such as **extern**, **static**, or **typedef**.

In C, global register variables cannot be qualified or initialized at declaration. In C++, any initialization is treated as a dynamic initialization.

The number of available registers varies depending on the variant of the AAPCS being used, there are between five and seven registers available for use as global variable registers.

In practice, ARM recommends that you do not use more than:

- Three global register variables in ARM or Thumb on a processor with Thumb-2 technology.
- One global register variable in Thumb on a processor without Thumb-2 technology.
- Half the number of available floating-point registers as global floating-point register variables.

If you declare too many global variables, code size increases significantly. In some cases, your program might not compile.

#### ———— **Caution** ————

You must take care when using global register variables because:

- There is no check at link time to ensure that direct calls between different compilation units are sensible. If possible, define global register variables used in a program in each compilation unit of the program. In general, it is best to place the definition in a global header file. You must set up the value in the global register early in your code, before the register is used.
- A global register variable maps to a callee-saved register, so its value is saved and restored across a call to a function in a compilation unit that does not use it as a global register variable, such as a library function.
- Calls back into a compilation unit that uses a global register variable are dangerous. For example, if a function using a global register is called from a compilation unit that does not declare the global register variable, the function reads the wrong values from its supposed global register variables.

- This storage class can only be used at file scope.
  - Volatile variables with the `__global_reg` storage class specifier are not treated as volatile.
- 

## Examples

This example declares a global variable `x` and reserves `r5` for it:

```
__global_reg(2) int x; // r5 is reserved for x
```

This example produces an error because global registers must be specified in all declarations of the same variable:

```
int x;  
__global_reg(1) int x; // error
```

In C, `__global_reg` variables cannot be initialized at definition. This example produces an error in C, but not in C++:

```
__global_reg(1) int x=1; // error in C, OK in C++
```

## Related references

[8.91 `--global\_reg=reg\_name\[,reg\_name,...\]` on page 8-429.](#)

## 10.8 `__inline`

The `__inline` keyword suggests to the compiler that it compiles a C or C++ function inline, if it is sensible to do so.

The semantics of `__inline` are exactly the same as those of the `inline` keyword. However, `inline` is not available in C90.

`__inline` is a storage class qualifier. It does not affect the type of a function.

### Examples

```
__inline int f(int x)
{
    return x*5+1;
}
int g(int x, int y)
{
    return f(x) + f(y);
}
```

### Related concepts

[5.20 Inline functions](#) on page 5-179.

### Related references

[8.84 `--forceinline`](#) on page 8-419.

## 10.9 `__int64`

The `__int64` keyword is a synonym for the keyword sequence **long long**.

`__int64` is accepted even when using `--strict`.

### Related references

[9.12 `long long` on page 9-569.](#)

[8.175 `--strict`, `--no\_strict` on page 8-519.](#)



## 10.10 \_\_INTADDR\_\_

The \_\_INTADDR\_\_ operation treats the enclosed expression as a constant expression, and converts it to an integer constant.

———— **Note** —————

This is used in the `offsetof` macro.

—————

### Syntax

`__INTADDR(expr)`

Where:

*expr*  
is an integral constant expression.

### Return value

`__INTADDR(expr)` returns an integer constant equivalent to *expr*.

### Related concepts

[7.29 Restrictions on embedded assembly language functions in C and C++ code](#) on page 7-299.

## 10.11 \_\_irq

The \_\_irq keyword enables a C or C++ function to be used as an exception handler.

\_\_irq is a function qualifier. It affects the type of the function.

### Usage

The \_\_irq keyword causes the compiler to generate a function in a manner that makes it suitable for use as an exception handler. This means that the compiler makes the function:

- Preserve all processor registers, not only those required to be preserved by the AAPCS. Floating-point registers are not preserved.
- Return using an instruction that is architecturally defined as causing an exception return.

### Restrictions

No arguments or return values can be used with \_\_irq functions. \_\_irq functions are incompatible with `--apcs /rwpi`.

---

#### Note

In ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M the architectural exception handling mechanism preserves all processor registers, and a standard function return can cause an exception return. Therefore, specifying \_\_irq does not affect the behavior of the compiled output. However, ARM recommends using \_\_irq on exception handlers for clarity and easier software porting.

---

#### Note

- For architectures that support ARM and Thumb-2 technology, for example ARMv6T2, ARMv7-A, and ARMv7-R, functions specified as \_\_irq compile to ARM or Thumb code depending on whether the compile option or #pragma specify ARM or Thumb.
- For Thumb only architectures, for example ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M, functions specified as \_\_irq compile to Thumb code.
- For architectures before ARMv6T2, functions specified as \_\_irq compile to ARM code even if you compile with `--thumb` or `#pragma thumb`.

---

### Related references

[8.179 --thumb](#) on page 8-525.

[8.7 --arm](#) on page 8-332.

[10.99 #pragma thumb](#) on page 10-713.

[10.76 #pragma arm](#) on page 10-688.

### Related information

[ARM, Thumb, and ThumbEE instruction sets.](#)

[Handling Processor Exceptions.](#)

## 10.12 `__packed`

The `__packed` qualifier sets the alignment of any valid type to 1.

This means that:

- There is no padding inserted to align the packed object.
- Objects of packed type are read or written using unaligned accesses.

The `__packed` qualifier applies to all members of a structure or union when it is declared using `__packed`. There is no padding between members, or at the end of the structure. All substructures of a packed structure must be declared using `__packed`. Integral subfields of an unpacked structure can be packed individually.

### Usage

The `__packed` qualifier is useful to map a structure to an external data structure, or for accessing unaligned data, but it is generally not useful to save data size because of the relatively high cost of unaligned access. Only packing fields in a structure that requires packing can reduce the number of unaligned accesses.

#### ———— Note ————

On ARM processors that do not support unaligned access in hardware, for example, pre-ARMv6, access to unaligned data can be costly in terms of code size and execution speed. Data accesses through packed structures must be minimized to avoid increase in code size and performance loss.

### Restrictions

The following restrictions apply to the use of `__packed`:

- The `__packed` qualifier cannot be used on structures that were previously declared without `__packed`.
- Unlike other type qualifiers you cannot have both a `__packed` and non-`__packed` version of the same structure type.
- The `__packed` qualifier does not affect local variables of integral type.
- A packed structure or union is not assignment-compatible with the corresponding unpacked structure. Because the structures have a different memory layout, the only way to assign a packed structure to an unpacked structure is by a field-by-field copy.
- The effect of casting away `__packed` is undefined, except on `char` types. The effect of casting a nonpacked structure to a packed structure, or a packed structure to a nonpacked structure, is undefined. A pointer to an integral type that is not packed can be legally cast, explicitly or implicitly, to a pointer to a packed integral type.
- There are no packed array types. A packed array is an array of objects of packed type. There is no padding in the array.

### Errors

Taking the address of a field in a `__packed` structure or a `__packed`-qualified field yields a `__packed`-qualified pointer. The compiler produces a type error if you attempt to implicitly cast this pointer to a non-`__packed` pointer. This contrasts with its behavior for address-taken fields of a `#pragma packed` structure.

### Examples

This example shows that a pointer can point to a packed type.

```
typedef __packed int* PpI;      /* pointer to a __packed int */
__packed int *p;              /* pointer to a __packed int */
PpI p2;                       /* 'p2' has the same type as 'p' */
```

```

/* __packed is a qualifier */
/* like 'const' or 'volatile' */
typedef int *PI;          /* pointer to int */
__packed PI p3;           /* a __packed pointer to a normal int */
                           /* -- not the same type as 'p' and 'p2' */
int *__packed p4;         /* 'p4' has the same type as 'p3' */

```

This example shows that when a packed object is accessed using a pointer, the compiler generates code that works and that is independent of the pointer alignment.

```

typedef __packed struct
{
    char x;                // all fields inherit the __packed qualifier
    int y;                // 5 byte structure, natural alignment = 1
} X;
int f(X *p)
{
    return p->y;           // does an unaligned read
}
typedef struct
{
    short x;
    char y;
    __packed int z;        // only pack this field
    char a;
} Y;                      // 8 byte structure, natural alignment = 2
int g(Y *p)
{
    return p->z + p->x;     // only unaligned read for z
}

```

## Related concepts

[5.35 The \\_\\_packed qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a \\_\\_packed struct, and a struct with individually \\_\\_packed fields, and of a \\_\\_packed struct and a #pragma packed struct](#) on page 5-201.

## Related references

[10.58 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(packed\)\) type attribute](#) on page 10-670.

[10.66 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(packed\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-678.

[10.95 #pragma pack\(n\)](#) on page 10-708.

[11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++](#) on page 11-804.

## 10.13 \_\_pure

The \_\_pure keyword asserts that a function declaration is pure.

A function is *pure* only if:

- The result depends exclusively on the values of its arguments.
- The function has no side effects.

\_\_pure is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

---

**Note**

This keyword has the function attribute equivalent \_\_attribute\_\_((const)).

---

### Default

By default, functions are assumed to be impure.

### Usage

Pure functions are candidates for common subexpression elimination.

### Restrictions

A function that is declared as pure can have no side effects. For example, pure functions:

- Cannot call impure functions.
- Cannot use global variables or dereference pointers, because the compiler assumes that the function does not access memory, except stack memory.
- Must return the same value each time when called twice with the same parameters.

### Examples

---

```
int factr(int n) __pure
{
    int f = 1;
    while (n > 0)
        f *= n--;
    return f;
}
```

---

### Related concepts

[5.17 Functions that return the same result when called with the same arguments](#) on page 5-176.

[5.19 Recommendation of postfix syntax when qualifying functions with ARM function modifiers](#) on page 5-178.

### Related references

[5.18 Comparison of pure and impure functions](#) on page 5-177.

[10.33 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(const\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-645.

## 10.14 \_\_smc

The \_\_smc keyword declares an SMC (*Secure Monitor Call*) function.

A call to the SMC function inserts an SMC instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler at the point of function invocation.

---

### Note

The SMC instruction replaces the SMI instruction used in previous versions of the ARM assembly language.

---

\_\_smc is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

### Syntax

```
__smc(int smc_num) return-type function-name([argument-list]);
```

Where:

*smc\_num*

Is a 4-bit immediate value used in the SMC instruction.

The value of *smc\_num* is ignored by the ARM processor, but can be used by the SMC exception handler to determine what service is being requested.

### Restrictions

The SMC instruction is available for selected ARM architecture-based processors, if they have the Security Extensions.

The compiler generates an error if you compile source code containing the \_\_smc keyword for an architecture that does not support the SMC instruction.

### Examples

---

```
__smc(5) void mycall(void); /* declare a name by which SMC #5 can be called */  
...  
mycall();                  /* invoke the function */
```

---

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

### Related information

[SMC.](#)

## 10.15 `__softfp`

The `__softfp` keyword asserts that a function uses software floating-point linkage.

`__softfp` is a function qualifier. It affects the type of the function.

———— **Note** —————

This keyword has the `#pragma` equivalent `#pragma __softfp_linkage`.

---

### Usage

Calls to the function pass floating-point arguments in integer registers. If the result is a floating-point value, the value is returned in integer registers. This duplicates the behavior of compilation targeting software floating-point.

This keyword enables the same library to be used by sources compiled to use hardware and software floating-point.

———— **Note** —————

In C++, if a virtual function qualified with the `__softfp` keyword is to be overridden, the overriding function must also be declared as `__softfp`. If the functions do not match, the compiler generates an error.

---

### Related concepts

[5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage](#) on page 5-216.

### Related references

[8.88 `--fpu=name` compiler option](#) on page 8-424.

[10.98 `#pragma softfp\_linkage`, `#pragma no\_softfp\_linkage`](#) on page 10-712.

[10.46 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(pcs\("calling\_convention"\)\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-658.

## 10.16 \_\_svc

The `__svc` keyword declares a *SuperVisor Call* (SVC) function taking up to four integer-like arguments and returning up to four results in a `value_in_regs` structure.

`__svc` is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

### Syntax

```
__svc(int svc_num) return-type function-name([argument-list]);
```

Where:

*svc\_num*

Is the immediate value used in the SVC instruction.

It is an expression evaluating to an integer in the range:

- 0 to  $2^{24}-1$  (a 24-bit value) in an ARM instruction.
- 0-255 (an 8-bit value) in a 16-bit Thumb instruction.

### Usage

This causes function invocations to be compiled inline as an AAPCS-compliant operation that behaves similarly to a normal call to a function.

You can use the `__value_in_regs` qualifier to specify that a small structure of up to 16 bytes is returned in registers, rather than by the usual structure-passing mechanism defined in the AAPCS.

### Examples

---

```
__svc(42) void terminate_1(int procnum); // terminate_1 returns no results
__svc(42) int terminate_2(int procnum); // terminate_2 returns one result
typedef struct res_type
{
    int res_1;
    int res_2;
    int res_3;
    int res_4;
} res_type;
__svc(42) __value_in_regs res_type terminate_3(int procnum);
// terminate_3 returns more than
// one result
```

---

### Errors

When an ARM architecture variant or ARM architecture-based processor that does not support an SVC instruction is specified on the command line using the `--cpu` option, the compiler generates an error.

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

[10.19 \\_\\_value\\_in\\_regs on page 10-627.](#)

### Related information

[SVC.](#)



## 10.17 \_\_svc\_indirect

The `__svc_indirect` keyword passes an operation code to the SVC handler in r12.

`__svc_indirect` is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

### Syntax

```
__svc_indirect(int svc_num) return-type function-name(int real_num[, argument-list]);
```

Where:

*svc\_num*

Is the immediate value used in the SVC instruction.

It is an expression evaluating to an integer in the range:

- 0 to  $2^{24}-1$  (a 24-bit value) in an ARM instruction.
- 0-255 (an 8-bit value) in a 16-bit Thumb instruction.

*real\_num*

Is the value passed in r12 to the handler to determine the function to perform.

To use the indirect mechanism, your system handlers must make use of the r12 value to select the required operation.

### Usage

You can use this feature to implement indirect SVCs.

### Examples

```
int __svc_indirect(0) ioctl(int svcino, int fn, void *argp);
```

Calling:

```
ioctl(IOCTL+4, RESET, NULL);
```

compiles to SVC #0 with IOCTL+4 in r12.

### Errors

When an ARM architecture variant or ARM architecture-based processor that does not support an SVC instruction is specified on the command line using the `--cpu` option, the compiler generates an error.

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

[10.19 \\_\\_value\\_in\\_regs on page 10-627.](#)

### Related information

[SVC.](#)

## 10.18 \_\_svc\_indirect\_r7

The \_\_svc\_indirect\_r7 keyword behaves like \_\_svc\_indirect, but uses r7 instead of r12.

\_\_svc\_indirect\_r7 is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

### Syntax

```
__svc_indirect_r7(int svc_num) return-type function-name(int real_num[, argument-  
list]);
```

Where:

*svc\_num*

Is the immediate value used in the SVC instruction.

It is an expression evaluating to an integer in the range:

- 0 to  $2^{24}-1$  (a 24-bit value) in an ARM instruction.
- 0-255 (an 8-bit value) in a 16-bit Thumb instruction.

*real\_num*

Is the value passed in r7 to the handler to determine the function to perform.

### Usage

Thumb applications on ARM Linux use \_\_svc\_indirect\_r7 to make kernel syscalls.

You can also use this feature to implement indirect SVCs.

### Examples

---

```
long __svc_indirect_r7(0) \
    SVC_write(unsigned, int fd, const char * buf, size_t count);
#define write(fd, buf, count) SVC_write(4, (fd), (buf), (count))
```

Calling:

```
write(fd, buf, count);
```

compiles to SVC #0 with r0 = fd, r1 = buf, r2 = count, and r7 = 4.

---

### Errors

When an ARM architecture variant or ARM architecture-based processor that does not support an SVC instruction is specified on the command line using the --cpu option, the compiler generates an error.

### Related references

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

[10.19 \\_\\_value\\_in\\_regs on page 10-627.](#)

### Related information

[SVC.](#)

## 10.19 \_\_value\_in\_regs

The `__value_in_regs` qualifier instructs the compiler to return a structure of up to four integer words in integer registers or up to four floats or doubles in floating-point registers rather than using memory.

`__value_in_regs` is a function qualifier. It affects the type of a function.

### Syntax

```
__value_in_regs return-type function-name([argument-list]);
```

Where:

#### **return-type**

is the type of a structure of up to four words in size.

### Usage

Declaring a function `__value_in_regs` can be useful when calling functions that return more than one result.

### Restrictions

A C++ function cannot return a `__value_in_regs` structure if the structure requires copy constructing.

If a virtual function declared as `__value_in_regs` is to be overridden, the overriding function must also be declared as `__value_in_regs`. If the functions do not match, the compiler generates an error.

### Errors

Where the structure returned in a function qualified by `__value_in_regs` is too big, a warning is produced and the `__value_in_regs` structure is then ignored.

### Examples

```
typedef struct int64_struct
{
    unsigned int lo;
    unsigned int hi;
} int64_struct;
__value_in_regs extern
int64_struct mul64(unsigned a, unsigned b);
```

### Related concepts

[5.16 Returning structures from functions through registers on page 5-175.](#)

## 10.20 \_\_weak

This keyword instructs the compiler to export symbols weakly.

The \_\_weak keyword can be applied to function and variable declarations, and to function definitions.

### Usage

#### Functions and variable declarations

For declarations, this storage class specifies an **extern** object declaration that, even if not present, does not cause the linker to fault an unresolved reference.

For example:

```
__weak void f(void);  
f(); // call f weakly
```

If the reference to a missing weak function is made from code that compiles to a branch or branch link instruction, then either:

- The reference is resolved as branching to the next instruction. This effectively makes the branch a NOP.
- The branch is replaced by a NOP instruction.

#### Function definitions

Functions defined with \_\_weak export their symbols weakly. A weakly defined function behaves like a normally defined function unless a nonweakly defined function of the same name is linked into the same image. If both a nonweakly defined function and a weakly defined function exist in the same image then all calls to the function resolve to call the nonweak function. If multiple weak definitions are available, the linker generates an error message, unless the linker option `--muldefweak` is used. In this case, the linker chooses one for use by all calls.

Functions declared with \_\_weak and then defined without \_\_weak behave as nonweak functions.

### Restrictions

There are restrictions when you qualify function and variable declarations, and function definitions, with \_\_weak.

### Functions and variable declarations

A function or variable cannot be used both weakly and nonweakly in the same compilation. For example, the following code uses `f()` weakly from `g()` and `h()`:

```

void f(void);
void g()
{
    f();
}
__weak void f(void);
void h()
{
    f();
}

```

It is not possible to use a function or variable weakly from the same compilation that defines the function or variable. The following code uses `f()` nonweakly from `h()`:

```

__weak void f(void);
void h()
{
    f();
}
void f() {}

```

The linker does not load the function or variable from a library unless another compilation uses the function or variable nonweakly. If the reference remains unresolved, its value is assumed to be NULL. Unresolved references, however, are not NULL if the reference is from code to a position-independent section or to a missing `__weak` function.

### Function definitions

Weakly defined functions cannot be inlined.

### Examples

---

```

__weak const int c;          // assume 'c' is not present in final link
const int *f1() { return &c; } // '&c' returns non-NULL if
                               // compiled and linked /ropi
__weak int i;                // assume 'i' is not present in final link
int *f2() { return &i; }     // '&i' returns non-NULL if
                               // compiled and linked /rwpi
__weak void f(void);         // assume 'f' is not present in final link
typedef void (*FP)(void);
FP g() { return f; }         // 'g' returns non-NULL if
                               // compiled and linked /ropi

```

---

### Related references

[10.71 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(weak\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-683.

[10.53 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(weak\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-665.

### Related information

[`--muldefweak`, `--no\_muldefweak` linker option.](#)

## 10.21 \_\_writeonly

The \_\_writeonly type qualifier indicates that a data object cannot be read from.

In the C and C++ type system it behaves as a cv-qualifier like **const** or **volatile**. Its specific effect is that an lvalue with \_\_writeonly type cannot be converted to an rvalue.

Assignment to a \_\_writeonly bitfield is not allowed if the assignment is implemented as read-modify-write. This is implementation-dependent.

### Examples

---

```
void foo(__writeonly int *ptr)
{
    *ptr = 0;                // allowed
    printf("ptr value = %d\n", *ptr); // error
}
```

---

## 10.22 \_\_declspec attributes

The `__declspec` keyword enables you to specify special attributes of objects and functions.

For example, you can use the `__declspec` keyword to declare imported or exported functions and variables, or to declare *Thread Local Storage* (TLS) objects.

The `__declspec` keyword must prefix the declaration specification. For example:

```
__declspec(noreturn) void overflow(void);  
__declspec(thread) int i;
```

The following table summarizes the available `__declspec` attributes. `__declspec` attributes are storage class modifiers. They do not affect the type of a function or variable.

**Table 10-2 \_\_declspec attributes that the compiler supports, and their equivalents**

<code>__declspec</code> attribute	non <code>__declspec</code> equivalent
<code>__declspec(dllexport)</code>	-
<code>__declspec(dllimport)</code>	-
<code>__declspec(noinline)</code>	<code>__attribute__((noinline))</code>
<code>__declspec(noreturn)</code>	<code>__attribute__((noreturn))</code> <sup>a</sup>
<code>__declspec(nothrow)</code>	-
<code>__declspec(notshared)</code>	-
<code>__declspec(thread)</code>	-

<sup>a</sup> A GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

## 10.23 `__declspec(dllexport)`

The `__declspec(dllexport)` attribute exports the definition of a symbol through the dynamic symbol table when building DLL libraries. On classes, it controls the visibility of class impedimenta such as vtables, construction vtables and RTTI, and sets the default visibility for member function and static data members.

### Usage

You can use `__declspec(dllexport)` on a function, a class, or on individual members of a class.

When an inline function is marked `__declspec(dllexport)`, the function definition might be inlined, but an out-of-line instance of the function is always generated and exported in the same way as for a non-inline function.

When a class is marked `__declspec(dllexport)`, for example, `class __declspec(dllexport) S { ... }`; its static data members and member functions are all exported. When individual static data members and member functions are marked with `__declspec(dllexport)`, only those members are exported. vtables, construction vtable tables and RTTI are also exported.

#### ———— Note —————

The following declaration is correct:

```
class __declspec(dllexport) S { ... };
```

The following declaration is incorrect:

```
__declspec(dllexport) class S { ... };
```

In conjunction with `--export_all_vtbl`, you can use `__declspec(notshared)` to exempt a class or structure from having its vtable, construction vtable table and RTTI exported. `--export_all_vtbl` and `__declspec(dllexport)` are typically not used together.

### Restrictions

If you mark a class with `__declspec(dllexport)`, you cannot then mark individual members of that class with `__declspec(dllexport)`.

If you mark a class with `__declspec(dllexport)`, ensure that all of the base classes of that class are marked `__declspec(dllexport)`.

If you export a virtual function within a class, ensure that you either export all of the virtual functions in that class, or that you define them inline so that they are visible to the client.

### Examples

The `__declspec()` required in a declaration depends on whether or not the definition is in the same shared library.

```
/* This is the declaration for use in the same shared library as the */
/* definition */
__declspec(dllexport) extern int mymod_get_version(void);
/* Translation unit containing the definition */
__declspec(dllexport) extern int mymod_get_version(void)
{
    return 42;
}
/* This is the declaration for use in a shared library that does not contain */
/* the definition */
__declspec(dllimport) extern int mymod_get_version(void);
```



As a result of the following macro, a translation unit that does not have the definition in a defining link unit sees `__declspec(dllexport)`.

```
/* mymod.h - interface to my module */  
#ifdef BUILDING_MYMOD  
#define MYMOD_API __declspec(dllexport)  
#else /* not BUILDING_MYMOD */  
#define MYMOD_API __declspec(dllimport)  
#endif  
MYMOD_API int mymod_get_version(void);
```

---

### Related references

- [10.24 `\_\_declspec\(dllimport\)`](#) on page 10-634.
- [10.28 `\_\_declspec\(notshared\)`](#) on page 10-638.
- [8.78 `--export\_all\_vtbl, --no\_export\_all\_vtbl`](#) on page 8-413.
- [8.195 `--visibility\_inlines\_hidden`](#) on page 8-545.

### Related information

- [--use\\_definition\\_visibility](#) linker option.

## 10.24 `__declspec(dllimport)`

The `__declspec(dllimport)` attribute imports a symbol through the dynamic symbol table when linking against DLL libraries.

### Usage

When an inline function is marked `__declspec(dllimport)`, the function definition in this compilation unit might be inlined, but is never generated out-of-line. An out-of-line call or address reference uses the imported symbol.

You can only use `__declspec(dllimport)` on **extern** functions and variables, and on classes.

When a class is marked `__declspec(dllimport)`, its static data members and member functions are all imported. When individual static data members and member functions are marked with `__declspec(dllimport)`, only those members are imported.

### Restrictions

If you mark a class with `__declspec(dllimport)`, you cannot then mark individual members of that class with `__declspec(dllimport)`.

### Examples

---

```
__declspec(dllimport) int i;  
class __declspec(dllimport) X {    void f(); };
```

---

### Related references

[10.23 `\_\_declspec\(dllexport\)`](#) on page 10-632.

## 10.25 `__declspec(noinline)`

The `__declspec(noinline)` attribute suppresses the inlining of a function at the call points of the function.

`__declspec(noinline)` can also be applied to constant data, to prevent the compiler from using the value for optimization purposes, without affecting its placement in the object. This is a feature that can be used for patchable constants, that is, data that is later patched to a different value. It is an error to try to use such constants in a context where a constant value is required. For example, an array dimension.

---

**Note**

This `__declspec` attribute has the function attribute equivalent `__attribute__((noinline))`.

---

### Examples

---

```
/* Prevent y being used for optimization */
__declspec(noinline) const int y = 5;
/* Suppress inlining of foo() wherever foo() is called */
__declspec(noinline) int foo(void);
```

---

### Related references

[10.39 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-651.

[10.65 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` constant variable attribute](#) on page 10-677.

[10.89 `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no\_inline`](#) on page 10-702.

## 10.26 `__declspec(noreturn)`

The `__declspec(noreturn)` attribute asserts that a function never returns.

---

### **Note**

This attribute has the function equivalent `__attribute__((noreturn))`. However, `__attribute__((noreturn))` and `__declspec(noreturn)` differ in that when compiling a function definition, if the function reaches an explicit or implicit return, `__attribute__((noreturn))` is ignored and the compiler generates a warning. This does not apply to `__declspec(noreturn)`.

---

### **Usage**

Use this attribute to reduce the cost of calling a function that never returns, such as `exit()`. If a `noreturn` function returns to its caller, the behavior is undefined.

### **Restrictions**

The return address is not preserved when calling the `noreturn` function. This limits the ability of a debugger to display the call stack.

### **Examples**

---

```
__declspec(noreturn) void overflow(void); // never return on overflow
int negate(int x)
{
    if (x == 0x80000000) overflow();
    return -x;
}
```

---

### **Related references**

[10.43 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noreturn\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-655.

## 10.27 `__declspec(nothrow)`

The `__declspec(nothrow)` attribute asserts that a call to a function never results in a C++ exception being propagated from the callee into the caller.

The ARM library headers automatically add this qualifier to declarations of C functions that, according to the ISO C Standard, can never throw an exception.

———— **Note** —————

This `__declspec` attribute has the function attribute equivalent `__attribute__((nothrow))`.

—————

### Usage

If the compiler knows that a function can never throw an exception, it might be able to generate smaller exception-handling tables for callers of that function.

### Restrictions

If a call to a function results in a C++ exception being propagated from the callee into the caller, the behavior is undefined.

This modifier is ignored when not compiling with exceptions enabled.

### Example

```
struct S
{
    ~S();
};
__declspec(nothrow) extern void f(void);
void g(void)
{
    S s;
    f();
}
```

### Related references

[8.83 `--force\_new\_nothrow`, `--no\_force\_new\_nothrow` on page 8-418.](#)

[11.5 Using the `::operator new` function in ARM C++ on page 11-809.](#)

[10.45 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(nothrow\)\)` function attribute on page 10-657.](#)

## 10.28 \_\_declspec(notshared)

The `__declspec(notshared)` attribute prevents a specific class from having its virtual functions table and RTTI exported.

This holds true regardless of other options you apply. For example, the use of `--export_all_vtbl` does not override `__declspec(notshared)`.

### Examples

---

```
struct __declspec(notshared) X
{
    virtual int f();
};
int X::f()
{
    return 1;
}
struct Y : X
{
    virtual int g();
};
int Y::g()
{
    return 1;
}
```

---

## 10.29 \_\_declspec(thread)

The `__declspec(thread)` attribute asserts that variables are thread-local and have *thread storage duration*, so that the linker arranges for the storage to be allocated automatically when a thread is created.

---

**Note**

The keyword `__thread` is supported as a synonym for `__declspec(thread)`.

---

### Restrictions

File-scope thread-local variables cannot be dynamically initialized.

### Examples

---

```
__declspec(thread) int i;  
__thread int j;           // same as __declspec(thread) int j;
```

---

## 10.30 Function attributes

The `__attribute__` keyword enables you to specify special attributes of variables or structure fields, functions, and types.

The keyword format is either of the following:

```
__attribute__((attribute1, attribute2, ...))
__attribute__((__attribute1__, __attribute2__, ...))
```

For example:

```
void * Function_Attributes_malloc_0(int b) __attribute__((malloc));
static int b __attribute__((__unused__));
```

The following table summarizes the available function attributes.

**Table 10-3 Function attributes that the compiler supports, and their equivalents**

Function attribute	Non-attribute equivalent
<code>__attribute__((alias))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((always_inline))</code>	<code>__forceinline</code>
<code>__attribute__((const))</code>	<code>__pure</code>
<code>__attribute__((constructor[<i>priority</i>]))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((deprecated))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((destructor[<i>priority</i>]))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((format_arg(<i>string-index</i>)))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((malloc))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((noinline))</code>	<code>__declspec(noinline)</code>
<code>__attribute__((no_instrument_function))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((nomerge))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((nonnull))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((noreturn))</code>	<code>__declspec(noreturn)</code>
<code>__attribute__((notailcall))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((nothrow))</code>	<code>__declspec(nothrow)</code>
<code>__attribute__((pcs("calling_convention")))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((pure))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((section("name")))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((unused))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((used))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((weak))</code>	<code>__weak</code>
<code>__attribute__((weakref("target")))</code>	-



## Usage

You can set these function attributes in the declaration, the definition, or both. For example:

```
void AddGlobals(void) __attribute__((always_inline));  
__attribute__((always_inline)) void AddGlobals(void) {...}
```

When function attributes conflict, the compiler uses the safer or stronger one. For example, `__attribute__((used))` is safer than `__attribute__((unused))`, and `__attribute__((noinline))` is safer than `__attribute__((always_inline))`.

## 10.31 `__attribute__((alias))` function attribute

This function attribute enables you to specify multiple aliases for a function.

Aliases must be defined in the same translation unit as the original function.

### ———— **Note** ————

You cannot specify aliases in block scope. The compiler ignores aliasing attributes attached to local function definitions and treats the function definition as a normal local definition.

In the output object file, the compiler replaces alias calls with a call to the original function name, and emits the alias alongside the original name. For example:

```
static int oldname(int x, int y) {
    return x + y;
}
static int newname(int x, int y) __attribute__((alias("oldname")));
int caller(int x, int y) {
    return oldname(x,y) + newname(x,y);
}
```

This code compiles to:

```
AREA ||.text||, CODE, READONLY, ALIGN=2
newname                ; Alternate entry point
oldname PROC
    MOV     r2,r0
    ADD     r0,r2,r1
    BX      lr
    ENDP
caller PROC
    PUSH    {r4,r5,lr}
    MOV     r3,r0
    MOV     r4,r1
    MOV     r1,r4
    MOV     r0,r3
    BL      oldname
    MOV     r5,r0
    MOV     r1,r4
    MOV     r0,r3
    BL      oldname
    ADD     r0,r0,r5
    POP     {r4,r5,pc}
    ENDP
```

If the original function is defined as **static** but the alias is defined as extern, then the compiler changes the original function to be external.

### ———— **Note** ————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### ———— **Note** ————

Variables names might also be aliased using the corresponding variable attribute `__attribute__((alias))`.

## Syntax

```
return-type newname([argument-list]) __attribute__((alias("oldname")));
```

Where:

*oldname*

is the name of the function to be aliased

*newname*

is the new name of the aliased function.

## Examples

---

```
#include <stdio.h>
void foo(void)
{
    printf("%s\n", __FUNCTION__);
}
void bar(void) __attribute__((alias("foo")));
void gazonk(void)
{
    bar(); // calls foo
}
```

---

## Related references

[10.61 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(alias\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-673.

## 10.32 `__attribute__((always_inline))` function attribute

This function attribute indicates that a function must be inlined.

The compiler attempts to inline the function, regardless of the characteristics of the function. However, the compiler does not inline a function if doing so causes problems. For example, a recursive function is inlined into itself only once.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports. It has the keyword equivalent `__forceinline`.

---

---

### **Examples**

```
static int max(int x, int y) __attribute__((always_inline));
static int max(int x, int y)
{
    return x > y ? x : y; // always inline if possible
}
```

---

### **Related references**

[10.6 `\_\_forceinline` on page 10-612.](#)

[8.84 `--forceinline` on page 8-419.](#)

## 10.33 `__attribute__((const))` function attribute

The `const` function attribute specifies that a function examines only its arguments, and has no effect except for the return value. That is, the function does not read or modify any global memory.

If a function is known to operate only on its arguments then it can be subject to common sub-expression elimination and loop optimizations.

This is a much stricter class than `__attribute__((pure))` because functions are not permitted to read global memory.

———— **Note** —————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports. It has the keyword equivalent `__pure`.

—————

### Related concepts

[5.17 Functions that return the same result when called with the same arguments](#) on page 5-176.

### Related references

[10.47 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(pure\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-659.

## 10.34 `__attribute__((constructor[priority]))` function attribute

This attribute causes the function it is associated with to be called automatically before `main()` is entered.

### Note

This attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

`__attribute__((constructor[priority]))`

Where *priority* is an optional integer value denoting the priority. A constructor with a low integer value runs before a constructor with a high integer value. A constructor with a priority runs before a constructor without a priority.

Priority values up to and including 100 are reserved for internal use. If you use these values, the compiler gives a warning. Priority values above 100 are not reserved.

### Usage

You can use this attribute for start-up or initialization code. For example, to specify a function that is to be called when a DLL is loaded.

This attribute can be preferable to the linker option `--init=symbol` if you are using GNU makefiles unmodified to build with the ARM compiler. That is, if you are using `--translate_gcc`, `--translate_gld`, or `--translate_g++`.

### Examples

In the following example, the constructor functions are called before execution enters `main()`, in the order specified:

```
int my_constructor(void) __attribute__((constructor));
int my_constructor2(void) __attribute__((constructor(101)));
int my_constructor3(void) __attribute__((constructor(102)));
int my_constructor(void) /* This is the 3rd constructor */
{
    /* function to be called */
    ...
    return 0;
}
int my_constructor2(void) /* This is the 1st constructor */
{
    /* function to be called */
    ...
    return 0;
}
int my_constructor3(void) /* This is the 2nd constructor */
{
    /* function to be called */
    ...
    return 0;
}
```

### Related references

- [10.36 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(destructor\[priority\]\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-648.
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++`](#) on page 8-526.
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc`](#) on page 8-528.
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld`](#) on page 8-530.

### Related information

[--init=symbol linker option.](#)

## 10.35 `__attribute__((deprecated))` function attribute

This function attribute indicates that a function exists but the compiler must generate a warning if the deprecated function is used.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

---

### **Examples**

---

```
int Function_Attributes_deprecated_0(int b) __attribute__((deprecated));
```

---

## 10.36 `__attribute__((destructor[priority]))` function attribute

This attribute causes the function it is associated with to be called automatically after `main()` completes or after `exit()` is called.

---

**Note**

This attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Syntax

`__attribute__((destructor[priority]))`

Where *priority* is an optional integer value denoting the priority. A destructor with a high integer value runs before a destructor with a low value. A destructor with a priority runs before a destructor without a priority.

Priority values up to and including 100 are reserved for internal use. If you use these values, the compiler gives a warning. Priority values above 100 are not reserved.

### Usage

This attribute can be preferable to the linker option `--fini=symbol` if you are using GNU makefiles unmodified to build with the ARM compiler. That is, if you are using `--translate_gcc`, `--translate_gld`, or `--translate_g++`.

### Examples

---

```
int my_destructor(void) __attribute__((destructor));
int my_destructor(void) /* This function is called after main() */
{                       /* completes or after exit() is called. */
    ...
    return 0;
}
```

---

### Related references

- [10.34 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(constructor\[priority\]\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-646.
- [8.180 `--translate\_g++`](#) on page 8-526.
- [8.181 `--translate\_gcc`](#) on page 8-528.
- [8.182 `--translate\_gld`](#) on page 8-530.

### Related information

[--fini=symbol linker option.](#)



## 10.37 `__attribute__((format_arg(string-index)))` function attribute

This attribute specifies that a function takes a format string as an argument. Format strings can contain typed placeholders that are intended to be passed to printf-style functions such as `printf()`, `scanf()`, `strftime()`, or `strfmon()`.

This attribute causes the compiler to perform placeholder type checking on the specified argument when the output of the function is used in calls to a printf-style function.

### ———— Note —————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

```
__attribute__((format_arg(string-index)))
```

Where *string-index* specifies the argument that is the format string argument (starting from one).

### Example

The following example declares two functions, `myFormatText1()` and `myFormatText2()`, that provide format strings to `printf()`.

The first function, `myFormatText1()`, does not specify the `format_arg` attribute. The compiler does not check the types of the printf arguments for consistency with the format string.

The second function, `myFormatText2()`, specifies the `format_arg` attribute. In the subsequent calls to `printf()`, the compiler checks that the types of the supplied arguments `a` and `b` are consistent with the format string argument to `myFormatText2()`. The compiler produces a warning when a `float` is provided where an `int` is expected.

```
#include <stdio.h>

// Function used by printf. No format type checking.
extern char *myFormatText1 (const char *);

// Function used by printf. Format type checking on argument 1.
extern char *myFormatText2 (const char *) __attribute__((format_arg(1)));

int main(void) {
    int a;
    float b;

    a = 5;
    b = 9.099999;

    printf(myFormatText1("Here is an integer: %d\n"), a); // No type checking. Types match
    anyway.
    printf(myFormatText1("Here is an integer: %d\n"), b); // No type checking. Type mismatch,
    but no warning

    printf(myFormatText2("Here is an integer: %d\n"), a); // Type checking. Types match.
    printf(myFormatText2("Here is an integer: %d\n"), b); // Type checking. Type mismatch
    results in Warning: #181-D
}

$ armcc format_arg_test.c -c
"format_arg_test.c", line 18: Warning: #181-D: argument is incompatible with corresponding
format string conversion
    printf(myFormatText2("Here is an integer: %d\n"), b);
                                     ^
format_arg_test.c: 1 warning, 0 errors
```

## 10.38 `__attribute__((malloc))` function attribute

This function attribute indicates that the function can be treated like `malloc` and the compiler can perform the associated optimizations.

———— **Note** ————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Example

```
void * foo(int b) __attribute__((malloc));
```

## 10.39 `__attribute__((noinline))` function attribute

This function attribute suppresses the inlining of a function at the call points of the function.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports. It has the `__declspec` equivalent `__declspec(noinline)`.

---

---

### **Examples**

```
int fn(void) __attribute__((noinline));
int fn(void)
{
    return 42;
}
```

---

### **Related references**

[10.65 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` constant variable attribute](#) on page 10-677.

[10.89 `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no\_inline`](#) on page 10-702.

[10.25 `\_\_declspec\(noinline\)`](#) on page 10-635.

## 10.40 `__attribute__((no_instrument_function))` function attribute

Functions marked with this attribute are not profiled by `--gnu_instrument`.

———— **Note** —————

The `--gnu_instrument` option and this function attribute are deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards.

### Related references

[8.94 `--gnu\_instrument`, `--no\_gnu\_instrument` on page 8-432.](#)

## 10.41 `__attribute__((nomerge))` function attribute

This function attribute prevents calls to the function that are distinct in the source from being combined in the object code.

### Related references

[10.44 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(notailcall\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-656.

[8.164 `--retain=option`](#) on page 8-507.

## 10.42 `__attribute__((nonnull))` function attribute

This function attribute specifies function parameters that are not supposed to be null pointers. This enables the compiler to generate a warning on encountering such a parameter.

### ———— **Note** ————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### **Syntax**

`__attribute__((nonnull[(arg-index, ...)]))`

Where [*arg-index*, ...] denotes an optional argument index list.

If no argument index list is specified, all pointer arguments are marked as nonnull.

### **Examples**

The following declarations are equivalent:

```
void * my_memcpy (void *dest, const void *src, size_t len) __attribute__((nonnull (1, 2)));
```

```
void * my_memcpy (void *dest, const void *src, size_t len) __attribute__((nonnull));
```

## 10.43 `__attribute__((noreturn))` function attribute

This function attribute informs the compiler that the function does not return. The compiler can then perform optimizations by removing the code that is never reached.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports. It has the `__declspec` equivalent `__declspec(noreturn)`. However, `__attribute__((noreturn))` and `__declspec(noreturn)` differ in that when compiling a function definition, if the function reaches an explicit or implicit return, `__attribute__((noreturn))` is ignored and the compiler generates a warning. This does not apply to `__declspec(noreturn)`.

---

---

### **Examples**

---

```
int Function_Attributes_NoReturn_0(void) __attribute__((noreturn));
```

---

### **Related references**

[10.26 `\_\_declspec\(noreturn\)`](#) on page 10-636.

## 10.44 `__attribute__((notailcall))` function attribute

This function attribute prevents tailcalling of the function. That is, the function is always called with a branch-and-link, even if (because the call occurs at the end of a function) the branch-and-link could be converted to a branch.

### Related references

[10.41 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-653.

[8.164 `--retain=option`](#) on page 8-507.



## 10.45 `__attribute__((nothrow))` function attribute

This function attribute asserts that a call to a function never results in a C++ exception being propagated from the call into the caller.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports. It has the `__declspec` equivalent `__declspec(nothrow)`.

---

---

### Examples

```
struct S
{
    ~S();
};
extern void f(void) __attribute__((nothrow));
void g(void)
{
    S s;
    f();
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.27 `\_\_declspec\(nothrow\)`](#) on page 10-637.

## 10.46 `__attribute__((pcs("calling_convention")))` function attribute

This function attribute specifies the calling convention on targets with hardware floating-point, as an alternative to the `__softfp` keyword.

———— **Note** ————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

```
__attribute__((pcs("calling_convention")))
```

Where *calling\_convention* is one of the following:

`aapcs`

uses integer registers, as for `__softfp`.

`aapcs-vfp`

uses floating-point registers.

### Related concepts

[5.49 Compiler support for floating-point computations and linkage](#) on page 5-216.

### Related references

[10.15 `\_\_softfp`](#) on page 10-623.

## 10.47 `__attribute__((pure))` function attribute

Many functions have no effects except to return a value, and their return value depends only on the parameters and global variables. Functions of this kind can be subject to data flow analysis and might be eliminated.

---

### Note

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

Although related, this function attribute is *not* equivalent to the `__pure` keyword. The function attribute equivalent to `__pure` is `__attribute__((const))`.

---

### Examples

```
int Function_Attributes_pure_0(int b) __attribute__((pure));
int Function_Attributes_pure_0(int b)
{
    return b++;
}
int foo(int b)
{
    int aLocal=0;
    aLocal += Function_Attributes_pure_0(b);
    aLocal += Function_Attributes_pure_0(b);
    return 0;
}
```

The call to `Function_Attributes_pure_0` in this example might be eliminated because its result is not used.

---

### Related concepts

[5.17 Functions that return the same result when called with the same arguments](#) on page 5-176.

### Related references

[10.33 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(const\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-645.

## 10.48 `__attribute__((section("name")))` function attribute

The section function attribute enables you to place code in different sections of the image.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

---

### Examples

In the following example, `Function_Attributes_section_0` is placed into the RO section `new_section` rather than `.text`.

```
void Function_Attributes_section_0 (void)
__attribute__((section ("new_section")));
void Function_Attributes_section_0 (void)
{
    static int aStatic =0;
    aStatic++;
}
```

In the following example, section function attribute overrides the `#pragma arm section` setting.

```
#pragma arm section code="foo"
int f2()
{
    return 1;
} // into the 'foo' area
__attribute__((section ("bar"))) int f3()
{
    return 1;
} // into the 'bar' area
int f4()
{
    return 1;
} // into the 'foo' area
#pragma arm section
```

---

### Related references

[10.77 `#pragma arm section \[section\_type\_list\]` on page 10-689.](#)

## 10.49 `__attribute__((sentinel))` function attribute

This function attribute generates a warning if the specified parameter in a function call is not NULL.

### Syntax

```
__attribute__ ((sentinel(p)))
```

Where:

*p*

is an optional integer position argument. If this argument is supplied, the compiler checks the parameter at position *p* counting backwards from the end of the argument list.

By default, the compiler checks the parameter at position zero, the last parameter of the function call. That is, `__attribute__ ((sentinel))` is equivalent to `__attribute__ ((sentinel(0)))`

## 10.50 `__attribute__((unused))` function attribute

The unused function attribute prevents the compiler from generating warnings if the function is not referenced. This does not change the behavior of the unused function removal process.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

---

### **Example**

---

```
static int Function_Attributes_unused_0(int b) __attribute__((unused));
```

---

## 10.51 `__attribute__((used))` function attribute

This function attribute informs the compiler that a static function is to be retained in the object file, even if it is unreferenced.

Functions marked with `__attribute__((used))` are tagged in the object file to avoid removal by linker unused section removal.

### ———— **Note** ————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### ———— **Note** ————

Static variables can also be marked as used using `__attribute__((used))`.

### Example

```
static int lose_this(int);  
static int keep_this(int) __attribute__((used)); // retained in object file  
static int keep_this_too(int) __attribute__((used)); // retained in object file
```

### Related references

[10.69 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(used\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-681.

[10.48 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-660.

### Related information

[Elimination of unused sections.](#)

## 10.52 `__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))` function attribute

This function attribute affects the visibility of ELF symbols.

### ———— Note ————

This attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

`__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))`

Where *visibility\_type* is one of the following:

#### default

The assumed visibility of symbols can be changed by other options. Default visibility overrides such changes. Default visibility corresponds to external linkage.

#### hidden

The symbol is not placed into the dynamic symbol table, so no other executable or shared library can directly reference it. Indirect references are possible using function pointers.

#### internal

Unless otherwise specified by the *processor-specific Application Binary Interface* (psABI), internal visibility means that the function is never called from another module.

#### protected

The symbol is placed into the dynamic symbol table, but references within the defining module bind to the local symbol. That is, the symbol cannot be overridden by another module.

### Usage

Except when specifying `default` visibility, this attribute is intended for use with declarations that would otherwise have external linkage.

You can apply this attribute to functions and variables in C and C++. In C++, it can also be applied to class, struct, union, and enum types, and namespace declarations.

### Examples

```
void __attribute__((visibility("internal"))) foo()
{
    ...
}
```

### Related references

[10.70 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-682.

[8.8 `--arm\_linux`](#) on page 8-333.

[8.195 `--visibility\_inlines\_hidden`](#) on page 8-545.

[8.98 `--hide\_all`, `--no\_hide\_all`](#) on page 8-436.



## 10.53 `__attribute__((weak))` function attribute

Functions defined with `__attribute__((weak))` export their symbols weakly.

Functions declared with `__attribute__((weak))` and then defined without `__attribute__((weak))` behave as *weak* functions. This is not the same behavior as the `__weak` keyword.

---

### **Note**

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

---

### **Examples**

---

```
extern int Function_Attributes_weak_0 (int b) __attribute__((weak));
```

---

### **Related references**

[10.20 `\_\_weak` on page 10-628.](#)

## 10.54 `__attribute__((weakref("target")))` function attribute

This function attribute marks a function declaration as an alias that does not by itself require a function definition to be given for the target symbol.

### ————— **Note** —————

This function attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

```
__attribute__((weakref("target")))
```

Where *target* is the target symbol.

### Example

In the following example, `foo()` calls `y()` through a weak reference:

```
extern void y(void);
static void x(void) __attribute__((weakref("y")));
void foo (void)
{
    ...
    x();
    ...
}
```

### Restrictions

This attribute can only be used on functions with static linkage.

## 10.55 Type attributes

The `__attribute__` keyword enables you to specify special attributes of variables or structure fields, functions, and types.

The keyword format is either of the following:

```
__attribute__((attribute1, attribute2, ...))
__attribute__((__attribute1__, __attribute2__, ...))
```

For example:

```
void * Function_Attributes_malloc_0(int b) __attribute__((malloc));
static int b __attribute__((__unused__));
```

The following table summarizes the available type attributes.

**Table 10-4** Type attributes that the compiler supports, and their equivalents

Type attribute	Non-attribute equivalent
<code>__attribute__((bitband))</code>	-
<code>__attribute__((aligned))</code>	<code>__align</code>
<code>__attribute__((packed))</code>	<code>__packed</code> <sup>b</sup>
<code>__attribute__((transparent_union))</code>	-

<sup>b</sup> The `__packed` qualifier does not affect type in GNU mode.

## 10.56 `__attribute__((bitband))` type attribute

`__attribute__((bitband))` is a type attribute that gives you efficient atomic access to single-bit values in SRAM and Peripheral regions of the memory architecture.

It is possible to set or clear a single bit directly with a single memory access in certain memory regions, rather than having to use the traditional read, modify, write approach. It is also possible to read a single bit directly rather than having to use the traditional read then shift and mask operation.

The following example illustrates the use of `__attribute__((bitband))`.

```
typedef struct {
    int i : 1;
    int j : 2;
    int k : 3;
} BB __attribute__((bitband));
BB bb __attribute__((at(0x20000004)));
void foo(void)
{
    bb.i = 1;
}
```

For peripherals that are sensitive to the memory access width, byte, halfword, and word stores or loads to the alias space are generated for **char**, **short**, and **int** types of bitfields of bit-banded structs respectively.

In the following example, bit-banded access is generated for `bb.i`.

```
typedef struct {
    char i : 1;
    int j : 2;
    int k : 3;
} BB __attribute__((bitband));
BB bb __attribute__((at(0x20000004)));
void foo()
{
    bb.i = 1;
}
```

If you do not use `__attribute__((at()))` to place the bit-banded variable in the bit-band region, you must relocate it using another method. You can do this by either using an appropriate scatter-loading description file or by using the `--rw_base` linker command-line option. See the *Linker Reference* for more information.

### Restrictions

The following restrictions apply:

- This type attribute can only be used with **struct**. Any union type or other aggregate type with a union as a member cannot be bit-banded.
- Members of structs cannot be bit-banded individually.
- Bit-banded accesses are only generated for single-bit bitfields.
- Bit-banded accesses are not generated for **const** objects, pointers, and local objects.
- Bit-banding is only available on some processors. For example, the Cortex-M3 and Cortex-M4 processors.

### Related references

[8.17 `--bitband` on page 8-345.](#)

[10.62 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\)` variable attribute on page 10-674.](#)

### Related information

[--rw\\_base=address \(linker option\).](#)

## 10.57 `__attribute__((aligned))` type attribute

The `aligned` type attribute specifies a minimum alignment for the type.

———— **Note** —————

This type attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

—————

## 10.58 `__attribute__((packed))` type attribute

The packed type attribute specifies that a type must have the smallest possible alignment.

### ———— Note ————

This type attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Errors

Taking the address of a field with the packed attribute or in a structure with the packed attribute yields a `__packed`-qualified pointer. The compiler produces a type error if you attempt to implicitly cast this pointer to a non-`__packed` pointer. This contrasts with its behavior for address-taken fields of a `#pragma packed` structure.

The compiler generates a warning message if you use this attribute in a `typedef`.

### Related concepts

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `\_\_packed` struct, and a struct with individually `\_\_packed` fields, and of a `\_\_packed` struct and a `#pragma packed` struct](#) on page 5-201.

### Related references

[10.66 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(packed\)\)` variable attribute](#) on page 10-678.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

[10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.

[11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++](#) on page 11-804.

## 10.59 `__attribute__((transparent_union))` type attribute

The `transparent_union` type attribute enables you to specify a *transparent\_union* type, that is, a union data type qualified with `__attribute__((transparent_union))`.

When a function is defined with a parameter having transparent union type, a call to the function with an argument of any type in the union results in the initialization of a union object whose member has the type of the passed argument and whose value is set to the value of the passed argument.

When a union data type is qualified with `__attribute__((transparent_union))`, the transparent union applies to all function parameters with that type.

---

### Note

This type attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Examples

---

```
typedef union { int i; float f; } U __attribute__((transparent_union));
void foo(U u)
{
    static int s;
    s += u.i; /* Use the 'int' field */
}
void caller(void)
{
    foo(1); /* u.i is set to 1 */
    foo(1.0f); /* u.f is set to 1.0f */
}
```

---

### Mode

Supported in GNU mode only.

## 10.60 Variable attributes

The `__attribute__` keyword enables you to specify special attributes of variables or structure fields, functions, and types.

The keyword format is either of the following:

```
__attribute__((attribute1, attribute2, ...))
__attribute__((__attribute1__, __attribute2__, ...))
```

For example:

```
void * Function_Attributes_malloc_0(int b) __attribute__((malloc));
static int b __attribute__((__unused__));
```

The following table summarizes the available variable attributes.

**Table 10-5 Variable attributes that the compiler supports, and their equivalents**

Variable attribute	Non-attribute equivalent
<code>__attribute__((alias))</code> page 10-673	-
<code>__attribute__((at(address)))</code> page 10-674	-
<code>__attribute__((aligned))</code> page 10-675	-
<code>__attribute__((deprecated))</code> page 10-676	-
<code>__attribute__((noinline))</code> page 10-677	-
<code>__attribute__((packed))</code> page 10-678	-
<code>__attribute__((section("name")))</code> page 10-679	-
<code>__attribute__((unused))</code> page 10-680	-
<code>__attribute__((used))</code> page 10-681	-
<code>__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))</code> page 10-682	-
<code>__attribute__((weak))</code> page 10-683	<code>__weak</code> page 10-628
<code>__attribute__((weakref("target")))</code> page 10-684	
<code>__attribute__((zero_init))</code> page 10-685	-



## 10.61 `__attribute__((alias))` variable attribute

This variable attribute enables you to specify multiple aliases for a variable.

Aliases must be defined in the same translation unit as the original variable.

### ———— **Note** ————

You cannot specify aliases in block scope. The compiler ignores aliasing attributes attached to local variable definitions and treats the variable definition as a normal local definition.

In the output object file, the compiler replaces alias references with a reference to the original variable name, and emits the alias alongside the original name. For example:

```
int oldname = 1;
extern int newname __attribute__((alias("oldname")));
```

This code compiles to:

```
    LDR    r1,[r0,#0] ; oldname
    ...
oldname
newname
    DCD    0x00000001
```

If the original variable is defined as **static** but the alias is defined as **extern**, then the compiler changes the original variable to be external.

### ———— **Note** ————

Function names might also be aliased using the corresponding function attribute `__attribute__((alias))`.

## Syntax

```
type newname __attribute__((alias("oldname")));
```

Where:

*oldname*

is the name of the variable to be aliased

*newname*

is the new name of the aliased variable.

## Examples

```
#include <stdio.h>
int oldname = 1;
extern int newname __attribute__((alias("oldname"))); // declaration
void foo(void)
{
    printf("newname = %d\n", newname); // prints 1
}
```

## Related references

[10.31 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(alias\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-642.

## 10.62 `__attribute__((at(address)))` variable attribute

This variable attribute enables you to specify the absolute address of a variable.

The variable is placed in its own section, and the section containing the variable is given an appropriate type by the compiler:

- Read-only variables are placed in a section of type RO.
- Initialized read-write variables are placed in a section of type RW.

Variables explicitly initialized to zero are placed in:

- A section of type ZI in RVCT 4.0 and later.
- A section of type RW (not ZI) in RVCT 3.1 and earlier. Such variables are not candidates for the ZI-to-RW optimization of the compiler.
- Uninitialized variables are placed in a section of type ZI.

———— **Note** ————

GNU compilers do not support this variable attribute.

### Syntax

`__attribute__((at(address)))`

Where:

*address*

is the desired address of the variable.

### Restrictions

The linker is not always able to place sections produced by the `at` variable attribute.

The compiler faults use of the `at` attribute when it is used on declarations with incomplete types.

### Errors

The linker gives an error message if it is not possible to place a section at a specified address.

### Examples

```
const int x1 __attribute__((at(0x10000))) = 10; /* RO */
int x2 __attribute__((at(0x12000))) = 10; /* RW */
int x3 __attribute__((at(0x14000))) = 0; /* RVCT 3.1 and earlier: RW.
                                     * RVCT 4.0 and later: ZI. */
int x4 __attribute__((at(0x16000))); /* ZI */
```

### Related information

*Placement of `__at` sections at a specific address.*

## 10.63 `__attribute__((aligned))` variable attribute

The aligned variable attribute specifies a minimum alignment for the variable or structure field, measured in bytes.

---

### Note

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Examples

---

```
/* Aligns on 16-byte boundary */
int x __attribute__((aligned(16)));
/* In this case, the alignment used is the maximum alignment for a scalar data type. For
ARM, this is 8 bytes. */
short my_array[3] __attribute__((aligned));
```

---

### Related references

[10.2 `\_\_align` on page 10-608.](#)

## 10.64 `__attribute__((deprecated))` variable attribute

The `deprecated` variable attribute enables the declaration of a deprecated variable without any warnings or errors being issued by the compiler. However, any access to a deprecated variable creates a warning but still compiles.

The warning gives the location where the variable is used and the location where it is defined. This helps you to determine why a particular definition is deprecated.

---

### **Note**

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Examples

---

```
extern int Variable_Attributes_deprecated_0 __attribute__((deprecated));
extern int Variable_Attributes_deprecated_1 __attribute__((deprecated));
void Variable_Attributes_deprecated_2()
{
    Variable_Attributes_deprecated_0=1;
    Variable_Attributes_deprecated_1=2;
}
```

Compiling this example generates two warning messages.

---

## 10.65 `__attribute__((noinline))` constant variable attribute

The `noinline` variable attribute prevents the compiler from making any use of a constant data value for optimization purposes, without affecting its placement in the object.

This feature can be used for patchable constants, that is, data that is later patched to a different value. It is an error to try to use such constants in a context where a constant value is required. For example, an array dimension.

### Examples

---

```
__attribute__((noinline)) const int m = 1;
```

---

### Related references

[10.39 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-651.

[10.89 `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no\_inline`](#) on page 10-702.

[10.25 `\_\_declspec\(noinline\)`](#) on page 10-635.

## 10.66 `__attribute__((packed))` variable attribute

The packed variable attribute specifies that a variable or structure field has the smallest possible alignment. That is, one byte for a variable, and one bit for a field, unless you specify a larger value with the `aligned` attribute.

### ———— Note ————

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Example

```
struct
{
    char a;
    int b __attribute__((packed));
} Variable_Attributes_packed_0;
```

### Related concepts

[5.35 The `\_\_packed` qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a `\_\_packed` struct, and a struct with individually `\_\_packed` fields, and of a `\_\_packed` struct and a `#pragma packed` struct](#) on page 5-201.

### Related references

[10.58 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(packed\)\)` type attribute](#) on page 10-670.

[10.95 `#pragma pack\(n\)`](#) on page 10-708.

[10.12 `\_\_packed`](#) on page 10-619.

[11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++](#) on page 11-804.

## 10.67 `__attribute__((section("name")))` variable attribute

The section attribute specifies that a variable must be placed in a particular data section.

Normally, the ARM compiler places the objects it generates in sections like `.data` and `.bss`. However, you might require additional data sections or you might want a variable to appear in a special section, for example, to map to special hardware.

If you use the section attribute, read-only variables are placed in RO data sections, read-write variables are placed in RW data sections unless you use the `zero_init` attribute. In this case, the variable is placed in a ZI section.

---

### Note

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Examples

---

```
/* in RO section */
const int descriptor[3] __attribute__((section ("descr"))) = { 1,2,3 };
/* in RW section */
long long rw_initialized[10] __attribute__((section ("INITIALIZED_RW"))) = {5};
/* in RW section */
long long rw[10] __attribute__((section ("RW")));
/* in ZI section */
long long altstack[10] __attribute__((section ("STACK"), zero_init));
```

---

### Related information

*[How to find where a symbol is placed when linking.](#)*

*[Using fromelf to find where a symbol is placed in an executable ELF image.](#)*

## 10.68 `__attribute__((unused))` variable attribute

Normally, the compiler warns if a variable is declared but is never referenced. This attribute informs the compiler that you expect a variable to be unused and tells it not to issue a warning if it is not used.

---

### **Note**

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

---

### Examples

```
void Variable_Attributes_unused_0()
{
    static int aStatic =0;
    int aUnused __attribute__((unused));
    int bUnused;
    aStatic++;
}
```

In this example, the compiler warns that `bUnused` is declared but never referenced, but does not warn about `aUnused`.

---

### **Note**

The GNU compiler does not give any warning.

---



## 10.69 `__attribute__((used))` variable attribute

This variable attribute informs the compiler that a static variable is to be retained in the object file, even if it is unreferenced.

Static variables marked as used are emitted to a single section, in the order they are declared. You can specify the section that variables are placed in using `__attribute__((section("name")))`.

Data marked with `__attribute__((used))` is tagged in the object file to avoid removal by linker unused section removal.

---

### Note

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---



---

### Note

Static functions can also be marked as used using `__attribute__((used))`.

---

## Usage

You can use `__attribute__((used))` to build tables in the object.

## Examples

---

```
static int lose_this = 1;
static int keep_this __attribute__((used)) = 2;    // retained in object file
static int keep_this_too __attribute__((used)) = 3; // retained in object file
```

---

## Related references

[10.51 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(used\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-663.

[10.48 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-660.

## Related information

[Elimination of unused sections.](#)

## 10.70 `__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type"))) variable attribute`

This variable attribute affects the visibility of ELF symbols.

### ———— Note —————

This attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

```
__attribute__((visibility("visibility_type")))
```

Where *visibility\_type* is one of the following:

#### default

The assumed visibility of symbols can be changed by other options. Default visibility overrides such changes. Default visibility corresponds to external linkage.

#### hidden

The symbol is not placed into the dynamic symbol table, so no other executable or shared library can directly reference it. Indirect references are possible using function pointers.

#### internal

Unless otherwise specified by the *processor-specific Application Binary Interface* (psABI), internal visibility means that the function is never called from another module.

#### protected

The symbol is placed into the dynamic symbol table, but references within the defining module bind to the local symbol. That is, the symbol cannot be overridden by another module.

### Usage

Except when specifying `default` visibility, this attribute is intended for use with declarations that would otherwise have external linkage.

You can apply this attribute to functions and variables in C and C++. In C++, you can also apply it to **class**, **struct**, **union**, and **enum** types, and **namespace** declarations.

### Examples

```
int i __attribute__((visibility("hidden")));
```

### Related references

[10.52 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(visibility\("visibility\_type"\)\)\) function attribute` on page 10-664.](#)

[8.8 `--arm\_linux` on page 8-333.](#)

[8.195 `--visibility\_inlines\_hidden` on page 8-545.](#)

[8.98 `--hide\_all`, `--no\_hide\_all` on page 8-436.](#)

## 10.71 `__attribute__((weak))` variable attribute

The declaration of a weak variable is permitted, and acts in a similar way to `__weak`.

- In GNU mode:

```
extern int Variable_Attributes_weak_1 __attribute__((weak));
```

- The equivalent in non-GNU mode is:

```
__weak int Variable_Attributes_weak_compare;
```

---

### **Note**

The `extern` qualifier is required in GNU mode. In non-GNU mode the compiler assumes that if the variable is not `extern` then it is treated like any other non weak variable.

---

### **Note**

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Related references

[10.20 `\_\_weak` on page 10-628.](#)

## 10.72 `__attribute__((weakref("target")))` variable attribute

This variable attribute marks a variable declaration as an alias that does not by itself require a definition to be given for the target symbol.

---

### **Note**

This variable attribute is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

---

### Syntax

```
__attribute__((weakref("target")))
```

Where *target* is the target symbol.

---

### Examples

In the following example, *a* is assigned the value of *y* through a weak reference:

```
extern int y;
static int x __attribute__((weakref("y")));
void foo (void)
{
    int a = x;
    ...
}
```

---

### Restrictions

This attribute can only be used on variables that are declared as static.

## 10.73 `__attribute__((zero_init))` variable attribute

The `section` attribute specifies that a variable must be placed in a particular data section. The `zero_init` attribute specifies that a variable with no initializer is placed in a ZI data section. If an initializer is specified, an error is reported.

### Examples

---

```
__attribute__((zero_init)) int x;          /* in section ".bss" */  
__attribute__((section("mybss"), zero_init)) int y; /* in section "mybss" */
```

---

### Related references

[10.48 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-660.

## 10.74 Pragmas

The ARM compiler recognizes a number of ARM-specific pragmas

———— **Note** ————

Pragmas override related command-line options. For example, `#pragma arm` overrides the command-line option `--thumb`.

The following table summarizes the available pragmas.

**Table 10-6 Pragmas that the compiler supports**

Pragmas		
<code>#pragma anon_unions, #pragma no_anon_unions</code>	<code>#pragma hdrstop</code>	<code>#pragma pack(n)</code>
<code>#pragma arm</code>	<code>#pragma import <i>symbol_name</i></code>	<code>#pragma pop</code>
<code>#pragma arm section [section_type_list]</code>	<code>#pragma import(__use_full_stdio)</code>	<code>#pragma push</code>
<code>#pragma diag_default tag[,tag,...]</code>	<code>#pragma import(__use_smaller_memcpy)</code>	<code>#pragma softfp_linkage, no_softfp_linkage</code>
<code>#pragma diag_error tag[,tag,...]</code>	<code>#pragma inline, #pragma no_inline</code>	<code>#pragma unroll [(n)]</code>
<code>#pragma diag_remark tag[,tag,...]</code>	<code>#pragma no_pch</code>	<code>#pragma unroll_completely</code>
<code>#pragma diag_suppress tag[,tag,...]</code>	<code>#pragma Onum</code>	<code>#pragma thumb</code>
<code>#pragma diag_warning tag[,tag,...]</code>	<code>#pragma once</code>	<code>#pragma weak <i>symbol</i></code>
<code>#pragma [no_]exceptions_unwind</code>	<code>#pragma Ospace</code>	<code>#pragma weak <i>symbol1</i> = <i>symbol2</i></code>
<code>#pragma GCC system_header</code>	<code>#pragma Otime</code>	

## 10.75 #pragma anon\_unions, #pragma no\_anon\_unions

These pragmas enable and disable support for anonymous structures and unions.

### Default

The default is #pragma no\_anon\_unions.

### Related references

[9.35 Anonymous classes, structures and unions](#) on page 9-592.

[10.59 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(transparent\\_union\)\) type attribute](#) on page 10-671.

## 10.76 #pragma arm

This pragma switches code generation to the ARM instruction set. It overrides the `--thumb` compiler option.

### Usage

Use `#pragma push` and `#pragma pop` on `#pragma arm` or `#pragma thumb` outside of functions, but not inside of them, to change state. This is because `#pragma arm` and `#pragma thumb` only apply at the function level. Instead, put them around the function definition.

### Related references

[10.96 #pragma pop](#) on page 10-710.

[10.97 #pragma push](#) on page 10-711.

[10.99 #pragma thumb](#) on page 10-713.

[8.7 --arm](#) on page 8-332.

[8.179 --thumb](#) on page 8-525.



## 10.77 #pragma arm section [section\_type\_list]

This pragma specifies a section name to be used for subsequent functions or objects. This includes definitions of anonymous objects the compiler creates for initializations.

### ———— Note ————

You can use `__attribute__((section(.)))` for functions or variables as an alternative to `#pragma arm section`.

### Syntax

```
#pragma arm section [section_type_list]
```

Where:

*section\_type\_list*

specifies an optional list of section names to be used for subsequent functions or objects. The syntax of *section\_type\_list* is:

```
section_type[("name")] [,section_type="name"]*
```

Valid section types are:

- code.
- rodata.
- rwdata.
- zidata.

### Usage

Use `#pragma arm section [section_type_list]` to place functions and variables in separate named sections. You can then use the scatter-loading description file to locate these at a particular address in memory.

### Restrictions

This option has no effect on:

- Inline functions and their local static variables.
- Template instantiations and their local static variables.
- Elimination of unused variables and functions. However, using `#pragma arm section` might enable the linker to eliminate a function or variable that might otherwise be kept because it is in the same section as a used function or variable.
- The order that definitions are written to the object file.

### Examples

```
int x1 = 5;                // in .data (default)
int y1[100];              // in .bss (default)
int const z1[3] = {1,2,3}; // in .constdata (default)
#pragma arm section rwdata = "foo", rodata = "bar"
int x2 = 5;                // in foo (data part of region)
int y2[100];              // in .bss
int const z2[3] = {1,2,3}; // in bar
char *s2 = "abc";          // s2 in foo, "abc" in .conststring
#pragma arm section rodata
int x3 = 5;                // in foo
int y3[100];              // in .bss
int const z3[3] = {1,2,3}; // in .constdata
char *s3 = "abc";          // s3 in foo, "abc" in .conststring
#pragma arm section code = "foo"
int add1(int x)            // in foo (code part of region)
{
```

```
    return x+1;  
}  
#pragma arm section code
```

---

### Related references

[10.48 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(section\("name"\)\)\)](#) function attribute on page 10-660.

### Related information

[Scatter-loading Features.](#)

## 10.78 #pragma diag\_default tag[,tag,...]

This pragma returns the severity of the diagnostic messages that have the specified tags to the severities that were in effect before any pragmas were issued. Diagnostic messages are messages whose message numbers are postfixed by -D, for example, #550-D.

### Syntax

```
#pragma diag_default tag[,tag,...]
```

Where:

*tag[,tag,...]*

is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers specifying the messages whose severities are to be changed.

At least one diagnostic message number must be specified.

### Examples

```
// <stdio.h> not #included deliberately
#pragma diag_error 223
void hello(void)
{
    printf("Hello ");
}
#pragma diag_default 223
void world(void)
{
    printf("world!\n");
}
```

Compiling this code with the option `--diag_warning=223` generates diagnostic messages to report that the function `printf()` is declared implicitly.

The effect of `#pragma diag_default 223` is to return the severity of diagnostic message 223 to Warning severity, as specified by the `--diag_warning` command-line option.

### Related concepts

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas](#) on page 6-262.

### Related references

[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.

[10.82 #pragma diag\\_warning tag\[, tag, ...\]](#) on page 10-695.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

## 10.79 #pragma diag\_error tag[,tag,...]

This pragma sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tags to Error severity.

Diagnostic messages are messages whose message numbers are postfixed by -D, for example, #550-D.

### Syntax

```
#pragma diag_error tag[,tag,...]
```

Where:

*tag[,tag,...]*

is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers specifying the messages whose severities are to be changed.

At least one diagnostic message number must be specified.

### Related references

[8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.

[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.

[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.

[8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

[8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

[8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.

[8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.

[8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.

[8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.

[8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 10.80 #pragma diag\_remark tag[,tag,...]

This pragma sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tags to Remark severity.

Diagnostic messages are messages whose message numbers are postfixed by -D, for example, #550-D.

#pragma diag\_remark behaves analogously to #pragma diag\_error, except that the compiler sets the diagnostic messages having the specified tags to Remark severity rather than Error severity.

---

**Note**

Remarks are not displayed by default. Use the --remarks compiler option to see remark messages.

---

### Syntax

```
#pragma diag_remark tag[,tag,...]
```

Where:

*tag[,tag,...]*

is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers specifying the messages whose severities are to be changed.

### Related references

- [8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.
- [8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.
- [8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.
- [8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.
- [8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.
- [8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.
- [8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.
- [8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.
- [8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.
- [8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.
- [8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.
- [10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.
- [10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.
- [8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.
- [6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 10.81 #pragma diag\_suppress tag[,tag,...]

This pragma disables all diagnostic messages that have the specified tags.

Diagnostic messages are messages whose message numbers are postfixed by -D, for example, #550-D.

#pragma diag\_suppress behaves analogously to #pragma diag\_error, except that the compiler suppresses the diagnostic messages having the specified tags rather than setting them to have Error severity.

### Syntax

```
#pragma diag_suppress tag[,tag,...]
```

Where:

*tag[,tag,...]*

is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers specifying the messages to be suppressed.

### Related references

[8.19 --brief\\_diagnostics, --no\\_brief\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-348.

[8.57 --diag\\_error=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-392.

[8.58 --diag\\_remark=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-393.

[8.59 --diag\\_style=arm|ide|gnu compiler option](#) on page 8-394.

[8.60 --diag\\_suppress=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-395.

[8.61 --diag\\_suppress=optimizations](#) on page 8-396.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

[8.205 --wrap\\_diagnostics, --no\\_wrap\\_diagnostics](#) on page 8-555.

[8.63 --diag\\_warning=optimizations](#) on page 8-398.

[8.73 --errors=filename](#) on page 8-408.

[8.198 -W](#) on page 8-548.

[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[8.161 --remarks](#) on page 8-504.

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages](#) on page 6-258.

## 10.82 #pragma diag\_warning tag[, tag, ...]

This pragma sets the diagnostic messages that have the specified tags to Warning severity.

Diagnostic messages are messages whose message numbers are postfixed by -D, for example, #550-D.

#pragma diag\_warning behaves analogously to #pragma diag\_error, except that the compiler sets the diagnostic messages having the specified tags to Warning severity rather than Error severity.

### Syntax

```
#pragma diag_warning tag[,tag,...]
```

Where:

*tag[,tag,...]*

is a comma-separated list of diagnostic message numbers specifying the messages whose severities are to be changed.

### Related concepts

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas](#) on page 6-262.

### Related references

[10.78 #pragma diag\\_default tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-691.

[10.79 #pragma diag\\_error tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-692.

[10.80 #pragma diag\\_remark tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-693.

[10.81 #pragma diag\\_suppress tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 10-694.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

## 10.83 #pragma exceptions\_unwind, #pragma no\_exceptions\_unwind

These pragmas enable and disable function unwinding.

### Usage

The --[no\_]exceptions\_unwind command-line option sets the default behavior for whether unwind tables are generated for functions. #pragma [no\_]exceptions\_unwind overrides this behavior.

### Default

The default is #pragma exceptions\_unwind.

### Related references

[11.11 C++ exception handling in ARM C++ on page 11-816.](#)

[8.75 --exceptions\\_unwind, --no\\_exceptions\\_unwind on page 8-410.](#)

[8.74 --exceptions, --no\\_exceptions on page 8-409.](#)



## 10.84 #pragma GCC system\_header

This pragma is available in GNU mode. It causes subsequent declarations in the current file to be marked as if they occur in a system header file.

This pragma can affect the severity of some diagnostic messages.

### Related references

[8.92 --gnu on page 8-430](#).

## 10.85 #pragma hdrstop

This pragma enables you to specify where the set of precompilation header files end.

---

**Note**

This pragma is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

This pragma must appear before the first token that does not belong to a preprocessing directive.

### Related references

[8.42 --create\\_pch=filename](#) on page 8-375.

[8.147 --pch](#) on page 8-490.

[8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir](#) on page 8-491.

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages](#) on page 8-492.

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose](#) on page 8-493.

[8.189 --use\\_pch=filename](#) on page 8-539.

[10.90 #pragma no\\_pch](#) on page 10-703.

## 10.86 #pragma import symbol\_name

This pragma generates an importing reference to *symbol\_name*.

This is the same as the assembler directive:

```
IMPORT symbol_name
```

### Syntax

```
#pragma import symbol_name
```

Where:

*symbol\_name*  
is a symbol to be imported.

### Usage

You can use this pragma to select certain features of the C library, such as the heap implementation or real-time division. For example:

```
#pragma import(__use_realtime_division)
```

If a feature described in this book requires a symbol reference to be imported, the required symbol is specified.

### Related information

[\*IMPORT and EXTERN \(assembler directives\).\*](#)

[\*Using the C library with an application.\*](#)

## 10.87 #pragma import(\_\_use\_full\_stdio)

This pragma selects an extended version of microlib that uses full standard ANSI C input and output functionality.

---

**Note**

Microlib is an alternative library to the default C library. Only use this pragma if you are using microlib.

---

The following exceptions apply:

- `feof()` and `ferror()` always return 0.
- `setvbuf()` and `setbuf()` are guaranteed to fail.

`feof()` and `ferror()` always return 0 because the error and end-of-file indicators are not supported.

`setvbuf()` and `setbuf()` are guaranteed to fail because all streams are unbuffered.

This version of microlib `stdio` can be retargeted in the same way as the standardlib `stdio` functions.

### Related references

[8.115 --library\\_type=lib](#) on page 8-454.

### Related information

[About microlib.](#)

[Tailoring input/output functions in the C and C++ libraries.](#)

## 10.88 #pragma import(\_\_use\_smaller\_memcpy)

This pragma selects a smaller, but slower, version of `memcpy()` for use with the C micro-library (microlib).

A byte-by-byte implementation of `memcpy()` using LDRB and STRB is used.

———— **Note** —————

Microlib is an alternative library to the default C library. Only use this pragma if you are using microlib.

### Default

The default version of `memcpy()` used by microlib is a larger, but faster, word-by-word implementation using LDR and STR.

### Related references

[8.115 --library\\_type=lib](#) on page 8-454.

### Related information

*The ARM C Micro-library.*

## 10.89 `#pragma inline`, `#pragma no_inline`

These pragmas control inlining, similar to the `--inline` and `--no_inline` command-line options.

A function defined under `#pragma no_inline` is not inlined into other functions, and does not have its own calls inlined.

The effect of suppressing inlining into other functions can also be achieved by marking the function as `__declspec(noinline)` or `__attribute__((noinline))`.

### Default

The default is `#pragma inline`.

### Related references

[10.39 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` function attribute](#) on page 10-651.

[10.65 `\_\_attribute\_\_\(\(noinline\)\)` constant variable attribute](#) on page 10-677.

[10.25 `\_\_declspec\(noinline\)`](#) on page 10-635.

[8.107 `--inline`, `--no\_inline`](#) on page 8-445.

## 10.90 #pragma no\_pch

This pragma suppresses *Precompiled Header* (PCH) processing.

---

**Note**

This pragma is deprecated.

Support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated from ARM Compiler 5.05 onwards on all platforms. Note that ARM Compiler on Windows 8 never supported PCH files.

---

### Related concepts

[4.32 Suppressing Precompiled Header \(PCH\) file processing](#) on page 4-147.

### Related references

[8.42 --create\\_pch=filename](#) on page 8-375.

[8.147 --pch](#) on page 8-490.

[8.148 --pch\\_dir=dir](#) on page 8-491.

[8.149 --pch\\_messages, --no\\_pch\\_messages](#) on page 8-492.

[8.150 --pch\\_verbose, --no\\_pch\\_verbose](#) on page 8-493.

[8.189 --use\\_pch=filename](#) on page 8-539.

[10.85 #pragma hdrstop](#) on page 10-698.

## 10.91 #pragma Onum

This pragma changes the optimization level.

### Syntax

```
#pragma Onum
```

Where:

*num*

is the new optimization level.

The value of *num* is 0, 1, 2 or 3.

### Usage

This pragma enables you to assign optimization levels to individual functions.

### Restriction

The pragma must be placed outside the function.

### Related references

[10.93 #pragma Ospace](#) on page 10-706.

[10.94 #pragma Otime](#) on page 10-707.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.



## 10.92 #pragma once

This pragma enables the compiler to skip subsequent includes of that header file.

#pragma once is accepted for compatibility with other compilers, and enables you to use other forms of header guard coding. However, it is preferable to use #ifndef and #define coding because this is more portable.

### Example

The following example shows the placement of a #ifndef guard around the body of the file, with a #define of the guard variable after the #ifndef.

```
#ifndef FILE_H
#define FILE_H
#pragma once          // optional
... body of the header file ...
#endif
```

The #pragma once is marked as optional in this example. This is because the compiler recognizes the #ifndef header guard coding and skips subsequent includes even if #pragma once is absent.

## 10.93 #pragma Ospace

This pragma instructs the compiler to perform optimizations to reduce image size at the expense of a possible increase in execution time.

### Usage

This pragma enables you to assign optimization goals to individual functions.

### Restriction

The pragma must be placed outside the function.

### Related references

[10.91 #pragma Onum](#) on page 10-704.

[10.94 #pragma Otime](#) on page 10-707.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.142 -Ospace](#) on page 8-485.

## 10.94 #pragma Otime

This pragma instructs the compiler to perform optimizations to reduce execution time at the expense of a possible increase in image size.

### Usage

This pragma enables you to assign optimization goals to individual functions.

### Restriction

The pragma must be placed outside the function.

### Related references

[10.91 #pragma Onum](#) on page 10-704.

[10.93 #pragma Ospace](#) on page 10-706.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.

## 10.95 #pragma pack(n)

This pragma aligns members of a structure to the minimum of  $n$  and their natural alignment. Packed objects are read and written using unaligned accesses.

### Note

This pragma is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.

### Syntax

```
#pragma pack( $n$ )
```

Where:

$n$   
is the alignment in bytes, valid alignment values being 1, 2, 4 and 8.

### Default

The default is `#pragma pack(8)`.

### Errors

Taking the address of a field in a `#pragma packed struct` does not yield a `__packed` pointer, so the compiler does not produce an error if you assign this address to a non-`__packed` pointer. However, the field might not be properly aligned for its type, and dereferencing such an unaligned pointer results in undefined behavior.

### Example

This example demonstrates how `pack(2)` aligns integer variable `b` to a 2-byte boundary.

```
typedef struct
{
    char a;
    int b;
} S;
#pragma pack(2)
typedef struct
{
    char a;
    int b;
} SP;
S var = { 0x11, 0x44444444 };
SP pvar = { 0x11, 0x44444444 };
```

The layout of `S` is:

0	1	2	3
a	padding		
4	5	6	7
b	b	b	b

Figure 10-1 Nonpacked structure `S`

The layout of `SP` is:

0	1	2	3
a	x	b	b
4	5		
b	b		

**Figure 10-2 Packed structure SP**

———— **Note** —————

In this layout, x denotes one byte of padding.

SP is a 6-byte structure. There is no padding after b.

**Related concepts**

[5.35 The \\_\\_packed qualifier and unaligned data access in C and C++ code](#) on page 5-196.

[5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a \\_\\_packed struct, and a struct with individually \\_\\_packed fields, and of a \\_\\_packed struct and a #pragma packed struct](#) on page 5-201.

**Related references**

[10.66 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(packed\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-678.

[10.58 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(packed\)\) type attribute](#) on page 10-670.

[10.12 \\_\\_packed](#) on page 10-619.

[11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++](#) on page 11-804.

## 10.96 #pragma pop

This pragma restores the previously saved pragma state.

### Related concepts

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas](#) on page 6-262.

### Related references

[10.97 #pragma push](#) on page 10-711.

## 10.97 #pragma push

This pragma saves the current pragma state.

### Related concepts

[6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas](#) on page 6-262.

### Related references

[10.96 #pragma pop](#) on page 10-710.

## 10.98 `#pragma softfp_linkage`, `#pragma no_softfp_linkage`

These pragmas control software floating-point linkage.

`#pragma softfp_linkage` asserts that all function declarations up to the next `#pragma no_softfp_linkage` describe functions that use software floating-point linkage.

———— **Note** —————

These pragmas have the keyword equivalent `__softfp`.

### Usage

These pragmas can be useful when applied to an entire interface specification, located in the header file, without altering that file.

### Default

The default is `#pragma no_softfp_linkage`.

### Related concepts

[5.51 Compiler options for floating-point linkage and computations](#) on page 5-218.

### Related references

[10.15 `\_\_softfp`](#) on page 10-623.



## 10.99 #pragma thumb

This pragma switches code generation to the Thumb instruction set. It overrides the `--arm` compiler option.

If you are compiling code for a Thumb processor without Thumb-2 technology and using VFP, *any* function containing floating-point operations is compiled for ARM.

### Usage

Use `#pragma push` and `#pragma pop` on `#pragma arm` or `#pragma thumb` outside of functions, but not inside of them, to change state. This is because `#pragma arm` and `#pragma thumb` only apply at the function level. Instead, put them around the function definition.

```
#pragma push          // in arm state, save current pragma state
#pragma thumb        // change to thumb state
void bar(void)
{
    asm
    {
        NOP
    }
}
#pragma pop          // restore saved pragma state, back to arm state
int main(void)
{
    bar();
}
```

### Related references

- [8.7 --arm on page 8-332.](#)
- [8.179 --thumb on page 8-525.](#)
- [10.76 #pragma arm on page 10-688.](#)
- [10.96 #pragma pop on page 10-710.](#)
- [10.97 #pragma push on page 10-711.](#)

## 10.100 #pragma unroll [(n)]

This pragma instructs the compiler to unroll a loop by  $n$  iterations.

---

**Note**

---

Both vectorized and nonvectorized loops can be unrolled using #pragma unroll [(n)]. That is, #pragma unroll [(n)] applies to both --vectorize and --no\_vectorize.

---

### Syntax

```
#pragma unroll
```

```
#pragma unroll (n)
```

Where:

$n$

is an optional value indicating the number of iterations to unroll.

### Default

If you do not specify a value for  $n$ , the compiler assumes #pragma unroll (4).

### Usage

This pragma is only applicable if you are compiling with -O3 -Otime. When compiling with -O3 -Otime, the compiler automatically unrolls loops where it is beneficial to do so. You can use this pragma to ask the compiler to unroll a loop that has not been unrolled automatically.

---

**Note**

---

Use this pragma only when you have evidence, for example from --diag\_warning=optimizations, that the compiler is not unrolling loops optimally by itself.

---

You cannot determine whether this pragma is having any effect unless you compile with --diag\_warning=optimizations or examine the generated assembly code, or both.

### Restrictions

This pragma can only take effect when you compile with -O3 -Otime. Even then, the use of this pragma is a *request* to the compiler to unroll a loop that has not been unrolled automatically. It does not guarantee that the loop is unrolled.

#pragma unroll [(n)] can be used only immediately before a **for** loop, a **while** loop, or a **do ... while** loop.

### Examples

```
void matrix_multiply(float ** __restrict dest, float ** __restrict src1,
                    float ** __restrict src2, unsigned int n)
{
    unsigned int i, j, k;
    for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    {
        for (k = 0; k < n; k++)
        {
            float sum = 0.0f;
            /* #pragma unroll */
            for(j = 0; j < n; j++)
                sum += src1[i][j] * src2[j][k];
            dest[i][k] = sum;
        }
    }
}
```

```
}
}
```

In this example, the compiler does not normally complete its loop analysis because `src2` is indexed as `src2[j][k]` but the loops are nested in the opposite order, that is, with `j` inside `k`. When `#pragma unroll` is uncommented in the example, the compiler proceeds to unroll the loop four times.

If the intention is to multiply a matrix that is not a multiple of four in size, for example an  $n * n$  matrix, `#pragma unroll (m)` might be used instead, where  $m$  is some value so that  $n$  is an integral multiple of  $m$ .

---

## Related concepts

[5.7 Loop unrolling in C code](#) on page 5-163.

## Related references

[10.101 #pragma unroll\\_completely](#) on page 10-716.

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\]](#) on page 8-397.

[8.139 -Onum](#) on page 8-480.

[8.143 -Otime](#) on page 8-486.

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize](#) on page 8-541.

## 10.101 #pragma unroll\_completely

This pragma instructs the compiler to completely unroll a loop. It has an effect only if the compiler can determine the number of iterations the loop has.

---

### Note

Both vectorized and nonvectorized loops can be unrolled using #pragma unroll\_completely. That is, #pragma unroll\_completely applies to both --no\_vectorize and --vectorize.

---

### Usage

This pragma is only applicable if you are compiling with -O3 -Otime. When compiling with -O3 -Otime, the compiler automatically unrolls loops where it is beneficial to do so. You can use this pragma to ask the compiler to completely unroll a loop that has not automatically been unrolled completely.

---

### Note

Use this #pragma only when you have evidence, for example from --diag\_warning=optimizations, that the compiler is not unrolling loops optimally by itself.

---

You cannot determine whether this pragma is having any effect unless you compile with --diag\_warning=optimizations or examine the generated assembly code, or both.

### Restrictions

This pragma can only take effect when you compile with -O3 -Otime. Even then, the use of this pragma is a *request* to the compiler to unroll a loop that has not been unrolled automatically. It does not guarantee that the loop is unrolled.

#pragma unroll\_completely can only be used immediately before a **for** loop, a **while** loop, or a **do ... while** loop.

Using #pragma unroll\_completely on an outer loop can prevent vectorization. On the other hand, using #pragma unroll\_completely on an inner loop might help in some cases.

### Related concepts

[5.7 Loop unrolling in C code on page 5-163.](#)

### Related references

[10.100 #pragma unroll \[\(n\)\] on page 10-714.](#)

[8.62 --diag\\_warning=tag\[,tag,...\] on page 8-397.](#)

[8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.](#)

[8.143 -Otime on page 8-486.](#)

[8.191 --vectorize, --no\\_vectorize on page 8-541.](#)

## 10.102 #pragma weak symbol, #pragma weak symbol1 = symbol2

This pragma is a deprecated language extension to mark symbols as weak or to define weak aliases of symbols.

It is an alternative to using the `__weak` keyword or the GCC `weak` and `alias` attributes.

### Examples

---

In the following example, `weak_fn` is declared as a weak alias of `__weak_fn`:

```
extern void weak_fn(int a);
#pragma weak weak_fn = __weak_fn
void __weak_fn(int a)
{
    ...
}
```

### Related references

- [10.61 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(alias\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-673.
- [10.31 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(alias\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-642.
- [10.53 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(weak\)\) function attribute](#) on page 10-665.
- [10.71 \\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(weak\)\) variable attribute](#) on page 10-683.

## 10.103 Instruction intrinsics

This topic describes instruction intrinsics for realizing ARM machine language instructions from C or C++ code.

The following table summarizes the available intrinsics.

**Table 10-7 Instruction intrinsics that the ARM compiler supports**

Instruction intrinsics		
__breakpoint	__ldrt	__schedule_barrier
__cdp	__memory_changed	__semihost
__clrex	__nop	__sev
__clz	__pld	__sqrt
__current_pc	__pldw	__sqrtf
__current_sp	__pli	__ssat
__disable_fiq	__promise	__strex
__disable_irq	__qadd	__strexld
__enable_fiq	__qdbl	__strt
__enable_irq	__qsub	__swp
__fabs	__rbit	__usat
__fabsf	__rev	__wfe
__force_stores	__return_address	__wfi
__ldrex	__ror	__yield
__ldrexd		

## 10.104 \_\_breakpoint intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a BKPT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to include a breakpoint instruction in your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
void __breakpoint(int val)
```

Where:

*val*

is a compile-time constant integer whose range is:

0 ... 65535

if you are compiling source as ARM code

0 ... 255

if you are compiling source as Thumb code.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_breakpoint intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the BKPT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_breakpoint" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_breakpoint" is undefined.

The undefined instruction trap is taken if a BKPT instruction is executed on an architecture that does not support it.

### Examples

```
void func(void)
{
    ...
    __breakpoint(0xF02C);
    ...
}
```

### Related information

[BKPT.](#)

## 10.105 \_\_cdp intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a CDP or CDP2 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to include coprocessor data operations in your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
__cdp(unsigned int coproc, unsigned int ops, unsigned int regs)
```

Where:

*coproc*

Identifies the coprocessor the instruction is for.

*coproc* must be an integer in the range 0 to 15.

*ops*

Is an encoding of the two opcodes for the CDP or CDP2 instruction, (*opcode1*<<4) | *opcode2*, where:

- The first opcode, *opcode1*, occupies the 4-bit coprocessor-specific opcode field in the instruction.
- The second opcode, *opcode2*, occupies the 3-bit coprocessor-specific opcode field in the instruction.

Add 0x100 to *ops* to generate a CDP2 instruction.

*regs*

Is an encoding of the coprocessor registers, (*CRd*<<8) | (*CRn*<<4) | *CRm*, where *CRd*, *CRn* and *CRm* are the coprocessor registers for the CDP or CDP2 instruction.

### Usage

The use of these instructions depends on the coprocessor. See your coprocessor documentation for more information.

### Examples

---

```
void copro_example()
{
    const unsigned int ops = 0xA3; // opcode1 = 0xA, opcode2 = 0x3
    const unsigned int regs = 0xCDE; // CRd = 0xC (12), CRn = 0xD (13), CRm = 0xE (14)
    __cdp(4,ops,regs); // coprocessor number 4
    // This intrinsic produces the instruction CDP p4,#0xa,c12,c13,c14,#3
}
```

---

### Related information

[CDP and CDP2.](#)



## 10.106 \_\_clrex intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a CLREX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to include a CLREX instruction in your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
void __clrex(void)
```

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_clrex intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the CLREX instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_clrex" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_clrex" is undefined.

### Related information

[CLREX](#).

## 10.107 \_\_clz intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a CLZ instruction or an equivalent code sequence into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to count the number of leading zeros of a data value in your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
unsigned char __clz(unsigned int val)
```

Where:

*val*  
is an **unsigned int**.

### Return value

The \_\_clz intrinsic returns the number of leading zeros in *val*.

### Related references

[10.154 GNU built-in functions](#) on page 10-780.

### Related information

[CLZ](#).

## 10.108 `__current_pc` intrinsic

This intrinsic enables you to determine the current value of the program counter at the point in your program where the intrinsic is used.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __current_pc(void)
```

### Return value

The `__current_pc` intrinsic returns the current value of the program counter at the point in the program where the intrinsic is used.

### Related references

[10.109 `\_\_current\_sp` intrinsic](#) on page 10-724.

[10.131 `\_\_return\_address` intrinsic](#) on page 10-750.

## 10.109 \_\_current\_sp intrinsic

This intrinsic returns the value of the stack pointer at the current point in your program.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __current_sp(void)
```

### Return value

The \_\_current\_sp intrinsic returns the current value of the stack pointer at the point in the program where the intrinsic is used.

### Related references

[10.108 \\_\\_current\\_pc intrinsic on page 10-723.](#)

[10.131 \\_\\_return\\_address intrinsic on page 10-750.](#)

[10.154 GNU built-in functions on page 10-780.](#)

## 10.110 \_\_disable\_fiq intrinsic

This intrinsic disables FIQ interrupts.

---

### Note

Typically, this intrinsic disables FIQ interrupts by setting the F-bit in the CPSR. However, for v7-M it sets the fault mask register (FAULTMASK). FIQ interrupts are not supported in v6-M.

---

### Syntax

```
int __disable_fiq(void);  
void __disable_fiq(void);
```

### Usage

**int \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** disables fast interrupts and returns the value the FIQ interrupt mask has in the PSR prior to the disabling of interrupts.

**void \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** disables fast interrupts.

### Return value

**int \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** returns the value the FIQ interrupt mask has in the PSR prior to the disabling of FIQ interrupts.

### Restrictions

**int \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** is not supported when compiling with `--cpu=7`. This is because of the difference between the generic ARMv7 architecture and the ARMv7 A, R, and M-profiles in the exception handling model. This means that when you compile with `--cpu=7`, the compiler is unable to generate an instruction sequence that works on all ARMv7 processors and therefore **int \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** is not supported. You can use the **void \_\_disable\_fiq(void);** function prototype with `--cpu=7`.

The `__disable_fiq` intrinsic can only be executed in privileged modes, that is, in non-user modes. In User mode this intrinsic does not change the interrupt flags in the CPSR.

### Examples

---

```
void foo(void)
{
    int was_masked = __disable_fiq();
    /* ... */
    if (!was_masked)
        __enable_fiq();
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.112 \\_\\_enable\\_fiq intrinsic on page 10-728.](#)

## 10.111 \_\_disable\_irq intrinsic

This intrinsic disables IRQ interrupts.

---

### Note

Typically, this intrinsic disables IRQ interrupts by setting the I-bit in the CPSR. However, for M-profile it sets the exception mask register (PRIMASK).

---

### Syntax

```
int __disable_irq(void);
```

```
void __disable_irq(void);
```

### Usage

**int \_\_disable\_irq(void);** disables interrupts and returns the value the IRQ interrupt mask has in the PSR prior to the disabling of interrupts.

**void \_\_disable\_irq(void);** disables interrupts.

### Return value

**int \_\_disable\_irq(void);** returns the value the IRQ interrupt mask has in the PSR prior to the disabling of IRQ interrupts.

### Examples

---

```
void foo(void)
{
    int was_masked = __disable_irq();
    /* ... */
    if (!was_masked)
        __enable_irq();
}
```

---

### Restrictions

**int \_\_disable\_irq(void);** is not supported when compiling with `--cpu=7`. This is because of the difference between the generic ARMv7 architecture and the ARMv7 A, R, and M-profiles in the exception handling model. This means that when you compile with `--cpu=7`, the compiler is unable to generate an instruction sequence that works on all ARMv7 processors and therefore **int \_\_disable\_irq(void);** is not supported. You can use the **void \_\_disable\_irq(void);** function prototype with `--cpu=7`.

The following example illustrates the difference between compiling for ARMv7-M and ARMv7-R:

```
/* test.c */
void DisableIrq(void)
{
    __disable_irq();
}

int DisableIrq2(void)
{
    return __disable_irq();
}
```

```
armcc -c --cpu=Cortex-M3 -o m3.o test.c
```

```
DisableIrq
0x00000000: b672    r.    CPSID    i
0x00000002: 4770    pG    BX      lr
```

```
DisableIrq2
0x00000004: f3ef8010 .... MRS      r0,PRIMASK
0x00000008: f0000001 .... AND      r0,r0,#1
0x0000000c: b672      r.    CPSID    i
0x0000000e: 4770      pG    BX      lr
```

```
armcc -c --cpu=Cortex-R4 --thumb -o r4.o test.c
```

```
DisableIrq
0x00000000: b672      r.    CPSID    i
0x00000002: 4770      pG    BX      lr
DisableIrq2
0x00000004: f3ef8000 .... MRS      r0,APSR ; formerly CPSR
0x00000008: f0000080 .... AND      r0,r0,#0x80
0x0000000c: b672      r.    CPSID    i
0x0000000e: 4770      pG    BX      lr
```

In all cases, the \_\_disable\_irq intrinsic can only be executed in privileged modes, that is, in non-user modes. In User mode this intrinsic does not change the interrupt flags in the CPSR.

## Related references

[10.113 \\_\\_enable\\_irq intrinsic on page 10-729.](#)

## 10.112 \_\_enable\_fiq intrinsic

This intrinsic enables FIQ interrupts.

———— **Note** ————

Typically, this intrinsic enables FIQ interrupts by clearing the F-bit in the CPSR. However, for v7-M, it clears the fault mask register (FAULTMASK). FIQ interrupts are not supported in v6-M.

### Syntax

```
void __enable_fiq(void)
```

### Restrictions

The \_\_enable\_fiq intrinsic can only be executed in privileged modes, that is, in non-user modes. In User mode this intrinsic does not change the interrupt flags in the CPSR.

### Related references

[10.110 \\_\\_disable\\_fiq intrinsic on page 10-725.](#)



## 10.113 \_\_enable\_irq intrinsic

This intrinsic enables IRQ interrupts.

---

### **Note**

Typically, this intrinsic enables IRQ interrupts by clearing the I-bit in the CPSR. However, for Cortex M-profile processors, it clears the exception mask register (PRIMASK).

---

### **Syntax**

```
void __enable_irq(void)
```

### **Restrictions**

The \_\_enable\_irq intrinsic can only be executed in privileged modes, that is, in non-user modes. In User mode this intrinsic does not change the interrupt flags in the CPSR.

### **Related references**

[10.111 \\_\\_disable\\_irq intrinsic](#) on page 10-726.

## 10.114 `__fabs` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a `VABS` instruction or an equivalent code sequence into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to obtain the absolute value of a double-precision floating-point value from within your C or C++ code.

---

**Note**

The `__fabs` intrinsic is an analog of the standard C library function `fabs()`. It differs from the standard library function in that a call to `__fabs` is guaranteed to be compiled into a single, inline, machine instruction on an ARM architecture-based processor equipped with a VFP coprocessor.

---

### Syntax

```
double __fabs(double val)
```

Where:

*val*  
is a double-precision floating-point value.

### Return value

The `__fabs` intrinsic returns the absolute value of *val* as a **double**.

### Related references

[10.115 `\_\_fabsf` intrinsic](#) on page 10-731.

### Related information

[VABS \(floating-point\)](#).

## 10.115 `__fabsf` intrinsic

This intrinsic is a single-precision version of the `__fabs` intrinsic.

It is functionally equivalent to `__fabs`, except that:

- It takes an argument of type **float** instead of an argument of type **double**.
- It returns a **float** value instead of a **double** value.

### Syntax

```
float __fabs(float val)
```

### Related references

[10.114 `\_\_fabs` intrinsic](#) on page 10-730.

### Related information

[VABS](#).

## 10.116 `__force_stores` intrinsic

This intrinsic causes all variables that are visible outside the current function, such as variables that have pointers to them passed into or out of the function, to be written back to memory if they have been changed.

This intrinsic also acts as a scheduling barrier.

### Syntax

```
void __force_stores(void)
```

### Related references

[10.120 `\_\_memory\_changed` intrinsic](#) on page 10-738.

[10.133 `\_\_schedule\_barrier` intrinsic](#) on page 10-752.

## 10.117 \_\_ldrex intrinsic

The `__ldrex` intrinsic lets you load data from memory in your C or C++ code using an LDREX[*size*] instruction.

*size* in LDREX[*size*] is B for byte loads or H for halfword loads. If no *size* is specified, word loads are performed.

### ———— Note —————

The compiler does not guarantee to preserve the state of the exclusive monitor. It might generate load and store instructions between the LDREX instruction generated for the `__ldrex` intrinsic and the STREX instruction generated for the `__strex` intrinsic. Because memory accesses can clear the exclusive monitor, code using the `__ldrex` and `__strex` intrinsics can have unexpected behavior. Where LDREX and STREX instructions are needed, ARM recommends using embedded assembly.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ldrex(volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*ptr*

points to the address of the data to be loaded from memory. To specify the type of the data to be loaded, cast the parameter to an appropriate pointer type.

**Table 10-8 Access widths that the `__ldrex` intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data loaded	Pointer type
LDREXB	byte	unsigned char *
LDREXB	byte	signed char *
LDREXH	halfword	unsigned short *
LDREXH	halfword	signed short *
LDREX	word	int *

### Return value

The `__ldrex` intrinsic returns the data loaded from the memory address pointed to by *ptr*.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the `__ldrex` intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the LDREX instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "`__ldrex`" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "`__ldrex`" is undefined.

The `__ldrex` intrinsic does not support access to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported.

### Examples

```
int foo(void)
{
    int loc = 0xff;
```

```
    return __ldrex((volatile char *)loc);
}
```

Compiling this code with the command-line option `--cpu=6k` produces

```
||foo|| PROC
MOV      r0,#0xff
LDREXB   r0,[r0]
BX       lr
ENDP
```

## Related references

[10.118 `\_\_ldrex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-735.

[10.139 `\_\_strex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-759.

[10.140 `\_\_strex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-761.

## Related information

[LDREX.](#)

## 10.118 \_\_ldrex intrinsic

The \_\_ldrex intrinsic lets you load doubleword data from memory in your C or C++ code using an LDREX instruction.

### ———— Note ————

The compiler does not guarantee to preserve the state of the exclusive monitor. It might generate load and store instructions between the LDREX instruction generated for the \_\_ldrex intrinsic and the STREX instruction generated for the \_\_strex intrinsic. Because memory accesses can clear the exclusive monitor, code using the \_\_ldrex and \_\_strex intrinsics can have unexpected behavior. Where LDREX and STREX instructions are needed, ARM recommends using embedded assembly.

### Syntax

```
unsigned long long __ldrex(volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*ptr*

points to the address of the data to be loaded from memory. To specify the type of the data to be loaded, cast the parameter to an appropriate pointer type.

**Table 10-9 Access widths that the \_\_ldrex intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data loaded	Pointer type
LDREX	long long	long long *

### Return value

The \_\_ldrex intrinsic returns the data loaded from the memory address pointed to by *ptr*.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_ldrex intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the LDREX instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_ldrex" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_ldrex" is undefined.

The \_\_ldrex intrinsic only supports access to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported.

### Related references

- [10.117 \\_\\_ldrex intrinsic on page 10-733.](#)
- [10.139 \\_\\_strex intrinsic on page 10-759.](#)
- [10.140 \\_\\_strex intrinsic on page 10-761.](#)

### Related information

[LDREX.](#)

## 10.119 \_\_ldrt intrinsic

The \_\_ldrt intrinsic lets you load data from memory in your C or C++ code using an LDR{size}T instruction.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ldrt(const volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*ptr*

Points to the address of the data to be loaded from memory. To specify the size of the data to be loaded, cast the parameter to an appropriate integral type.

**Table 10-10 Access widths that the \_\_ldrt intrinsic supports**

Instruction <sup>c</sup>	Size of data loaded	Pointer type
LDRSBT	byte	signed char *
LDRBT	byte	unsigned char *
LDRSHT	halfword	signed short *
LDRHT	halfword	unsigned short *
LDRT	word	int *

### Return value

The \_\_ldrt intrinsic returns the data loaded from the memory address pointed to by *ptr*.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_ldrt intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the LDRT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_ldrt" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_ldrt" is undefined.

The \_\_ldrt intrinsic does not support access to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported.

### Examples

```
int foo(void)
{
    int loc = 0xff;
    return __ldrt((const volatile int *)loc);
}
```

Compiling this code with the default options produces:

```
||foo|| PROC
MOV     r1,#0xff
LDRT    r0,[r1],#0
BX      lr
ENDP
```

<sup>c</sup> If the target instruction set does not have the listed instruction, the compiler generates a sequence of instructions with equivalent behavior instead.



### Related references

[8.179 --thumb](#) on page 8-525.

### Related information

[LDR, unprivileged](#).

## 10.120 `__memory_changed` intrinsic

This intrinsic causes the compiler to behave as if all C objects had their values both read and written at that point in time.

The compiler ensures that the stored value of each C object is correct at that point in time and treats the stored value as unknown afterwards.

### Syntax

```
void __memory_changed(void)
```

### Related references

[10.116 `\_\_force\_stores` intrinsic](#) on page 10-732.

[10.133 `\_\_schedule\_barrier` intrinsic](#) on page 10-752.

## 10.121 \_\_nop intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a NOP instruction or an equivalent code sequence into the instruction stream.

The compiler does not optimize away the NOP instructions, except for normal unreachable code elimination. One NOP instruction is generated for each \_\_nop intrinsic in the source.

ARMv6 and previous architectures do not have a NOP instruction, so the compiler generates a MOV r0, r0 instruction instead.

In addition, \_\_nop creates a special sequence point that prevents operations with side effects from moving past it under all circumstances. Normal sequence points allow operations with side effects past if they do not affect program behavior. Operations without side effects are not restricted by the intrinsic, and the compiler can move them past the sequence point. The \_\_schedule\_barrier intrinsic also creates this special sequence point, without inserting a NOP instruction.

Section 5.1.2.3 of the C standard defines operations with side effects as those that change the state of the execution environment. These operations:

- Access volatile objects.
- Modify a memory location.
- Modify a file.
- Call a function that does any of the above.

In the following example, the compiler ensures that the read from the volatile variable x is enclosed between two NOP instructions.

```
volatile int x;
int z;
int read_variable(int y)
{
    int i;
    int a = 0;
    __nop();
    a = x;
    __nop();
    return z + y;
}
```

If the \_\_nop intrinsics are removed, and the compilation is performed at -O3 -Otime for --cpu=Cortex-A8, for example, then the compiler can schedule the read of the non-volatile variable z to be before the read of variable x.

In the following example, the compiler ensures that the write to variable z is enclosed between two NOP instructions.

```
int x;
int z;
int write_variable(int y)
{
    int i;
    for (i = 0; i < 10; i++)
    {
        __nop();
        z = y;
        __nop();
        x += y;
    }
    return z;
}
```

In this case, if the \_\_nop intrinsics are removed, then with -O3 -Otime --cpu=Cortex-A8, the compiler can fold away the loop.

In the following example, because `pure_func` has no side effects, the compiler can move the call to it to outside of the loop. Still, the compiler ensures that the call to `func` is enclosed between two NOP instructions.

```
int func(int x);
int pure_func(int x) __pure;
int read(int x)
{
    int i;
    int a=0;
    for (i=0; i<10; i++)
    {
        __nop();
        a += pure_func(x) + func(x);
        __nop();
    }
    return a;
}
```

---

**Note**

- You can use the `__schedule_barrier` intrinsic to insert a scheduling barrier without generating a NOP instruction.
  - In the examples above, the compiler would treat `__schedule_barrier` in the same way as `__nop`.
- 

**Syntax**

```
void __nop(void)
```

**Related references**

[10.13 `\_\_pure` on page 10-621.](#)  
[10.133 `\_\_schedule\_barrier` intrinsic on page 10-752.](#)  
[4.4 Generic intrinsics on page 4-112.](#)  
[10.135 `\_\_sev` intrinsic on page 10-755.](#)  
[10.144 `\_\_wfe` intrinsic on page 10-766.](#)  
[10.145 `\_\_wfi` intrinsic on page 10-767.](#)  
[10.146 `\_\_yield` intrinsic on page 10-768.](#)

**Related information**

[NOP.](#)

## 10.122 \_\_pld intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a data prefetch, for example PLD, into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to signal to the memory system from your C or C++ program that a data load from an address is likely in the near future.

### Syntax

```
void __pld(...)
```

Where:

...

denotes any number of pointer or integer arguments specifying addresses of memory to prefetch.

### Restrictions

If the target architecture does not support data prefetching, the compiler generates neither a PLD instruction nor a NOP instruction, but ignores the intrinsic.

### Examples

```
extern int data1;
extern int data2;
volatile int *interrupt = (volatile int *)0x8000;
volatile int *uart = (volatile int *)0x9000;
void get(void)
{
    __pld(data1, data2);
    while (!*interrupt);
    *uart = data1;          // trigger uart as soon as interrupt occurs
    *(uart+1) = data2;
}
```

### Related references

[10.124 \\_\\_pli intrinsic](#) on page 10-743.

[10.123 \\_\\_pldw intrinsic](#) on page 10-742.

### Related information

[PLD, PLDW, and PLI](#).

## 10.123 \_\_pldw intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a PLDW instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to signal to the memory system from your C or C++ program that a data load from an address with an intention to write is likely in the near future.

This intrinsic inserts a PLDW instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to signal to the memory system from your C or C++ program that a data load from an address with an intention to write is likely in the near future.

### Syntax

```
void __pldw(...)
```

Where:

...

denotes any number of pointer or integer arguments specifying addresses of memory to prefetch.

### Restrictions

If the target architecture does not support data prefetching, this intrinsic has no effect.

This intrinsic only takes effect in ARMv7 architectures and above that provide Multiprocessing Extensions. That is, when the predefined macro `__TARGET_FEATURE_MULTIPROCESSING` is defined.

### Examples

```
void foo(int *bar)
{
    __pldw(bar);
}
```

### Related references

[10.124 \\_\\_pli intrinsic](#) on page 10-743.

[10.122 \\_\\_pld intrinsic](#) on page 10-741.

[10.155 Predefined macros](#) on page 10-789.

### Related information

[PLD](#), [PLDW](#), and [PLI](#).

## 10.124 `__pli` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an instruction prefetch, for example `PLI`, into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to signal to the memory system from your C or C++ program that an instruction load from an address is likely in the near future.

### Syntax

```
void __pli(...)
```

Where:

... denotes any number of pointer or integer arguments specifying addresses of instructions to prefetch.

### Restrictions

If the target architecture does not support instruction prefetching, the compiler generates neither a `PLI` instruction nor a `NOP` instruction, but ignores the intrinsic.

### Related references

[10.123 `\_\_pldw` intrinsic](#) on page 10-742.

[10.122 `\_\_pld` intrinsic](#) on page 10-741.

### Related information

*PLD, PLDW, and PLI.*

## 10.125 \_\_promise intrinsic

This intrinsic represents a promise you make to the compiler that a given expression always has a nonzero value. This enables the compiler to perform more aggressive optimization when vectorizing code.

### Syntax

```
void __promise(expr)
```

Where *expr* is an expression that evaluates to nonzero.

### Usage

`__promise(expr)` is similar but complementary to `assert(expr)`. Unlike `assert(expr)`, `__promise(expr)` is effective when `NDEBUG` is defined.

If assertions are enabled (by including `assert.h` and not defining `NDEBUG`) then the promise is checked at runtime by evaluating *expr* as part of `assert(expr)`.

### Related concepts

[3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with \\_\\_promise\(\*expr\*\)](#) on page 3-92.



## 10.126 `__qadd` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a `QADD` instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to obtain the result of a saturating add of two integers from within your C or C++ code.

### ———— Note ————

The compiler might optimize your code when it detects an opportunity to do so, using equivalent instructions from the same family to produce fewer instructions.

### Syntax

```
int __qadd(int val1, int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

is the first summand of the saturating add operation

*val2*

is the second summand of the saturating add operation.

### Return value

The `__qadd` intrinsic returns the saturating add of *val1* and *val2*.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the `__qadd` intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the `QADD` instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "`__qadd`" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "`__qadd`" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.127 `\_\_qdbl` intrinsic on page 10-746.](#)

[10.128 `\_\_qsub` intrinsic on page 10-747.](#)

### Related information

[QADD.](#)

## 10.127 \_\_qdbl intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts instructions equivalent to the saturating addition of an integer with itself into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to obtain the saturating double of an integer from within your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
int __qdbl(int val)
```

Where:

*val*

is the data value to be doubled.

### Return value

The \_\_qdbl intrinsic returns the saturating add of *val* with itself, or equivalently, \_\_qadd(*val*, *val*).

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_qdbl intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the QADD instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_qdbl" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_qdbl" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.126 \\_\\_qadd intrinsic on page 10-745.](#)

[10.128 \\_\\_qsub intrinsic on page 10-747.](#)

## 10.128 \_\_qsub intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QSUB instruction or an equivalent code sequence into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to obtain the saturating subtraction of two integers from within your C or C++ code.

———— **Note** ————

The compiler might optimize your code when it detects opportunity to do so, using equivalent instructions from the same family to produce fewer instructions.

### Syntax

```
int __qsub(int val1, int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

is the minuend of the saturating subtraction operation

*val2*

is the subtrahend of the saturating subtraction operation.

### Return value

The \_\_qsub intrinsic returns the saturating subtraction of *val1* and *val2*.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_qsub intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the QSUB instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_qsub" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_qsub" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.126 \\_\\_qadd intrinsic on page 10-745.](#)

[10.127 \\_\\_qdbl intrinsic on page 10-746.](#)

### Related information

[QSUB.](#)

## 10.129 \_\_rbit intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an RBIT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to reverse the bit order in a 32-bit word from within your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __rbit(unsigned int val)
```

Where:

*val*

is the data value whose bit order is to be reversed.

### Return value

The \_\_rbit intrinsic returns the value obtained from *val* by reversing its bit order.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_rbit intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the RBIT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_rbit" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_rbit" is undefined.

### Related information

[RBIT](#).

## 10.130 \_\_rev intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a REV instruction or an equivalent code sequence into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to convert a 32-bit big-endian data value into a little-endian data value, or a 32-bit little-endian data value into a big-endian data value from within your C or C++ code.

---

**Note**

The \_\_rev intrinsic is available irrespective of the target processor or architecture you are compiling for. However, if the REV instruction is not available on the target, the compiler compensates with an alternative code sequence that could increase the number of instructions, effectively expanding the intrinsic into a function.

---

**Note**

The compiler introduces REV automatically when it recognizes certain expressions.

---

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __rev(unsigned int val)
```

Where:

*val*

is an **unsigned int**.

### Return value

The \_\_rev intrinsic returns the value obtained from *val* by reversing its byte order.

### Related information

[REV](#).

## 10.131 `__return_address` intrinsic

This intrinsic returns the return address of the current function.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __return_address(void)
```

### Return value

The `__return_address` intrinsic returns the value of the link register that is used in returning from the current function.

### Restrictions

The `__return_address` intrinsic does *not* affect the ability of the compiler to perform optimizations such as inlining, tailcalling, and code sharing. Where optimizations are made, the value returned by `__return_address` reflects the optimizations performed:

#### No optimization

When no optimizations are performed, the value returned by `__return_address` from within a function `foo()` is the return address of `foo()`.

#### Inline optimization

If a function `foo()` is inlined into a function `bar()` then the value returned by `__return_address` from within `foo()` is the return address of `bar()`.

#### Tail-call optimization

If a function `foo()` is tail-called from a function `bar()` then the value returned by `__return_address` from within `foo()` is the return address of `bar()`.

### Related references

[10.108 `\_\_current\_pc` intrinsic on page 10-723.](#)

[10.109 `\_\_current\_sp` intrinsic on page 10-724.](#)

[10.154 GNU built-in functions on page 10-780.](#)

## 10.132 \_\_ror intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a ROR instruction or operand rotation into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to rotate a value right by a specified number of places from within your C or C++ code.

———— **Note** ————

The compiler introduces ROR automatically when it recognizes certain expressions.

————

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ror(unsigned int val, unsigned int shift)
```

Where:

*val*

is the value to be shifted right

*shift*

is a constant shift in the range 1-31.

### Return value

The \_\_ror intrinsic returns the value of *val* rotated right by *shift* number of places.

### Related information

[ROR](#).

## 10.133 `__schedule_barrier` intrinsic

This intrinsic creates a special sequence point that prevents operations with side effects from moving past it under all circumstances. Normal sequence points allow operations with side effects past if they do not affect program behavior. Operations without side effects are not restricted by the intrinsic, and the compiler can move them past the sequence point.

Unlike the `__force_stores` intrinsic, the `__schedule_barrier` intrinsic does not cause memory to be updated. The `__schedule_barrier` intrinsic is similar to the `__nop` intrinsic, only differing in that it does not generate a NOP instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __schedule_barrier(void)
```

### Related references

[10.116 `\_\_force\_stores` intrinsic](#) on page 10-732.

[10.120 `\_\_memory\_changed` intrinsic](#) on page 10-738.

[10.121 `\_\_nop` intrinsic](#) on page 10-739.



## 10.134 \_\_semihost intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SVC or BKPT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to make semihosting calls from C or C++ that are independent of the target architecture.

### Syntax

```
int __semihost(int val, const void *ptr)
```

Where:

*val*

Is the request code for the semihosting request.

See *Developing Software for ARM Processors* for more information.

*ptr*

Is a pointer to an argument/result block.

See *Developing Software for ARM Processors* for more information.

### Return value

See *Developing Software for ARM Processors* for more information on the results of semihosting calls.

### Usage

Use this intrinsic from C or C++ to generate the appropriate semihosting call for your target and instruction set:

0x123456

In ARM state for all architectures.

0xAB

In Thumb state, excluding M-profile architectures. This behavior is not guaranteed on *all* debug targets from ARM or from third parties.

0xAB

For M-profile architectures (Thumb only).

### Restrictions

ARM processors prior to ARMv7 use SVC instructions to make semihosting calls. However, if you are compiling for a Cortex M-profile processor, semihosting is implemented using the BKPT instruction.

### Examples

```
char buffer[100];
...
void foo(void)
{
    __semihost(0x01, (const void *)buf); // equivalent in thumb state to
                                         // int __svc(0xAB) my_svc(int, int *);
                                         // result = my_svc(0x1, &buffer);
}
```

Compiling this code with the option `--thumb` generates:

```
||foo|| PROC
    LDR    r1, |L1.12|
    MOVS   r0, #1
    SVC    #0xab
    ...
|L1.12|
...
```

buffer %	400
-------------	-----

---

### Related references

[8.40 --cpu=list](#) on page 8-371.

[8.179 --thumb](#) on page 8-525.

[10.16 \\_\\_svc](#) on page 10-624.

### Related information

[BKPT.](#)

[SVC.](#)

[What is Semihosting?.](#)

## 10.135 `__sev` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SEV instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

In some architectures, for example the v6T2 architecture, the SEV instruction executes as a NOP instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __sev(void)
```

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the `__sev` intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the SEV instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "`__sev`" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "`__sev`" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.121 `\_\_nop` intrinsic](#) on page 10-739.

[10.144 `\_\_wfe` intrinsic](#) on page 10-766.

[10.145 `\_\_wfi` intrinsic](#) on page 10-767.

[10.146 `\_\_yield` intrinsic](#) on page 10-768.

### Related information

[NOP.](#)

[SEV.](#)

## 10.136 \_\_sqrt intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a VFP VSQRT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler. It enables you to obtain the square root of a double-precision floating-point value from within your C or C++ code.

---

### Note

The \_\_sqrt intrinsic is an analog of the standard C library function `sqrt()`. It differs from the standard library function in that a call to \_\_sqrt is guaranteed to be compiled into a single, inline, machine instruction on an ARM architecture-based processor equipped with a VFP coprocessor.

---

### Syntax

```
double __sqrt(double val)
```

Where:

*val*

is a double-precision floating-point value.

### Return value

The \_\_sqrt intrinsic returns the square root of *val* as a **double**.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_sqrt intrinsic when compiling for a target that is not equipped with a VFP coprocessor. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_sqrt" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_sqrt" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.137 \\_\\_sqrtf intrinsic on page 10-757.](#)

## 10.137 `__sqrtf` intrinsic

This intrinsic is a single-precision version of the `__sqrt` intrinsic.

It is functionally equivalent to `__sqrt`, except that:

- It takes an argument of type **float** instead of an argument of type **double**.
- It returns a **float** value instead of a **double** value.

### Related references

[10.136 `\_\_sqrt` intrinsic](#) on page 10-756.

## 10.138 \_\_ssat intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SSAT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to saturate a signed value from within your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
int __ssat(int val, unsigned int sat)
```

Where:

*val*

Is the value to be saturated.

*sat*

Is the bit position to saturate to.

*sat* must be in the range 1 to 32.

### Return value

The \_\_ssat intrinsic returns *val* saturated to the signed range  $-2^{sat-1} \leq x \leq 2^{sat-1} - 1$ .

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_ssat intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the SSAT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_ssat" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_ssat" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.143 \\_\\_usat intrinsic on page 10-765.](#)

### Related information

[SSAT.](#)

## 10.139 \_\_strex intrinsic

The \_\_strex intrinsic lets you use an STREX[size] instruction in your C or C++ code to store data to memory.

### ———— Note —————

The compiler does not guarantee to preserve the state of the exclusive monitor. It might generate load and store instructions between the LDREX instruction generated for the \_\_ldrex intrinsic and the STREX instruction generated for the \_\_strex intrinsic. Because memory accesses can clear the exclusive monitor, code using the \_\_ldrex and \_\_strex intrinsics can have unexpected behavior. Where LDREX and STREX instructions are needed, ARM recommends using embedded assembly.

### Syntax

```
int __strex(unsigned int val, volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*val*

is the value to be written to memory.

*ptr*

points to the address of the data to be written to in memory. To specify the size of the data to be written, cast the parameter to an appropriate integral type.

**Table 10-11 Access widths that the \_\_strex intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data stored	Pointer type
STREXB	byte	char *
STREXH	halfword	short *
STREX	word	int *

### Return value

The \_\_strex intrinsic returns:

0

if the STREX instruction succeeds

1

if the STREX instruction is locked out.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_strex intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the STREX instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_strex" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_strex" is undefined.

The \_\_strex intrinsic does not support access to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported.

### Examples

```
int foo(void)
{
    int loc=0xff;
```

```
    return(!__strex(0x20, (volatile char *)loc));
}
```

Compiling this code with the command-line option `--cpu=6k` produces

```
||foo|| PROC
MOV     r0,#0xff
MOV     r2,#0x20
STREXB  r1,r2,[r0]
CMP     r1,#0
MOVEQ   r0,#1
MOVNE   r0,#0
BX      lr
ENDP
```

## Related references

- [10.117 `\_\_ldrex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-733.
- [10.118 `\_\_ldrex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-735.
- [10.140 `\_\_strex` intrinsic](#) on page 10-761.

## Related information

[STREX.](#)



## 10.140 \_\_strex intrinsic

The \_\_strex intrinsic lets you use an STREX instruction in your C or C++ code to perform an exclusive doubleword data store to memory.

### ———— Note ————

The compiler does not guarantee to preserve the state of the exclusive monitor. It might generate load and store instructions between the LDREX instruction generated for the \_\_ldrex intrinsic and the STREX instruction generated for the \_\_strex intrinsic. Because memory accesses can clear the exclusive monitor, code using the \_\_ldrex and \_\_strex intrinsics can have unexpected behavior. Where LDREX and STREX instructions are needed, ARM recommends using embedded assembly.

### Syntax

```
int __strex(unsigned long long val, volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*val*

is the value to be written to memory.

*ptr*

points to the address of the data to be written to in memory. To specify the size of the data to be written, cast the parameter to an appropriate integral type.

**Table 10-12 Access widths that the \_\_strex intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data stored	Pointer type
STREX	long long	long long *

### Return value

The \_\_strex intrinsic returns:

0

if the STREX instruction succeeds

1

if the STREX instruction is locked out.

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_strex intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the STREX instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_strex" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_strex" is undefined.

The \_\_strex intrinsic only supports access to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported.

### Related references

[10.117 \\_\\_ldrex intrinsic on page 10-733.](#)

[10.118 \\_\\_ldrex intrinsic on page 10-735.](#)

[10.139 \\_\\_strex intrinsic on page 10-759.](#)

### Related information

[STREX.](#)

## 10.141 \_\_strt intrinsic

The \_\_strt intrinsic lets you store data to memory in your C or C++ code using an STR{size}T instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __strt(unsigned int val, volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*val*

Is the value to be written to memory.

*ptr*

Points to the address of the data to be written to in memory. To specify the size of the data to be written, cast the parameter to an appropriate integral type.

**Table 10-13 Access widths that the \_\_strt intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data stored	Pointer type
STRBT	byte	char *
STRHT	halfword	short *
STRT	word	int *

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_strt intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the STRT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_strt" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_strt" is undefined.

The \_\_strt intrinsic does not support access either to signed data or to doubleword data. The compiler generates an error if you specify an access width that is not supported. The unused most-significant bits of *val* are ignored when signed data is stored.

### Examples

```
void foo(void)
{
    int loc=0xff;
    __strt(0x20, (volatile char *)loc);
}
```

Compiling this code produces:

```
||foo|| PROC
MOV     r0,#0xff
MOV     r1,#0x20
STRBT   r1,[r0],#0
BX      lr
ENDP
```

### Related references

[8.179 --thumb on page 8-525.](#)

## Related information

*STR, unprivileged.*

## 10.142 \_\_swp intrinsic

The \_\_swp intrinsic lets you use a SWP{size} instruction to swap data between registers and memory from your C or C++ code.

The SWP{size} instruction reads a value into a processor register and writes a value to a memory location as an atomic operation.

---

**Note**

---

The use of SWP and SWPB is deprecated in ARMv6 and above.

---

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __swp(unsigned int val, volatile void *ptr)
```

Where:

*val*

Is the data value to be written to memory.

*ptr*

Points to the address of the data to be written to in memory. To specify the size of the data to be written, cast the parameter to an appropriate integral type.

**Table 10-14 Access widths that the \_\_swp intrinsic supports**

Instruction	Size of data	Pointer type
SWPB	byte	char *
SWP	word	int *

### Return value

The \_\_swp intrinsic returns the data value in the memory address pointed to by *ptr* immediately before the SWP instruction overwrites it with *val*.

### Examples

```
int foo(void)
{
    int loc=0xff;
    return(__swp(0x20, (volatile int *)loc));
}
```

Compiling this code produces

```
||foo|| PROC
MOV     r1, #0xff
MOV     r0, #0x20
SWP     r0, r0, [r1]
BX      lr
ENDP
```

### Related information

[SWP and SWPB.](#)

## 10.143 \_\_usat intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USAT instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to saturate an unsigned value from within your C or C++ code.

### Syntax

```
int __usat(unsigned int val, unsigned int sat)
```

Where:

*val*

Is the value to be saturated.

*sat*

Is the bit position to saturate to.

*usat* must be in the range 0 to 31.

### Return value

The \_\_usat intrinsic returns *val* saturated to the unsigned range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{sat} - 1$ .

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_usat intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the USAT instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_usat" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_usat" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.138 \\_\\_ssat intrinsic on page 10-758.](#)

### Related information

[USAT.](#)

## 10.144 `__wfe` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a WFE instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

In some architectures, for example the v6T2 architecture, the WFE instruction executes as a NOP instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __wfe(void)
```

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the `__wfe` intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the WFE instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "`__wfe`" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "`__wfe`" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.135 `\_\_sev` intrinsic](#) on page 10-755.  
[10.121 `\_\_nop` intrinsic](#) on page 10-739.  
[10.145 `\_\_wfi` intrinsic](#) on page 10-767.  
[10.146 `\_\_yield` intrinsic](#) on page 10-768.

### Related information

[NOP.](#)  
[WFE.](#)

## 10.145 \_\_wfi intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a WFI instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

In some architectures, for example the v6T2 architecture, the WFI instruction executes as a NOP instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __wfi(void)
```

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the \_\_wfi intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the WFI instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "\_\_wfi" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "\_\_wfi" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.135 \\_\\_sev intrinsic](#) on page 10-755.  
[10.121 \\_\\_nop intrinsic](#) on page 10-739.  
[10.144 \\_\\_wfe intrinsic](#) on page 10-766.  
[10.146 \\_\\_yield intrinsic](#) on page 10-768.

### Related information

[NOP.](#)  
[WFI.](#)

## 10.146 `__yield` intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a `YIELD` instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

In some architectures, for example the v6T2 architecture, the `YIELD` instruction executes as a `NOP` instruction.

### Syntax

```
void __yield(void)
```

### Errors

The compiler does not recognize the `__yield` intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not support the `YIELD` instruction. The compiler generates either a warning or an error in this case, depending on the source language:

- In C code: Warning: #223-D: function "`__yield`" declared implicitly.
- In C++ code: Error: #20: identifier "`__yield`" is undefined.

### Related references

[10.135 `\_\_sev` intrinsic](#) on page 10-755.  
[10.121 `\_\_nop` intrinsic](#) on page 10-739.  
[10.144 `\_\_wfe` intrinsic](#) on page 10-766.  
[10.145 `\_\_wfi` intrinsic](#) on page 10-767.

### Related information

[NOP.](#)  
[YIELD.](#)



## 10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics

The ARM Architecture v6 Instruction Set Architecture adds many *Single Instruction Multiple Data* (SIMD) instructions to ARMv6 for the efficient software implementation of high-performance media applications. The ARM compiler supports intrinsics that map to the ARMv6 SIMD instructions.

These intrinsics are available when compiling your code for an ARMv6 architecture or processor. If the chosen architecture does not support the ARMv6 SIMD instructions, compilation generates a warning and subsequent linkage fails with an undefined symbol reference.

---

### Note

Each ARMv6 SIMD intrinsic is guaranteed to be compiled into a single, inline, machine instruction for an ARMv6 architecture or processor. However, the compiler might use optimized forms of underlying instructions when it detects opportunities to do so.

---

The ARMv6 SIMD instructions can set the GE[3:0] bits in the *Application Program Status Register* (APSR). Some SIMD instructions update these flags to indicate the *greater than or equal to* status of each 8 or 16-bit slice of an SIMD operation.

The ARM compiler treats the GE[3:0] bits as a global variable. To access these bits from within your C or C++ program, either:

- Access bits 16-19 of the APSR through a named register variable.
- Use the `__se1` intrinsic to control a SEL instruction.

### Related references

[10.153 Named register variables on page 10-776.](#)

[12 ARMv6 SIMD Instruction Intrinsics on page 12-821.](#)

### Related information

[SEL.](#)

[NEON and VFP Programming.](#)

[ARM registers.](#)

## 10.148 ETSI basic operations

The compilation tools support the original ETSI family of basic operations through intrinsics.

The original ETSI family of basic operations are described in the ETSI G.729 recommendation *Coding of speech at 8 kbit/s using conjugate-structure algebraic-code-excited linear prediction (CS-ACELP)*.

To make use of the ETSI basic operations in your own code, include the standard header file `dspfn.h`. The intrinsics supplied in `dspfn.h` are listed in the following table.

**Table 10-15 ETSI basic operations that the ARM compilation tools support**

Intrinsics				
<code>abs_s</code>	<code>L_add_c</code>	<code>L_mult</code>	<code>L_sub_c</code>	<code>norm_l</code>
<code>add</code>	<code>L_deposit_h</code>	<code>L_negate</code>	<code>mac_r</code>	<code>round</code>
<code>div_s</code>	<code>L_deposit_l</code>	<code>L_sat</code>	<code>msu_r</code>	<code>saturate</code>
<code>extract_h</code>	<code>L_mac</code>	<code>L_shl</code>	<code>mult</code>	<code>shl</code>
<code>extract_l</code>	<code>L_macNs</code>	<code>L_shr</code>	<code>mult_r</code>	<code>shr</code>
<code>L_abs</code>	<code>L_msu</code>	<code>L_shr_r</code>	<code>negate</code>	<code>shr_r</code>
<code>L_add</code>	<code>L_msuNs</code>	<code>L_sub</code>	<code>norm_s</code>	<code>sub</code>

The header file `dspfn.h` also exposes certain status flags as global variables for use in your C or C++ programs. The status flags exposed by `dspfn.h` are listed in the following table.

**Table 10-16 ETSI status flags exposed in the ARM compilation tools**

Status flag	Description
Overflow	Overflow status flag.  Generally, saturating functions have a sticky effect on overflow.
Carry	Carry status flag.

### Examples

```

#include <limits.h>
#include <stdint.h>
#include <dspfn.h>           // include ETSI basic operations
int32_t C_L_add(int32_t a, int32_t b)
{
    int32_t c = a + b;
    if (((a ^ b) & INT_MIN) == 0)
    {
        if ((c ^ a) & INT_MIN)
        {
            c = (a < 0) ? INT_MIN : INT_MAX;
        }
    }
    return c;
}
asm int32_t asm_L_add(int32_t a, int32_t b)
{
    qadd r0, r0, r1
    bx lr
}
int32_t foo(int32_t a, int32_t b)
{
    int32_t c, d, e, f;
    Overflow = 0;           // set global overflow flag
    c = C_L_add(a, b);      // C saturating add

```

```
d = asm_L_add(a, b); // assembly language saturating add
e = __qadd(a, b);    // ARM intrinsic saturating add
f = L_add(a, b);     // ETSI saturating add
return Overflow ? -1 : c == d == e == f; // returns 1, unless overflow
}
```

---

### Related concepts

*4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) basic operations on page 4-117.*

### Related information

*ETSI Recommendation G.191: Software tools for speech and audio coding standardization.*

*ETSI Recommendation G.729: Coding of speech at 8 kbit/s using conjugate-structure algebraic-code-excited linear prediction (CS-ACELP).*

*ETSI Recommendation G723.1 : Dual rate speech coder for multimedia communications transmitting at 5.3 and 6.3 kbit/s.*

## 10.149 C55x intrinsics

The ARM compiler supports the emulation of selected TI C55x compiler intrinsics.

To make use of the TI C55x intrinsics in your own code, include the standard header file `c55x.h`. The intrinsics supplied in `c55x.h` are listed in the following table.

**Table 10-17 TI C55x intrinsics that the compilation tools support**

Intrinsics			
<code>_a_lsadd</code>	<code>_a_sadd</code>	<code>_a_smac</code>	<code>_a_smacr</code>
<code>_a_smas</code>	<code>_a_smasr</code>	<code>_abss</code>	<code>_count</code>
<code>_divs</code>	<code>_labss</code>	<code>_lmax</code>	<code>_lmin</code>
<code>_lmpy</code>	<code>_lmpysu</code>	<code>_lmpyu</code>	<code>_lnorm</code>
<code>_lsadd</code>	<code>_lsat</code>	<code>_lshl</code>	<code>_shrs</code>
<code>_lsmPy</code>	<code>_lsmPyi</code>	<code>_lsmPyr</code>	<code>_lsmPysu</code>
<code>_lsmPysui</code>	<code>_lsmPyu</code>	<code>_lsmPyui</code>	<code>_lsneg</code>
<code>_lssh1</code>	<code>_lssub</code>	<code>_max</code>	<code>_min</code>
<code>_norm</code>	<code>_rnd</code>	<code>_round</code>	<code>_roundn</code>
<code>_sadd</code>	<code>_sh1</code>	<code>_shrs</code>	<code>_smac</code>
<code>_smaci</code>	<code>_smacr</code>	<code>_smacsu</code>	<code>_smacsui</code>
<code>_smas</code>	<code>_smasi</code>	<code>_smasr</code>	<code>_smassu</code>
<code>_smassui</code>	<code>_smpy</code>	<code>_sneg</code>	<code>_sround</code>
<code>_sroundn</code>	<code>_ssh1</code>	<code>_ssub</code>	-

### Restrictions

The C55x intrinsics are only supported on targets that support the `__qadd`, `__qdb1`, and `__qsub` intrinsics. Otherwise, no error message is generated, instead the compiler silently generates a call to a corresponding function `__qadd`, `__qdb1`, or `__qsub`.

### Examples

```

#include <limits.h>
#include <stdint.h>
#include <c55x.h> // include TI C55x intrinsics
__asm int32_t asm_lsadd(int32_t a, int32_t b)
{
    qadd r0, r0, r1
    bx lr}
int32_t foo(int32_t a, int32_t b)
{
    int32_t c, d, e;
    c = asm_lsadd(a, b); // assembly language saturating add
    d = __qadd(a, b);    // ARM intrinsic saturating add
    e = _lsadd(a, b);    // TI C55x saturating add
    return c == d == e; // returns 1
}

```

## 10.150 VFP status intrinsic

The compiler provides an intrinsic for reading the *Floating Point and Status Control Register* (FPSCR).

---

**Note**

ARM recommends using a named register variable as an alternative method of reading this register. This provides a more efficient method of access than using the intrinsic.

---

### Related references

[10.151 `\_\_vfp\_status` intrinsic](#) on page 10-774.

[10.153 Named register variables](#) on page 10-776.

## 10.151 \_\_vfp\_status intrinsic

This intrinsic reads or modifies the FPSCR.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __vfp_status(unsigned int mask, unsigned int flags);
```

### Usage

Use this intrinsic to read or modify the flags in FPSCR.

The intrinsic returns the value of FPSCR, unmodified, if *mask* and *flags* are 0.

You can clear, set, or toggle individual flags in FPSCR using the bits in *mask* and *flags*, as shown in the following table. The intrinsic returns the modified value of FPSCR if *mask* and *flags* are not both 0.

**Table 10-18 Modifying the FPSCR flags**

<i>mask</i> bit	<i>flags</i> bit	Effect on FPSCR flag
0	0	Does not modify the flag
0	1	Toggles the flag
1	1	Sets the flag
1	0	Clears the flag

### Note

If you want to read or modify only the exception flags in FPSCR, then ARM recommends that you use the standard C99 features in <fenv.h>.

### Errors

The compiler generates an error if you attempt to use this intrinsic when compiling for a target that does not have VFP.

### Related concepts

[5.78 <fenv.h> floating-point environment access in C99 on page 5-253.](#)

### Related information

[NEON and VFP system registers.](#)

## 10.152 Fused Multiply Add (FMA) intrinsics

These intrinsics perform the calculation  $result = a \times b + c$ , incurring only a single rounding step.

Performing the calculation with a single rounding step, rather than multiplying and then adding with two roundings, can result in a better degree of accuracy.

Declared in `math.h`, the FMA intrinsics are:

```
double fma(double a, double b, double c);  
float fmaf(float a, float b, float c);  
long double fmal(long double a, long double b, long double c);
```

---

### Note

- These intrinsics are only available in C99 mode.
  - They are only supported for the Cortex-A5 and Cortex-M4 processors.
  - If compiling for the Cortex-M4 processor, only `fmaf()` is available.
-

## 10.153 Named register variables

The compiler enables you to access registers of an ARM architecture-based processor or coprocessor using named register variables.

### Syntax

```
register type var-name __asm(reg);
```

Where:

*type*

is the type of the named register variable.

Any type of the same size as the register being named can be used in the declaration of a named register variable. The type can be a structure, but bitfield layout is sensitive to endianness.

*var-name*

is the name of the named register variable.



*reg*

is a character string denoting the name of a register on an ARM architecture-based processor, or for coprocessor registers, a string syntax that identifies the coprocessor and corresponds with how you intend to use the variable.

Registers available for use with named register variables on ARM architecture-based processors are shown in the following table.

**Table 10-19 Named registers available on ARM architecture-based processors**

Register	Character string for <code>__asm</code>	Processors
APSR	"apsr"	All processors
CPSR	"cpsr"	All processors
BASEPRI	"basepri"	ARMv7-M processors
BASEPRI_MAX	"basepri_max"	ARMv7-M processors
CONTROL	"control"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
DSP	"dsp"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
EAPSR	"eapsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
EPSR	"epsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
FAULTMASK	"faultmask"	ARMv7-M processors
IAPSR	"iapsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
IEPSR	"iepsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
IPSR	"ipsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
MSP	"msp"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
PRIMASK	"primask"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
PSP	"psp"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
PSR	"psr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors
r0 to r12	"r0" to "r12"	All processors
r13 or sp	"r13" or "sp"	All processors
r14 or lr	"r14" or "lr"	All processors
r15 or pc	"r15" or "pc"	All processors
SPSR	"spsr"	All processors, apart from Cortex-M series processors.
XPSR	"xpsr"	ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M processors

On targets with floating-point hardware, the registers listed in the following table are also available for use with named register variables.

**Table 10-20 Named registers available on targets with floating-point hardware**

Register	Character string for <code>__asm</code>
FPSID	"fpsid"
FPSCR	"fpscr"
FPEXC	"fpexc"

**Table 10-20** Named registers available on targets with floating-point hardware (continued)

Register	Character string for <code>__asm</code>
FPINST	"fpinst"
FPINST2	"fpinst2"
FPSR	"fpsr"
MVFR0	"mvfr0"
MVFR1	"mvfr1"

———— **Note** —————

Some registers are not available on some architectures.

## Usage

You must declare core registers as global rather than local named register variables. Your program might still compile if you declare them locally, but you risk unexpected runtime behavior if you do. There is no restriction on the scope of named register variables for other registers.

———— **Note** —————

A global named register variable is global to the source file in which it is declared, not global to the program. It has no effect on other files, unless you use multifile compilation or you declare it in a header file.

## Restrictions

Declaring a core register as a named register variable means that register is not available to the compiler for other operations. If you declare too many named register variables, code size increases significantly. In some cases, your program might not compile, for example if there are insufficient registers available to compute a particular expression.

Register usage defined by the *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture* (AAPCS) is not affected by declaring named register variables. For example, `r0` is always used to return result values from functions even if it is declared as a named register variable.

Named register variables are a compiler-only feature. With the exception of `r12`, tools such as linkers do not change register usage in object files. The AAPCS reserves `r12` as the inter-procedural scratch register. You must not declare `r12` as a named register variable if you require its value to be preserved across function calls.

## Examples

In the following example, `apsr` is declared as a named register variable for the "apsr" register:

```
register unsigned int apsr __asm("apsr");
apsr = ~(~apsr | 0x40);
```

This generates the following instruction sequence:

```
MRS r0,APSR ; formerly CPSR
BIC r0,r0,#0x40
MSR CPSR_c, r0
```

In the following example, PMCR is declared as a register variable associated with coprocessor cp15, with CRn = c9, CRm = c12, opcode1 = 0, and opcode2 = 0, in an MCR or an MRC instruction:

```
register unsigned int PMCR __asm("cp15:0:c9:c12:0");
inline void __reset_cycle_counter(void)
{
    PMCR = 4;
}
```

The disassembled output is as follows:

```
__reset_cycle_counter PROC
    MOV     r0,#4
    MCR     p15,#0x0,r0,c9,c12,#0
    BX      lr
ENDP
```

In the following example, cp15\_control is declared as a register variable for accessing a coprocessor register. This example enables the MMU using CP15:

```
register unsigned int cp15_control __asm("cp15:0:c1:c0:0");
cp15_control |= 0x1;
```

The following instruction sequence is generated:

```
MRC  p15,#0x0,r0,c1,c0,#0
ORR  r0,r0,#1
MCR  p15,#0x0,r0,c1,c0,#0
```

The following example for Cortex-M3 declares \_msp, \_control and \_psp as named register variables to set up stack pointers:

```
register unsigned int _control __asm("control");
register unsigned int _msp     __asm("msp");
register unsigned int _psp     __asm("psp");void init(void)
{
    _msp = 0x30000000; // set up Main Stack Pointer
    _control = _control | 3; // switch to User Mode with Process Stack
    _psp = 0x40000000; // set up Process Stack Pointer
}
```

This generates the following instruction sequence:

```
init
    MOV r0,#0x30000000
    MSR MSP,r0
    MRS r0,CONTROL
    ORR r0,r0,#3
    MSR CONTROL,r0
    MOV r0,#0x40000000
    MSR PSP,r0
    BX lr
```

## Related concepts

[4.14 Compiler support for accessing registers using named register variables](#) on page 4-124.

## Related information

[Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture.](#)

## 10.154 GNU built-in functions

These functions provide compatibility with GNU library header files. The functions are described in the GNU documentation.

See <http://gcc.gnu.org> for more information.

### Nonstandard functions

- `__builtin_alloca()`
- `__builtin_bcmp()`
- `__builtin_exit()`
- `__builtin_gamma()`
- `__builtin_gammaf()`
- `__builtin_gammal()`
- `__builtin_index()`
- `__builtin_memcpy_chk()`
- `__builtin_memmove_chk()`
- `__builtin_memcpy()`
- `__builtin_memcpy_chk()`
- `__builtin_memset_chk()`
- `__builtin_object_size()`
- `__builtin_rindex()`
- `__builtin_snprintf_chk()`
- `__builtin_sprintf_chk()`
- `__builtin_stpcpy()`
- `__builtin_stpcpy_chk()`
- `__builtin_strcat_chk()`
- `__builtin_strcpy_chk()`
- `__builtin_strcasecmp()`
- `__builtin_strncasecmp()`
- `__builtin_strncat_chk()`
- `__builtin_strncpy_chk()`
- `__builtin_vsnprintf_chk()`
- `__builtin_vsprintf_chk()`

### C99 functions

- `__builtin_exit()`
- `__builtin_acoshf()`
- `__builtin_acoshl()`
- `__builtin_acosh()`
- `__builtin_asinhf()`
- `__builtin_asinhl()`
- `__builtin_asinh()`
- `__builtin_atanhf()`
- `__builtin_atanhl()`
- `__builtin_atanh()`
- `__builtin_cabsf()`
- `__builtin_cabsl()`
- `__builtin_cabs()`
- `__builtin_cacosf()`

- `__builtin_cacoshf()`
- `__builtin_cacoshl()`
- `__builtin_cacosh()`
- `__builtin_cacosl()`
- `__builtin_cacos()`
- `__builtin_cargf()`
- `__builtin_cargl()`
- `__builtin_carg()`
- `__builtin_casinf()`
- `__builtin_casinhf()`
- `__builtin_casinh1()`
- `__builtin_casinh()`
- `__builtin_casinl()`
- `__builtin_casin()`
- `__builtin_catanf()`
- `__builtin_catanhf()`
- `__builtin_catanhl()`
- `__builtin_catanh()`
- `__builtin_catanl()`
- `__builtin_catan()`
- `__builtin_cbrtf()`
- `__builtin_cbrtl()`
- `__builtin_cbrt()`
- `__builtin_ccosf()`
- `__builtin_ccoshf()`
- `__builtin_ccoshl()`
- `__builtin_ccosh()`
- `__builtin_ccosl()`
- `__builtin_ccos()`
- `__builtin_cexpf()`
- `__builtin_cexpl()`
- `__builtin_cexp()`
- `__builtin_cimagf()`
- `__builtin_cimagl()`
- `__builtin_cimag()`
- `__builtin_clogf()`
- `__builtin_clogl()`
- `__builtin_clog()`
- `__builtin_conjf()`
- `__builtin_conjl()`
- `__builtin_conj()`
- `__builtin_copysignf()`
- `__builtin_copysignl()`
- `__builtin_copysign()`
- `__builtin_cpowf()`
- `__builtin_cpowl()`
- `__builtin_cpow()`
- `__builtin_cprojf()`
- `__builtin_cprojl()`
- `__builtin_cproj()`

- `__builtin_creal()`
- `__builtin_creall()`
- `__builtin_creal()`
- `__builtin_csinf()`
- `__builtin_csinhf()`
- `__builtin_csinhl()`
- `__builtin_csinh()`
- `__builtin_csinl()`
- `__builtin_csin()`
- `__builtin_csqrftf()`
- `__builtin_csqrftl()`
- `__builtin_csqrft()`
- `__builtin_ctanf()`
- `__builtin_ctanhf()`
- `__builtin_ctanhl()`
- `__builtin_ctanh()`
- `__builtin_ctanl()`
- `__builtin_ctan()`
- `__builtin_erfcf()`
- `__builtin_erfcl()`
- `__builtin_erfc()`
- `__builtin_erff()`
- `__builtin_erfl()`
- `__builtin_erf()`
- `__builtin_exp2f()`
- `__builtin_exp2l()`
- `__builtin_exp2()`
- `__builtin_expm1f()`
- `__builtin_expm1l()`
- `__builtin_expm1()`
- `__builtin_fdimf()`
- `__builtin_fdiml()`
- `__builtin_fdim()`
- `__builtin_fmaf()`
- `__builtin_fmal()`
- `__builtin_fmaxf()`
- `__builtin_fmaxl()`
- `__builtin_fmax()`
- `__builtin_fma()`
- `__builtin_fminf()`
- `__builtin_fminl()`
- `__builtin_fmin()`
- `__builtin_hypotf()`
- `__builtin_hypotl()`
- `__builtin_hypot()`
- `__builtin_ilogbf()`
- `__builtin_ilogbl()`
- `__builtin_ilogb()`
- `__builtin_imaxabs()`
- `__builtin_isblank()`

- `__builtin_isfinite()`
- `__builtin_isinf()`
- `__builtin_isnan()`
- `__builtin_isnanf()`
- `__builtin_isnanl()`
- `__builtin_isnormal()`
- `__builtin_iswblank()`
- `__builtin_lgammaf()`
- `__builtin_lgammal()`
- `__builtin_lgamma()`
- `__builtin_llabs()`
- `__builtin_llrintf()`
- `__builtin_llrintl()`
- `__builtin_llrint()`
- `__builtin_llroundf()`
- `__builtin_llroundl()`
- `__builtin_llround()`
- `__builtin_log1pf()`
- `__builtin_log1pl()`
- `__builtin_log1p()`
- `__builtin_log2f()`
- `__builtin_log2l()`
- `__builtin_log2()`
- `__builtin_logbf()`
- `__builtin_logbl()`
- `__builtin_logb()`
- `__builtin_lrintf()`
- `__builtin_lrintl()`
- `__builtin_lrint()`
- `__builtin_lroundf()`
- `__builtin_lroundl()`
- `__builtin_lround()`
- `__builtin_nearbyintf()`
- `__builtin_nearbyintl()`
- `__builtin_nearbyint()`
- `__builtin_nextafterf()`
- `__builtin_nextafterl()`
- `__builtin_nextafter()`
- `__builtin_nexttowardf()`
- `__builtin_nexttowardl()`
- `__builtin_nexttoward()`
- `__builtin_remainderf()`
- `__builtin_remainderl()`
- `__builtin_remainder()`
- `__builtin_remquof()`
- `__builtin_remquol()`
- `__builtin_remquo()`
- `__builtin_rintf()`
- `__builtin_rintl()`
- `__builtin_rint()`

- `__builtin_roundf()`
- `__builtin_roundl()`
- `__builtin_round()`
- `__builtin_scalblnf()`
- `__builtin_scalblnl()`
- `__builtin_scalbln()`
- `__builtin_scalbnf()`
- `__builtin_calbnl()`
- `__builtin_scalbn()`
- `__builtin_signbit()`
- `__builtin_signbitf()`
- `__builtin_signbitl()`
- `__builtin_snprintf()`
- `__builtin_tgammaf()`
- `__builtin_tgamma()`
- `__builtin_tgamma()`
- `__builtin_truncf()`
- `__builtin_truncl()`
- `__builtin_trunc()`
- `__builtin_vfscanf()`
- `__builtin_vscanf()`
- `__builtin_vsnprintf()`
- `__builtin_vsscanf()`

#### **C99 functions in the C90 reserved namespace**

- `__builtin_acosf()`
- `__builtin_acosl()`
- `__builtin_asinf()`
- `__builtin_asinl()`
- `__builtin_atan2f()`
- `__builtin_atan2l()`
- `__builtin_atanf()`
- `__builtin_atanl()`
- `__builtin_ceilf()`
- `__builtin_ceil()`
- `__builtin_cosf()`
- `__builtin_coshf()`
- `__builtin_coshl()`
- `__builtin_cosl()`
- `__builtin_expf()`
- `__builtin_expl()`
- `__builtin_fabsf()`
- `__builtin_fabsl()`
- `__builtin_floorf()`
- `__builtin_floorl()`
- `__builtin_fmodf()`
- `__builtin_fmodl()`
- `__builtin_frexp()`
- `__builtin_frexp()`
- `__builtin_ldexpf()`



- `__builtin_ldexpl()`
- `__builtin_log10f()`
- `__builtin_log10l()`
- `__builtin_logf()`
- `__builtin_logl()`
- `__builtin_modfl()`
- `__builtin_modf()`
- `__builtin_powf()`
- `__builtin_powl()`
- `__builtin_sinf()`
- `__builtin_sinhf()`
- `__builtin_sinhl()`
- `__builtin_sinl()`
- `__builtin_sqrtf()`
- `__builtin_sqrtl()`
- `__builtin_tanf()`
- `__builtin_tanhf()`
- `__builtin_tanhl()`
- `__builtin_tanl()`

#### **C94 functions**

- `__builtin_swalnum()`
- `__builtin_iswalpha()`
- `__builtin_iswcntrl()`
- `__builtin_iswdigit()`
- `__builtin_iswgraph()`
- `__builtin_iswlower()`
- `__builtin_iswprint()`
- `__builtin_iswpunct()`
- `__builtin_iswspace()`
- `__builtin_iswupper()`
- `__builtin_iswxdigit()`
- `__builtin_towlower()`
- `__builtin_towupper()`

#### **C90 functions**

- `__builtin_abort()`
- `__builtin_abs()`
- `__builtin_acos()`
- `__builtin_asin()`
- `__builtin_atan2()`
- `__builtin_atan()`
- `__builtin_calloc()`
- `__builtin_cosh()`
- `__builtin_cos()`
- `__builtin_exit()`
- `__builtin_exp()`
- `__builtin_fabs()`
- `__builtin_floor()`
- `__builtin_fmod()`

- `__builtin_fprintf()`
- `__builtin_fputc()`
- `__builtin_fputs()`
- `__builtin_frexp()`
- `__builtin_fscanf()`
- `__builtin_isalnum()`
- `__builtin_isalpha()`
- `__builtin_iscntrl()`
- `__builtin_isdigit()`
- `__builtin_isgraph()`
- `__builtin_islower()`
- `__builtin_isprint()`
- `__builtin_ispunct()`
- `__builtin_isspace()`
- `__builtin_isupper()`
- `__builtin_isxdigit()`
- `__builtin_tolower()`
- `__builtin_toupper()`
- `__builtin_labs()`
- `__builtin_ldexp()`
- `__builtin_log10()`
- `__builtin_log()`
- `__builtin_malloc()`
- `__builtin_memchr()`
- `__builtin_memcmp()`
- `__builtin_memcpy()`
- `__builtin_memset()`
- `__builtin_modf()`
- `__builtin_pow()`
- `__builtin_printf()`
- `__builtin_putchar()`
- `__builtin_puts()`
- `__builtin_scanf()`
- `__builtin_sinh()`
- `__builtin_sin()`
- `__builtin_snprintf()`
- `__builtin_sprintf()`
- `__builtin_sqrt()`
- `__builtin_sscanf()`
- `__builtin_strcat()`
- `__builtin_strchr()`
- `__builtin_strcmp()`
- `__builtin_strcpy()`
- `__builtin_strcspn()`
- `__builtin_strlen()`
- `__builtin_strncat()`
- `__builtin_strncmp()`
- `__builtin_strncpy()`
- `__builtin_strpbrk()`
- `__builtin_strrchr()`

- `__builtin_strspn()`
- `__builtin_strstr()`
- `__builtin_tanh()`
- `__builtin_tan()`
- `__builtin_va_copy()`
- `__builtin_va_end()`
- `__builtin_va_start()`
- `__builtin_vfprintf()`
- `__builtin_vprintf()`
- `__builtin_vsprintf()`

The `__builtin_va_list` type is also supported. It is equivalent to the `va_list` type declared in `stdarg.h`.

### C99 floating-point functions

- `__builtin_huge_val()`
- `__builtin_huge_valf()`
- `__builtin_huge_vall()`
- `__builtin_inf()`
- `__builtin_nan()`
- `__builtin_nanf()`
- `__builtin_nanl()`
- `__builtin_nans()`
- `__builtin_nansf()`
- `__builtin_nansl()`

### GNU atomic memory access functions

- `__sync_fetch_and_add()`
- `__sync_fetch_and_sub()`
- `__sync_fetch_and_or()`
- `__sync_fetch_and_and()`
- `__sync_fetch_and_xor()`
- `__sync_fetch_and_nand()`
- `__sync_add_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_sub_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_or_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_and_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_xor_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_nand_and_fetch()`
- `__sync_bool_compare_and_swap()`
- `__sync_val_compare_and_swap()`
- `__sync_lock_test_and_set()`
- `__sync_lock_release()`
- `__sync_synchronize()`

### Other built-in functions

- `__builtin_choose_expr()`
- `__builtin_clz()`
- `__builtin_types_compatible_p()`
- `__builtin_constant_p()`

- `__builtin_ctz()`
- `__builtin_ctzl()`
- `__builtin_ctzll()`
- `__builtin_expect()`
- `__builtin_ffs()`
- `__builtin_ffsl()`
- `__builtin_ffsll()`
- `__builtin_frame_address()`
- `__builtin_offsetof()`
- `__builtin_prefetch()`
- `__builtin_return_address()`
- `__builtin_popcount()`
- `__builtin_signbit()`

## 10.155 Predefined macros

The ARM compiler predefines a number of macros. These macros provide information about toolchain version numbers and compiler options.

The following table lists the macro names predefined by the ARM compiler for C and C++. Where the value field is empty, the symbol is only defined.

**Table 10-21 Predefined macros**

Name	Value	When defined
<code>__arm__</code>	-	Always defined for the ARM compiler, even when you specify the <code>--thumb</code> option.  See also <code>__ARMCC_VERSION</code> .
<code>__ARM_NEON__</code>	-	When compiler <code>--cpu</code> and <code>--fpu</code> options indicate that NEON is available.  Use this macro to conditionally include <code>arm_neon.h</code> , to permit the use of NEON intrinsics.
<code>__ARMCC_VERSION</code>	<i>ver</i>	Always defined. It is a decimal number, and is guaranteed to increase between releases. The format is <i>PVVbbbb</i> where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>P</i> is the major version</li> <li><i>VV</i> is the minor version</li> <li><i>bbbb</i> is the build number.</li> </ul> <p>———— <b>Note</b> ————</p> <p>Use this macro to distinguish between ARM Compiler 4.1 or later, and other tools that define <code>__arm__</code>.</p>
<code>__APCS_INTERWORK</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--apcs /interwork</code> option or set the target processor architecture to ARMv5T or later.
<code>__APCS_ROPI</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--apcs /ropi</code> option.
<code>__APCS_RWPI</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--apcs /rwp</code> option.
<code>__APCS_FPIC</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--apcs /fpic</code> option.
<code>__ARRAY_OPERATORS</code>	-	In C++ compiler mode, to specify that array new and delete are enabled.
<code>__BASE_FILE__</code>	<i>name</i>	Always defined. Similar to <code>__FILE__</code> , but indicates the primary source file rather than the current one (that is, when the current file is an included file).
<code>__BIG_ENDIAN</code>	-	If compiling for a big-endian target.
<code>_BOOL</code>	-	In C++ compiler mode, to specify that <b>bool</b> is a keyword.
<code>__cplusplus</code>	-	In C++ compiler mode.
<code>__CC_ARM</code>	1	Always set to 1 for the ARM compiler, even when you specify the <code>--thumb</code> option.
<code>__CHAR_UNSIGNED__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It is defined if and only if <b>char</b> is an unsigned type.
<code>__DATE__</code>	<i>date</i>	Always defined.
<code>__EDG__</code>	-	Always defined.

Table 10-21 Predefined macros (continued)

Name	Value	When defined
<code>__EDG_IMPLICIT_USING_STD</code>	-	In C++ mode when you specify the <code>--using_std</code> option.
<code>__EDG_VERSION__</code>	-	Always set to an integer value that represents the version number of the <i>Edison Design Group</i> (EDG) front-end. For example, version 3.8 is represented as <code>308</code> .  ———— <b>Note</b> ———— The version number of the EDG front-end does not necessarily match the version number of the ARM compiler toolchain.
<code>__EXCEPTIONS</code>	1	In C++ mode when you specify the <code>--exceptions</code> option.
<code>__FEATURE_SIGNED_CHAR</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--signed_chars</code> option (used by <code>CHAR_MIN</code> and <code>CHAR_MAX</code> ).
<code>__FILE__</code>	<i>name</i>	Always defined as a string literal.
<code>__FP_FAST</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--fpmode=fast</code> option.
<code>__FP_FENV_EXCEPTIONS</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--fpmode=ieee_full</code> or <code>--fpmode=ieee_fixed</code> options.
<code>__FP_FENV_ROUNDING</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--fpmode=ieee_full</code> option.
<code>__FP_IEEE</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--fpmode=ieee_full</code> , <code>--fpmode=ieee_fixed</code> , or <code>--fpmode=ieee_no_fenv</code> options.
<code>__FP_INEXACT_EXCEPTION</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--fpmode=ieee_full</code> option.
<code>__GNUC__</code>	<i>ver</i>	When you specify the <code>--gnu</code> option. It is an integer that shows the current major version of the GNU mode being used.
<code>__GNUC_MINOR__</code>	<i>ver</i>	When you specify the <code>--gnu</code> option. It is an integer that shows the current minor version of the GNU mode being used.
<code>__GNUG__</code>	<i>ver</i>	In GNU mode when you specify the <code>--cpp</code> option. It has the same value as <code>__GNUC__</code> .
<code>__IMPLICIT_INCLUDE</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--implicit_include</code> option.
<code>__INTMAX_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>intmax_t</code> <b>typedef</b> .
<code>__LINE__</code>	<i>num</i>	Always set. It is the source line number of the line of code containing this macro.
<code>__MODULE__</code>	<i>mod</i>	Contains the filename part of the value of <code>__FILE__</code> .
<code>__MULTIFILE</code>	-	When you explicitly or implicitly use the <code>--multifile</code> option. <sup>d</sup>
<code>__NO_INLINE__</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--no_inline</code> option in GNU mode.
<code>__OPTIMISE_LEVEL</code>	<i>num</i>	Always set to 2 by default, unless you change the optimization level using the <code>-Onum</code> option. <sup>d</sup>
<code>__OPTIMISE_SPACE</code>	-	When you specify the <code>-Ospace</code> option.
<code>__OPTIMISE_TIME</code>	-	When you specify the <code>-Otime</code> option.

<sup>d</sup> ARM recommends that if you have source code reliant on the `__OPTIMISE_LEVEL` macro to determine whether or not `--multifile` is in effect, you change to using `__MULTIFILE`.

Table 10-21 Predefined macros (continued)

Name	Value	When defined
<code>__OPTIMIZE__</code>	-	When <code>-O1</code> , <code>-O2</code> , or <code>-O3</code> is specified in GNU mode.
<code>__OPTIMIZE_SIZE__</code>	-	When <code>-Os</code> is specified in GNU mode.
<code>__PLACEMENT_DELETE</code>	-	In C++ mode to specify that placement delete (that is, an operator <b>delete</b> corresponding to a placement operator <b>new</b> , to be called if the constructor throws an exception) is enabled. This is only relevant when using exceptions.
<code>__PTRDIFF_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>ptrdiff_t</code> typedef.
<code>__RTTI</code>	-	In C++ mode when RTTI is enabled.
<code>__sizeof_int</code>	4	For <code>sizeof(int)</code> , but available in preprocessor expressions.
<code>__sizeof_long</code>	4	For <code>sizeof(long)</code> , but available in preprocessor expressions.
<code>__sizeof_ptr</code>	4	For <code>sizeof(void *)</code> , but available in preprocessor expressions.
<code>__SIZE_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>size_t</code> typedef.
<code>__SOFTFP__</code>	-	If compiling to use the software floating-point calling standard and library. Set when you specify the <code>--fpu=softvfp</code> option for ARM or Thumb, or when you specify <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv2</code> for Thumb.
<code>__STDC__</code>	-	In all compiler modes.
<code>__STDC_VERSION__</code>	-	Standard version information.
<code>__STRICT_ANSI__</code>	-	When you specify the <code>--strict</code> option.
<code>__SUPPORT_SNAN__</code>	-	Support for signalling NaNs when you specify <code>--fpmode=ieee_fixed</code> or <code>--fpmode=ieee_full</code> .
<code>__TARGET_ARCH_ARM</code>	<i>num</i>	The number of the ARM base architecture of the target processor irrespective of whether the compiler is compiling for ARM or Thumb. For possible values of <code>__TARGET_ARCH_ARM</code> in relation to the ARM architecture versions, see the table below.
<code>__TARGET_ARCH_THUMB</code>	<i>num</i>	The number of the Thumb base architecture of the target processor irrespective of whether the compiler is compiling for ARM or Thumb. The value is defined as zero if the target does not support Thumb. For possible values of <code>__TARGET_ARCH_THUMB</code> in relation to the ARM architecture versions, see the table below.
<code>__TARGET_ARCH_XX</code>	-	<i>XX</i> represents the target architecture and its value depends on the target architecture. For example, if you specify the compiler options <code>--cpu=4T</code> or <code>--cpu=ARM7TDMI</code> then <code>__TARGET_ARCH_4T</code> is defined.

**Table 10-21 Predefined macros (continued)**

Name	Value	When defined
__TARGET_CPU_XX	-	<p>XX represents the target processor. The value of XX is derived from the --cpu compiler option, or the default if none is specified. For example, if you specify the compiler option --cpu=ARM7TM then __TARGET_CPU_ARM7TM is defined and no other symbol starting with __TARGET_CPU_ is defined.</p> <p>If you specify the target architecture, then __TARGET_CPU_generic is defined.</p> <p>If the processor name specified with --cpu is in lowercase, it is converted to uppercase. For example, --cpu=Cortex-R4 results in __TARGET_CPU_CORTEX_R4 being defined (rather than __TARGET_CPU_Cortex_R4).</p> <p>If the processor name contains hyphen (-) characters, these are mapped to an underscore (_). For example, --cpu=ARM1136JF-S is mapped to __TARGET_CPU_ARM1136JF_S.</p>
__TARGET_FEATURE_DOUBLEWORD	-	ARMv5T and above.
__TARGET_FEATURE_DSPMUL	-	If the DSP-enhanced multiplier is available, for example ARMv5TE.
__TARGET_FEATURE_MULTIPLY	-	If the target architecture supports the long multiply instructions MULL and MULAL.
__TARGET_FEATURE_DIVIDE	-	If the target architecture supports the hardware divide instruction (that is, ARMv7-M or ARMv7-R).
__TARGET_FEATURE_MULTIPROCESSING	-	<p>When you specify any of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A9</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A9.no_neon</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A9.no_neon.no_vfp</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A5</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A5.vfp</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A5.neon</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A12</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A12.no_neon.no_vfp</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A15</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A15.no_neon</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A15.no_neon.no_vfp</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A7</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A7.no_neon</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A7.no_neon.no_vfp</li> </ul>
__TARGET_FEATURE_NEON	-	<p>When you specify any of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A5.neon</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A8</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A9</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A12</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A15</li> <li>• --cpu=Cortex-A7</li> <li>• --cpu=QSP</li> </ul>



**Table 10-21 Predefined macros (continued)**

Name	Value	When defined
__TARGET_FEATURE_THUMB	-	If the target architecture supports Thumb, ARMv4T or later.
__TARGET_FPU_xx	-	<p>One of the following is set to indicate the FPU usage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• __TARGET_FPU_NONE</li> <li>• __TARGET_FPU_VFP</li> <li>• __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP</li> </ul> <p>In addition, if compiling with one of the following <code>--fpu</code> options, the corresponding target name is set:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv2</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV2</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv3</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV3</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv3_fp16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV3_FP16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv3_d16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV3_D16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv3_d16_fp16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV3_D16_FP16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv4</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV4</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+vfpv4_d16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_VFPV4_D16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=softvfp+fpv4-sp</code>, __TARGET_FPU_SOFTVFP_FPV4_SP</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfp</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV2</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv2</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV2</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv3</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV3</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv3_fp16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV3_FP16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv3_d16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV3_D16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv3_d16_fp16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV3_D16_FP16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv4</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV4</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=vfpv4_d16</code>, __TARGET_FPU_VFPV4_D16</li> <li>• <code>--fpu=fpv4-sp</code>, __TARGET_FPU_FPV4_SP</li> </ul>
__TARGET_PROFILE_A		When you specify the <code>--cpu=7-A</code> option.
__TARGET_PROFILE_R		When you specify the <code>--cpu=7-R</code> option.
__TARGET_PROFILE_M		<p>When you specify any of the following options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>--cpu=6-M</code></li> <li>• <code>--cpu=6S-M</code></li> <li>• <code>--cpu=7-M</code></li> </ul>

Table 10-21 Predefined macros (continued)

Name	Value	When defined
<code>__thumb__</code>	-	When the compiler is in Thumb state. That is, you have either specified the <code>--thumb</code> option on the command-line or <code>#pragma thumb</code> in your source code.
<p>———— <b>Note</b> ————</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The compiler might generate some ARM code even if it is compiling for Thumb.</li> <li><code>__thumb</code> and <code>__thumb__</code> become defined or undefined when using <code>#pragma thumb</code> or <code>#pragma arm</code>, but do not change in cases where Thumb functions are generated as ARM code for other reasons (for example, a function specified as <code>__irq</code>).</li> </ul>		
<code>__TIME__</code>	<i>time</i>	Always defined.
<code>__UINTMAX_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>uintmax_t</code> <b>typedef</b> .
<code>__USER_LABEL_PREFIX__</code>		In GNU mode. It defines an empty string. This macro is used by some of the Linux header files.
<code>__VERSION__</code>	<i>ver</i>	When you specify the <code>--gnu</code> option. It is a string that shows the current version of the GNU mode being used.
<code>_WCHAR_T</code>	-	In C++ mode, to specify that <code>wchar_t</code> is a keyword.
<code>__WCHAR_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>wchar_t</code> <b>typedef</b> .
<code>__WCHAR_UNSIGNED__</code>	-	In GNU mode when you specify the <code>--cpp</code> option. It is defined if and only if <code>wchar_t</code> is an unsigned type.
<code>__WINT_TYPE__</code>	-	In GNU mode. It defines the correct underlying type for the <code>wint_t</code> <b>typedef</b> .

The following table shows the possible values for `__TARGET_ARCH_THUMB`, and how these values relate to versions of the ARM architecture.

Table 10-22 Thumb architecture versions in relation to ARM architecture versions

ARM architecture	<code>__TARGET_ARCH_ARM</code>	<code>__TARGET_ARCH_THUMB</code>
v4	4	0
v4T	4	1
v5T, v5TE, v5TEJ	5	2
v6, v6K, v6Z	6	3
v6T2	6	4
v6-M, v6S-M	0	3
v7-A, v7-R	7	4
v7-M, v7E-M	0	4

## Related references

[10.156 Built-in function name variables](#) on page 10-796.

## 10.156 Built-in function name variables

The following table lists built-in variables that the compiler supports for C and C++.

**Table 10-23 built-in variables**

Name	Value
<code>__FUNCTION__</code>	Holds the name of the function as it appears in the source.  <code>__FUNCTION__</code> is a constant string literal. You cannot use the preprocessor to join the contents to other text to form new tokens.
<code>__PRETTY_FUNCTION__</code>	Holds the name of the function as it appears pretty printed in a language-specific fashion.  <code>__PRETTY_FUNCTION__</code> is a constant string literal. You cannot use the preprocessor to join the contents to other text to form new tokens.

### Related references

[10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.](#)

# Chapter 11

## C and C++ Implementation Details

Describes the language implementation details for the compiler. Some language implementation details are common to both C and C++, while others are specific to C++.

It contains the following sections:

- *11.1 Character sets and identifiers in ARM C and C++ on page 11-798.*
- *11.2 Basic data types in ARM C and C++ on page 11-800.*
- *11.3 Operations on basic data types ARM C and C++ on page 11-802.*
- *11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++ on page 11-804.*
- *11.5 Using the ::operator new function in ARM C++ on page 11-809.*
- *11.6 Tentative arrays in ARM C++ on page 11-810.*
- *11.7 Old-style C parameters in ARM C++ functions on page 11-811.*
- *11.8 Anachronisms in ARM C++ on page 11-812.*
- *11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++ on page 11-813.*
- *11.10 Namespaces in ARM C++ on page 11-814.*
- *11.11 C++ exception handling in ARM C++ on page 11-816.*
- *11.12 Extern inline functions in ARM C++ on page 11-817.*
- *11.13 C++11 supported features on page 11-818.*

## 11.1 Character sets and identifiers in ARM C and C++

Describes the character set and identifier implementation details in ARM C and C++.

The following point applies to the identifiers expected by the compiler:

- Uppercase and lowercase characters are distinct in all internal and external identifiers. An identifier can also contain a dollar (\$) character unless the `--strict` compiler option is specified. To permit dollar signs in identifiers with the `--strict` option, also use the `--dollar` command-line option.

The following points apply to the character sets expected by the compiler:

- Calling `setlocale(LC_CTYPE, "ISO8859-1")` makes the `isupper()` and `islower()` functions behave as expected over the full 8-bit Latin-1 alphabet, rather than over the 7-bit ASCII subset. The locale must be selected at link time.
- Source files are compiled according to the currently selected locale. You might have to change the locale using the `--locale` command-line option if the source file contains non-ASCII characters. If you do not specify `--locale`, the system locale is used.
- The compiler supports multibyte character sets, such as Unicode. You can control this support using the `--[no_]multibyte_chars` options.
- If the source file encoding is UTF-8 or UTF-16, and the file starts with a byte order mark then the compiler ignores the `--[no_]multibyte_chars` and `--locale` options and interprets the file as UTF-8 or UTF-16.
- Other properties of the source character set are host-specific.

The properties of the execution character set are target-specific. The ARM C and C++ libraries support the ISO 8859-1 (Latin-1 Alphabet) character set with the following consequences:

- The execution character set is identical to the source character set.
- There are eight bits in a character in the execution character set.
- There are four characters (bytes) in an `int`. If the memory system is:

### Little-endian

The bytes are ordered from least significant at the lowest address to most significant at the highest address.

### Big-endian

The bytes are ordered from least significant at the highest address to most significant at the lowest address.

- In C all character constants have type `int`. In C++ a character constant containing one character has the type `char` and a character constant containing more than one character has the type `int`. Up to four characters of the constant are represented in the integer value. The last character in the constant occupies the lowest-order byte of the integer value. Up to three preceding characters are placed at higher-order bytes. Unused bytes are filled with the NUL (\0) character.
- All integer character constants that contain a single character, or character escape sequence, are represented in both the source and execution character sets. The following table lists the supported character escape codes.

Table 11-1 Character escape codes

Escape sequence	Char value	Description
\a	7	Attention (bell)
\b	8	Backspace
\t	9	Horizontal tab
\n	10	New line (line feed)
\v	11	Vertical tab

**Table 11-1 Character escape codes (continued)**

Escape sequence	Char value	Description
\f	12	Form feed
\r	13	Carriage return
\xnn	0xnn	ASCII code in hexadecimal
\nnn	0nnn	ASCII code in octal

- Characters of the source character set in string literals and character constants map identically into the execution character set.
- Data items of type **char** are unsigned by default. They can be explicitly declared as **signed char** or **unsigned char**:
  - the `--signed_chars` option makes the **char** signed
  - the `--unsigned_chars` option makes the **char** unsigned.

———— **Note** —————

Care must be taken when mixing translation units that have been compiled with and without the `--signed_chars` and `--unsigned_chars` options, and that share interfaces or data structures.

The ARM ABI defines **char** as an unsigned byte, and this is the interpretation used by the C++ libraries supplied with the ARM compilation tools.

- Converting multibyte characters into the corresponding wide characters for a wide character constant does not use a locale. This is not relevant to the generic implementation.

## 11.2 Basic data types in ARM C and C++

Describes the basic data types implemented in ARM C and C++:

### Size and alignment of basic data types

The following table gives the size and natural alignment of the basic data types.

**Table 11-2 Size and alignment of data types**

Type	Size in bits	Natural alignment in bytes	Range of values
<b>char</b>	8	1 (byte-aligned)	0 to 255 (unsigned) by default. –128 to 127 (signed) when compiled with <code>--signed_chars</code> .
<b>signed char</b>	8	1 (byte-aligned)	–128 to 127
<b>unsigned char</b>	8	1 (byte-aligned)	0 to 255
<b>(signed) short</b>	16	2 (halfword-aligned)	–32,768 to 32,767
<b>unsigned short</b>	16	2 (halfword-aligned)	0 to 65,535
<b>(signed) int</b>	32	4 (word-aligned)	–2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
<b>unsigned int</b>	32	4 (word-aligned)	0 to 4,294,967,295
<b>(signed) long</b>	32	4 (word-aligned)	–2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,647
<b>unsigned long</b>	32	4 (word-aligned)	0 to 4,294,967,295
<b>(signed) long long</b>	64	8 (doubleword-aligned)	–9,223,372,036,854,775,808 to 9,223,372,036,854,775,807
<b>unsigned long long</b>	64	8 (doubleword-aligned)	0 to 18,446,744,073,709,551,615
<b>float</b>	32	4 (word-aligned)	1.175494351e-38 to 3.40282347e+38 (normalized values)
<b>double</b>	64	8 (doubleword-aligned)	2.22507385850720138e-308 to 1.79769313486231571e+308 (normalized values)
<b>long double</b>	64	8 (doubleword-aligned)	2.22507385850720138e-308 to 1.79769313486231571e+308 (normalized values)
<b>wchar_t</b>	16	2 (halfword-aligned)	0 to 65,535 by default.
	32	4 (word-aligned)	0 to 4,294,967,295 when compiled with <code>--wchar32</code> .
All pointers	32	4 (word-aligned)	Not applicable.
<b>bool</b> (C++ only)	8	1 (byte-aligned)	false or true
<b>_Bool</b> (C only <sup>e</sup> )	8	1 (byte-aligned)	false or true

Type alignment varies according to the context:

- Local variables are usually kept in registers, but when local variables spill onto the stack, they are always word-aligned. For example, a spilled local **char** variable has an alignment of 4.
- The natural alignment of a packed type is 1.

<sup>e</sup> `stdbool.h` lets you define the `bool` macro in C.



## Integer

Integers are represented in two's complement form. The low word of a **long long** is at the low address in little-endian mode, and at the high address in big-endian mode.

## Float

Floating-point quantities are stored in IEEE format:

- **float** values are represented by IEEE single-precision values
- **double** and **long double** values are represented by IEEE double-precision values.

For **double** and **long double** quantities the word containing the sign, the exponent, and the most significant part of the mantissa is stored with the lower machine address in big-endian mode and at the higher address in little-endian mode.

## Arrays and pointers

The following statements apply to all pointers to objects in C and C++, except pointers to members:

- Adjacent bytes have addresses that differ by one.
- The macro `NULL` expands to the value 0.
- Casting between integers and pointers results in no change of representation.
- The compiler warns of casts between pointers to functions and pointers to data.
- The type `size_t` is defined as `unsigned int`.
- The type `ptrdiff_t` is defined as `signed int`.

## 11.3 Operations on basic data types ARM C and C++

Describes the basic data type arithmetic operation implementation details in ARM C and C++.

The ARM compiler performs the usual arithmetic conversions set out in relevant sections of the ISO C99 and ISO C++ standards. The following information describes additional points that relate to arithmetic operations.

### Operations on integral types

The following statements apply to operations on the integral types:

- All signed integer arithmetic uses a two's complement representation.
- Bitwise operations on signed integral types follow the rules that arise naturally from two's complement representation. No sign extension takes place.
- Right shifts on signed quantities are arithmetic.
- For values of type **int**,
  - Shifts outside the range 0 to 127 are undefined.
  - Left shifts of more than 31 give a result of zero.
  - Right shifts of more than 31 give a result of zero from a shift of an unsigned value or positive signed value. They yield  $-1$  from a shift of a negative signed value.
- For values of type **long long**, shifts outside the range 0 to 63 are undefined.
- The remainder on integer division has the same sign as the numerator, as required by the ISO C99 standard.
- If a value of integral type is truncated to a shorter signed integral type, the result is obtained by discarding an appropriate number of most significant bits. If the original number is too large, positive or negative, for the new type, there is no guarantee that the sign of the result is going to be the same as the original.
- A conversion between integral types does not raise an exception.
- Integer overflow does not raise an exception.
- Integer division by zero returns zero by default.

### Operations on floating-point types

The following statements apply to operations on floating-point types:

- Normal IEEE 754 rules apply.
- Rounding is to the nearest representable value by default.
- Floating-point exceptions are disabled by default.

---

#### Note

The IEEE 754 standard for floating-point processing states that the default action to an exception is to proceed without a trap. You can modify floating-point error handling by tailoring the functions and definitions in `fenv.h`.

---

### Pointer subtraction

The following statements apply to all pointers in C. They also apply to pointers in C++, other than pointers to members:

- When one pointer is subtracted from another, the difference is the result of the expression:  

```
((int)a - (int)b) / (int)sizeof(type pointed to)
```
- If the pointers point to objects whose alignment is the same as their size, this alignment ensures that division is exact.

- If the pointers point to objects whose alignment is less than their size, such as packed types and most **structs**, both pointers must point to elements of the same array.

## 11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++

Describes the implementation of the structured data types `union`, `enum`, and `struct`. It also describes structure padding and bitfield implementation.

### Unions

When a member of a **union** is accessed using a member of a different type, the resulting value can be predicted from the representation of the original type. No error is given.

### Enumerations

An object of type **enum** is implemented in the smallest integral type that contains the range of the **enum**.

In C mode, and in C++ mode without `--enum_is_int`, if an **enum** contains only positive enumerator values, the storage type of the **enum** is the first *unsigned* type from the following list, according to the range of the enumerators in the **enum**. In other modes, and in cases where an **enum** contains any negative enumerator values, the storage type of the **enum** is the first of the following, according to the range of the enumerators in the **enum**:

- **unsigned char** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed char** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **unsigned short** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed short** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed int**
- **unsigned int** except C with `--strict`
- **signed long long** except C with `--strict`
- **unsigned long long** except C with `--strict`.

#### ———— Note ————

- In RVCT 4.0, the storage type of the **enum** being the first unsigned type from the list was only applicable in GNU (`--gnu`) mode.
- In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, the storage type of the **enum** being the first unsigned type from the list applies irrespective of mode.

Implementing **enum** in this way can reduce data size. The command-line option `--enum_is_int` forces the underlying type of **enum** to at least as wide as **int**.

See the description of C language mappings in the *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture* specification for more information.

#### ———— Note ————

Care must be taken when mixing translation units that have been compiled with and without the `--enum_is_int` option, and that share interfaces or data structures.

In strict C, enumerator values must be representable as **ints**. That is, they must be in the range -2147483648 to +2147483647, inclusive. A warning is issued for out-of-range enumerator values:

```
#66: enumeration value is out of "int" range
```

Such values are treated the same way as in C++, that is, they are treated as **unsigned int**, **long long**, or **unsigned long long**.

To ensure that out-of-range Warnings are reported, use the following command to change them into Errors:

```
armcc --diag_error=66 ...
```

## Structures

The following points apply to:

- all C structures
- all C++ structures and classes not using virtual functions or base classes.

Structures can contain padding to ensure that fields are correctly aligned and that the structure itself is correctly aligned. The following diagram shows an example of a conventional, nonpacked structure. Bytes 1, 2, and 3 are padded to ensure correct field alignment. Bytes 11 and 12 are padded to ensure correct structure alignment. The `sizeof()` function returns the size of the structure including padding.

```
struct {char c; int x; short s;} ex1;
```

0	1	2	3
c	padding		
4	5	7	8
x			
9	10	11	12
s		padding	

**Figure 11-1 Conventional nonpacked structure example**

The compiler pads structures in one of the following ways, according to how the structure is defined:

- Structures that are defined as **static** or **extern** are padded with zeros.
- Structures on the stack or heap, such as those defined with `malloc()` or **auto**, are padded with whatever is previously stored in those memory locations. You cannot use `memcmp()` to compare padded structures defined in this way.

Use the `--remarks` option to view the messages that are generated when the compiler inserts padding in a **struct**.

Structures with empty initializers are permitted in C++:

```
struct
{
    int x;
} x = { };
```

However, if you are compiling C, or compiling C++ with the `--cpp` and `--c90` options, an error is generated.

## Packed structures

A packed structure is one where the alignment of the structure, and of the fields within it, is always 1.

You can pack specific structures with the `__packed` qualifier. Alternatively, you can use `#pragma pack(n)` to make sure that any structures with unaligned data are packed. There is no command-line option to change the default packing of structures.

## Bitfields

In nonpacked structures, ARM Compiler allocates bitfields in *containers*. A container is a correctly aligned object of a declared type.

Bitfields are allocated so that the first field specified occupies the lowest-addressed bits of the word, depending on configuration:

### Little-endian

Lowest addressed means least significant.

### Big-endian

Lowest addressed means most significant.

A bitfield container can be any of the integral types.

———— **Note** ————

In strict 1990 ISO Standard C, the only types permitted for a bit field are **int**, **signed int**, and **unsigned int**. For non-**int** bitfields, the compiler displays an error.

A plain bitfield, declared without either **signed** or **unsigned** qualifiers, is treated as **unsigned**. For example, `int x:10` allocates an unsigned integer of 10 bits.

A bitfield is allocated to the first container of the correct type that has a sufficient number of unallocated bits, for example:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    int y:20;
};
```

The first declaration creates an integer container and allocates 10 bits to `x`. At the second declaration, the compiler finds the existing integer container with a sufficient number of unallocated bits, and allocates `y` in the same container as `x`.

A bitfield is wholly contained within its container. A bitfield that does not fit in a container is placed in the next container of the same type. For example, the declaration of `z` overflows the container if an additional bitfield is declared for the structure:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    int y:20;
    int z:5;
};
```

The compiler pads the remaining two bits for the first container and assigns a new integer container for `z`.

Bitfield containers can *overlap* each other, for example:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:2;
};
```

The first declaration creates an integer container and allocates 10 bits to `x`. These 10 bits occupy the first byte and two bits of the second byte of the integer container. At the second declaration, the compiler checks for a container of type **char**. There is no suitable container, so the compiler allocates a new correctly aligned **char** container.

Because the natural alignment of **char** is 1, the compiler searches for the first byte that contains a sufficient number of unallocated bits to completely contain the bitfield. In the example structure, the second byte of the **int** container has two bits allocated to `x`, and six bits unallocated. The compiler allocates a **char** container starting at the second byte of the previous **int** container, skips the first two bits that are allocated to `x`, and allocates two bits to `y`.

If `y` is declared `char y:8`, the compiler pads the second byte and allocates a new **char** container to the third byte, because the bitfield cannot overflow its container. The following figure shows the bitfield allocation for the following example structure:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:8;
};
```

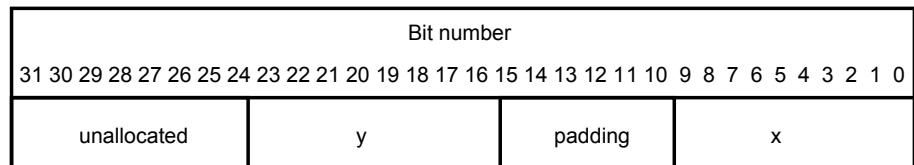


Figure 11-2 Bitfield allocation 1

———— **Note** ————

The same basic rules apply to bitfield declarations with different container types. For example, adding an **int** bitfield to the example structure gives:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:8;
    int z:5;
}
```

The compiler allocates an **int** container starting at the same location as the **int x:10** container and allocates a byte-aligned **char** and 5-bit bitfield, as follows:

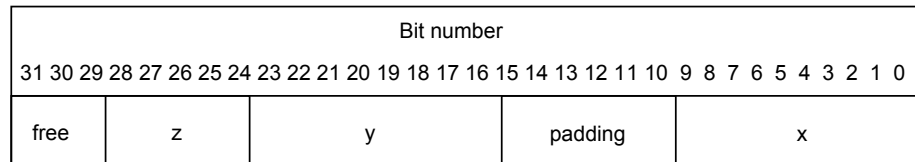


Figure 11-3 Bitfield allocation 2

You can explicitly pad a bitfield container by declaring an unnamed bitfield of size zero. A bitfield of zero size fills the container up to the end if the container is not empty. A subsequent bitfield declaration starts a new empty container.

———— **Note** ————

As an optimization, the compiler might overwrite padding bits in a container with unspecified values when a bitfield is written. This does not affect normal usage of bitfields.

## Bitfields in packed structures

Packed bitfield containers, including all bitfield containers in packed structures, have an alignment of 1. Therefore the maximum bit padding inserted to align a packed bitfield container is 7 bits.

For an unpacked bitfield container, the maximum bit padding is  $8 * \text{sizeof}(\text{container-type}) - 1$  bits.

Tail-padding is always inserted into the structure as necessary to ensure arrays of the structure have their elements correctly aligned.

A packed bitfield container is only large enough (in bytes) to hold the bitfield that declared it. Non-packed bitfield containers are the size of their type.

The following examples illustrate these interactions.

```
struct A { int z:17; }; // sizeof(A) = 4, alignment = 4
struct A { __packed int z:17; }; // sizeof(A) = 3, alignment = 1
__packed struct A { int z:17; }; // sizeof(A) = 3, alignment = 1

struct A { char y:1; int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 4, alignment = 4
struct A { char y:1; __packed int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 4, alignment = 1
__packed struct A { char y:1; int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 4, alignment = 1

struct A { char y:1; int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 8, alignment = 4
struct A { char y:1; __packed int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 5, alignment = 1
__packed struct A { char y:1; int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 5, alignment = 1

struct A { int x; char y:1; int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 8, alignment = 4
struct A { int x; char y:1; __packed int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 8, alignment = 4
__packed struct A { int x; char y:1; int z:31; }; // sizeof(A) = 8, alignment = 1

struct A { int x; char y:1; int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 12, alignment = 4 [1]
struct A { int x; char y:1; __packed int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 12, alignment = 4 [2]
__packed struct A { int x; char y:1; int z:32; }; // sizeof(A) = 9, alignment = 1
```

Note that [1] and [2] are not identical; the location of z within the structure and the tail-padding differ.

```
struct example1
{
int a : 8; /* 4-byte container at offset 0 */
__packed int b : 8; /* 1-byte container at offset 1 */
__packed int c : 24; /* 3-byte container at offset 2 */
}; /* Total size 8 (3 bytes tail padding) */

struct example2
{
__packed int a : 8; /* 1-byte container at offset 0 */
__packed int b : 8; /* 1-byte container at offset 1 */
int c : 8; /* 4-byte container at offset 0 */
}; /* Total size 4 (No tail padding) */

struct example3
{
int a : 8; /* 4-byte container at offset 0 */
__packed int b : 32; /* 4-byte container at offset 1 */
__packed int c : 32; /* 4-byte container at offset 5 */
int d : 16; /* 4-byte container at offset 8 */
int e : 16; /* 4-byte container at offset 12 */
int f : 16; /* In previous container */
}; /* Total size 16 (No tail padding) */
```



## 11.5 Using the ::operator new function in ARM C++

In accordance with the ISO C++ Standard, the `::operator new(std::size_t)` throws an exception when memory allocation fails rather than raising a signal. If the exception is not caught, `std::terminate()` is called.

The compiler option `--force_new_nothrow` turns all `new` calls in a compilation into calls to `::operator new(std::size_t, std::nothrow_t&)` or `::operator new[](std::size_t, std::nothrow_t&)`. However, this does not affect `operator new` calls in libraries, nor calls to any class-specific `operator new`.

### Legacy support

In RVCT v2.0, when the `::operator new` function ran out of memory, it raised the signal **SIGOUTOFHEAP**, instead of throwing a C++ exception.

In the current release, it is possible to install a `new_handler` to raise a signal and so restore the RVCT v2.0 behavior.

---

**Note**

Do not rely on the implementation details of this behavior, because it might change in future releases.

---

## 11.6 Tentative arrays in ARM C++

The ADS v1.2 and RVCT v1.2 C++ compilers enabled you to use tentative, that is, incomplete array declarations, for example, `int a[]`. You cannot use tentative arrays when compiling C++ with the RVCT v2.x compilers or later, or with ARM Compiler 4.1 or later.

## 11.7 Old-style C parameters in ARM C++ functions

The ADS v1.2 and RVCT v1.2 C++ compilers enabled you to use old-style C parameters in C++ functions.

That is,

```
void f(x) int x; { }
```

In the RVCT v2.x compilers or above, you must use the `--anachronisms` compiler option if your code contains any old-style parameters in functions. The compiler warns you if it finds any instances.

## 11.8 Anachronisms in ARM C++

You can enable support for anachronisms using the `--anachronisms` option.

The following anachronisms are accepted:

- **overload** is permitted in function declarations. It is accepted and ignored.
- Definitions are not required for static data members that can be initialized using default initialization. The anachronism does not apply to static data members of template classes, because these must always be defined.
- The number of elements in an array can be specified in an array delete operation. The value is ignored.
- You can overload both prefix and postfix operations with a single `operator++()` and `operator--()` function.
- The base class name can be omitted in a base class initializer if there is only one immediate base class.
- Assignment to the `this` pointer in constructors and destructors is permitted.
- A bound function pointer, that is, a pointer to a member function for a given object, can be cast to a pointer to a function.
- A nested class name can be used as a non-nested class name provided no other class of that name has been declared. The anachronism is not applied to template classes.
- A reference to a non-const type can be initialized from a value of a different type. A temporary is created, it is initialized from the converted initial value, and the reference is set to the temporary.
- A reference to a non-const class type can be initialized from an rvalue of the class type or a class derived from that class type. No, additional, temporary is used.
- A function with old-style parameter declarations is permitted and can participate in function overloading as if it were prototyped. Default argument promotion is not applied to parameter types of such functions when the check for compatibility is done, so that the following declares the overloading of two functions named `f`:

```
int f(int);
int f(x) char x; { return x; }
```

———— **Note** —————

In C, this code is legal but has a different meaning. A tentative declaration of `f` is followed by its definition.

### Related references

[8.5 `--anachronisms`, `--no\_anachronisms` on page 8-326.](#)

## 11.9 Template instantiation in ARM C++

The compiler does all template instantiations automatically, and makes sure there is only one definition of each template entity left after linking.

The compiler does this by emitting template entities in named common sections. Therefore, all duplicate common sections, that is, common sections with the same name, are eliminated by the linker.

---

**Note**

You can limit the number of concurrent instantiations of a given template with the `--pending_instantiations` compiler option.

---

### Implicit inclusion

When implicit inclusion is enabled, the compiler assumes that if it requires a definition to instantiate a template entity declared in a `.h` file it can implicitly include the corresponding `.cc` file to get the source code for the definition. For example, if a template entity `ABC::f` is declared in file `xyz.h`, and an instantiation of `ABC::f` is required in a compilation but no definition of `ABC::f` appears in the source code processed by the compilation, then the compiler checks to see if a file `xyz.cc` exists. If this file exists, the compiler processes the file as if it were included at the end of the main source file.

To find the template definition file for a given template entity the compiler has to know the full path name of the file where the template is declared and whether the file is included using the system include syntax, for example, `#include <file.h>`. This information is not available for preprocessed source containing `#line` directives. Consequently, the compiler does not attempt implicit inclusion for source code containing `#line` directives.

The compiler looks for the definition-file suffixes `.cc` and `.CC`.

You can turn implicit inclusion mode on or off with the command-line options `--implicit_include` and `--no_implicit_include`.

Implicit inclusions are only performed during the normal compilation of a file, that is, when not using the `-E` command-line option.

## 11.10 Namespaces in ARM C++

When doing name lookup in a template instantiation, some names must be found in the context of the template definition. Other names can be found in the context of the template instantiation.

The compiler implements two different instantiation lookup algorithms:

- The algorithm required by the standard, and referred to as dependent name lookup.
- The algorithm that exists before dependent name lookup is implemented.

Dependent name lookup is done in strict mode, unless explicitly disabled by another command-line option, or when dependent name processing is enabled by either a configuration flag or a command-line option.

### Dependent name lookup processing

When doing dependent name lookup, the compiler implements the instantiation name lookup rules specified in the standard. This processing requires that nonclass prototype instantiations be done. This in turn requires that the code be written using the typename and template keywords as required by the standard.

### Lookup using the referencing context

When not using dependent name lookup, the compiler uses a name lookup algorithm that approximates the two-phase lookup rule of the standard, but in a way that is more compatible with existing code and existing compilers.

When a name is looked up as part of a template instantiation, but is not found in the local context of the instantiation, it is looked up in a synthesized instantiation context. This synthesized instantiation context includes both names from the context of the template definition and names from the context of the instantiation. For example:

```

namespace N
{
    int g(int);
    int x = 0;
    template <class T> struct A
    {
        T f(T t) { return g(t); }
        T f() { return x; }
    };
}
namespace M {
    int x = 99;
    double g(double);
    N::A<int> ai;
    int i = ai.f(0);           // N::A<int>::f(int) calls N::g(int)
    int i2 = ai.f();           // N::A<int>::f() returns 0 (= N::x)
    N::A<double> ad;
    double d = ad.f(0);        // N::A<double>::f(double) calls M::g(double)
    double d2 = ad.f();        // N::A<double>::f() also returns 0 (= N::x)
}

```

The lookup of names in template instantiations does not conform to the rules in the standard in the following respects:

- Although only names from the template definition context are considered for names that are not functions, the lookup is not limited to those names visible at the point where the template is defined.
- Functions from the context where the template is referenced are considered for all function calls in the template. Functions from the referencing context are only visible for dependent function calls.

### Argument-dependent lookup

When argument-dependent lookup is enabled, functions that are made visible using argument-dependent lookup can overload with those made visible by normal lookup. The standard requires that this overloading occur even when the name found by normal lookup is a block extern declaration. The

compiler does this overloading, but in default mode, argument-dependent lookup is suppressed when the normal lookup finds a block extern.

This means a program can have different behavior, depending on whether it is compiled with or without argument-dependent lookup, even if the program makes no use of namespaces. For example:

```
struct A { };  
A operator+(A, double);  
void f()  
{  
    A a1;  
    A operator+(A, int);  
    a1 + 1.0;           // calls operator+(A, double) with arg-dependent lookup  
}                       // enabled but otherwise calls operator+(A, int);
```

## 11.11 C++ exception handling in ARM C++

The ARM compilation tools fully support C++ exception handling. However, the compiler does not support this by default. You must enable C++ exception handling with the `--exceptions` option.

---

### **Note**

---

The Rogue Wave Standard C++ Library is provided with C++ exceptions enabled.

---

You can exercise limited control over exception table generation.

### **Function unwinding at runtime**

By default, functions compiled with `--exceptions` can be unwound at runtime. *Function unwinding* includes destroying C++ automatic variables, and restoring register values saved in the stack frame. Function unwinding is implemented by emitting an exception table describing the operations to be performed.

You can enable or disable unwinding for specific functions with the pragmas `#pragma exceptions_unwind` and `#pragma no_exceptions_unwind`. The `--exceptions_unwind` option sets the initial value of this pragma.

Disabling function unwinding for a function has the following effects:

- Exceptions cannot be thrown through that function at runtime, and no stack unwinding occurs for that throw. If the throwing language is C++, then `std::terminate` is called.
- The exception table representation that describes the function is very compact. This assists smart linkers with table optimization.
- Function inlining is restricted, because the caller and callee must interact correctly.

Therefore, `#pragma no_exceptions_unwind` lets you forcibly prevent unwinding in a way that requires no additional source decoration.

By contrast, in C++ an empty function exception specification permits unwinding as far as the protected function, then calls `std::unexpected()` in accordance with the ISO C++ Standard.

### **Related references**

[8.75 `--exceptions\_unwind`, `--no\_exceptions\_unwind` on page 8-410.](#)

[8.74 `--exceptions`, `--no\_exceptions` on page 8-409.](#)

[10.83 `#pragma exceptions\_unwind`, `#pragma no\_exceptions\_unwind` on page 10-696.](#)



## 11.12 Extern inline functions in ARM C++

The ISO C++ Standard requires inline functions to be defined wherever you use them. To prevent the clashing of multiple out-of-line copies of inline functions, the C++ compiler emits out-of-line extern functions in common sections.

### Out-of-line inline functions

The compiler emits inline functions out-of-line, in the following cases:

- The address of the function is taken, for example:

```
inline int g()
{
    return 1;
}
int (*fp)() = &g;
```

- The function cannot be inlined, for example, a recursive function:

```
inline unsigned int fact(unsigned int n) {
    return n < 2 ? 1 : n * fact(n - 1);
}
```

- The heuristic used by the compiler decides that it is better not to inline the function. This heuristic is influenced by `-Ospace` and `-Otime`. If you use `-Otime`, the compiler inlines more functions. You can override this heuristic by declaring a function with `__forceinline`. For example:

```
__forceinline int g()
{
    return 1;
}
```

## 11.13 C++11 supported features

ARM Compiler supports a large subset of the language features of C++11.

### Fully supported C++11 features

ARM Compiler fully supports the following language features as defined by the C++11 language standard:

- `auto` can be used as a type specifier in declaration of a variable or reference.
- `constexpr`.
- Trailing return types are allowed in top-level function declarators.
- Variadic templates.
- Alias and alias template declarations such as `using X = int`.
- Support for double right angle bracket token `>>` interpreted as template argument list termination.
- `static_assert`.
- Scoped enumerations with `enum classes`.
- Unrestricted unions.
- Extended `friend` class syntax extensions.
- `noexcept` operator and specifier.
- Non-static data member initializers.
- Local and unnamed types can be used for template type arguments.
- Use of `extern` keyword to suppress an explicit template instantiation.
- Keyword `final` on class types and virtual functions.
- Keyword `override` can be used on virtual functions.
- Generation of move constructor and move assignment operator special member functions.
- Functions can be deleted with `=delete`.
- Raw and UTF-8 string literals.
- Support for `char16_t` and `char32_t` character types and `u` and `U` string literals.
- C99 language features accepted by the C++11 standard.
- Type conversion functions can be marked `explicit`.
- Inline namespaces.
- Support for expressions in template deduction contexts.

### Partially supported C++11 features with restrictions

ARM Compiler partially supports the following language features. You can use the feature, but restrictions might apply.

- `nullptr`.

ARM Compiler supports the keyword `nullptr`. However, the standard library header file does not contain a definition of `std::nullptr_t`. It can be defined manually using:

```
namespace std
{
    typedef decltype(nullptr) nullptr_t;
}
```

- Rvalue references.

ARM Compiler supports rvalue references and reference qualified member functions. However, the standard library provided with ARM Compiler does not come with an implementation of `std::move` or `std::forward`.

Both `std::move` and `std::forward` are a `static_cast` with the target type deduced via template argument deduction. An example implementation is as follows:

```
namespace std
{
    template< class T > struct remove_reference {typedef T type;};
    template< class T > struct remove_reference<T&> {typedef T type;};
    template< class T > struct remove_reference<T&&> {typedef T type;};

    template<class T>
    typename remove_reference<T>::type&&
    move(T&& a) noexcept
    {
        typedef typename remove_reference<T>::type&& RvalRef;
        return static_cast<RvalRef>(a);
    }
    template<class T>
    T&&
    forward(typename remove_reference<T>::type& a) noexcept
    {
        return static_cast<T&&>(a);
    }
}
```

ARM Compiler does not implement the C++11 value categories such as prvalue, xvalue and glvalue as described in <http://www.open-std.org/jtc1/sc22/wg21/docs/papers/2010/n3055.pdf>. Instead it implements the draft C++0x definitions of lvalue and rvalue. In rare cases this may result in some differences in behavior from the C++11 standard when returning rvalue references from functions.

- Initializer lists and uniform initialization.

ARM Compiler supports initializer lists and uniform initialization, but the standard library does not provide an implementation of `std::initializer_list`. With a user-supplied implementation of `std::initializer_list` initializer lists and uniform initialization can be used.

- Lambda functions

ARM Compiler supports lambda functions. The standard library provided with the ARM Compiler does not provide an implementation of `std::function`. This means that lambda functions can only be used when type deduction is used.

Within a function `auto` can be used to store the generated lambda function, a lambda can also be passed as a parameter to a function template, for example:

```
#include <iostream>
template<typename T> void call_lambda(T lambda)
{
    lambda();
}
void function()
{
    auto lambda = [] () { std::cout << "Hello World"; };
    call_lambda(lambda);
}
```

- Range-based for loops.

ARM Compiler supports range-based for loops. However an implementation of `std::initializer_list` is required for range-based for loops with braced initializers, for example:

```
for(auto x : {1,2,3}) { std::cout << x << std::endl; }
```

- Decltype

The `decltype` operator is supported, but does not include the C++11 extensions N3049 and N3276. This means that `decltype` cannot be used in all places allowed by the standard. In summary the following uses of `decltype` are not supported:

- As a name qualifier, for example `decltype(x)::count`.
- In destructor calls, for example `p->~decltype(x)();`.
- As a base specifier, for example `class X : decltype(Y) {};`.
- `decltype` construct cannot be a call to a function that has an incomplete type.

- C++11 attribute syntax

ARM Compiler supports the `[[noreturn]]` attribute.

ARM Compiler ignores the `[[carries_dependency]]` attribute.

- Delegating constructors

Delegating constructors are supported by the compiler. However when exceptions are enabled you must link against up-to-date C++ runtime libraries.

- Support of `=default` for special member functions

Special member functions can be explicitly given default implementation with `=default`. ARM Compiler does not support this for the move constructor or move assignment operator special member functions. All other special member functions are supported. For example:

```
struct X
{
    // The constructor, destructor, copy constructor
    // and copy assignment operator are supported
    X() = default;
    ~X() = default;
    X(const X&) = default;
    X& operator=(const X&) = default;

    // The move constructor and move assignment operator are not supported
    X(const X&&) = default;
    X& operator=(const X&&) = default;
};
```

## Unsupported C++11 features

The following language features are not supported in any way by ARM Compiler:

- C++11 memory model guarantees for `std::atomic`.
- The `alignof` operator and `alignas` specifier.
- Inheriting constructors.
- Thread local storage keyword `thread_local`.
- User-defined literals.

# Chapter 12

## ARMv6 SIMD Instruction Intrinsics

Describes the ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics. SIMD instructions allow the processor to operate on packed 8-bit or 16-bit values in 32-bit registers.

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## 12.1 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics by prefix

The following table shows the intrinsics according to prefix name.

Each intrinsic's prefix indicates the type of arithmetic performed, as follows:

- `__s`, signed.
- `__q`, signed saturating.
- `__sh`, signed halving.
- `__u`, unsigned.
- `__uq`, unsigned saturating.
- `__uh`, unsigned halving.

The `__se1()` intrinsic falls outside the classifications shown in the table. This intrinsic selects bytes according to GE bit values.

Table 12-1 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics by prefix

ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics grouped by prefix						
Intrinsic classification	<code>__s</code>	<code>__q</code>	<code>__sh</code>	<code>__u</code>	<code>__uq</code>	<code>__uh</code>
Byte addition	<code>__sadd8</code>	<code>__qadd8</code>	<code>__shadd8</code>	<code>__uadd8</code>	<code>__uqadd8</code>	<code>__uhadd8</code>
Byte subtraction	<code>__ssub8</code>	<code>__qsub8</code>	<code>__shsub8</code>	<code>__usub8</code>	<code>__uqsub8</code>	<code>__uhsub8</code>
Halfword addition	<code>__sadd16</code>	<code>__qadd16</code>	<code>__shadd16</code>	<code>__uadd16</code>	<code>__uqadd16</code>	<code>__uhadd16</code>
Halfword subtraction	<code>__ssub16</code>	<code>__qsub16</code>	<code>__shsub16</code>	<code>__usub16</code>	<code>__uqsub16</code>	<code>__uhsub16</code>
Exchange halfwords within one operand, add high halfwords, subtract low halfwords	<code>__sasx</code>	<code>__qasx</code>	<code>__shasx</code>	<code>__uasx</code>	<code>__uqasx</code>	<code>__uhasx</code>
Exchange halfwords within one operand, subtract high halfwords, add low halfwords	<code>__ssax</code>	<code>__qsax</code>	<code>__shsax</code>	<code>__usax</code>	<code>__uqsax</code>	<code>__uhsax</code>
Unsigned sum of absolute difference	-	-	-	<code>__usad8</code>	-	-
Unsigned sum of absolute difference and accumulate	-	-	-	<code>__usada8</code>	-	-
Saturation to selected width	<code>__ssat16</code>	-	-	<code>__usat16</code>	-	-
Extract values (bit positions [23:16][7:0]), zero-extend to 16 bits	-	-	-	<code>__uxtb16</code>	-	-
Extract values (bit positions [23:16][7:0]) from second operand, zero-extend to 16 bits, add to first operand	-	-	-	<code>__uxtab16</code>	-	-
Sign-extend	<code>__sxtb16</code>	-	-	-	-	-
Sign-extend, add	<code>__sxtab16</code>	-	-	-	-	-
Signed multiply, add products	<code>__smuad</code>	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, signed multiply, add products	<code>__smuadx</code>	-	-	-	-	-
Signed multiply, subtract products	<code>__smusd</code>	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, signed multiply, subtract products	<code>__smusdx</code>	-	-	-	-	-

Table 12-1 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics by prefix (continued)

ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics grouped by prefix						
Intrinsic classification	__s	__q	__sh	__u	__uq	__uh
Signed multiply, add both results to another operand	__smlad	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, perform 2x16-bit multiplication, add both results to another operand	__smladx	-	-	-	-	-
Perform 2x16-bit multiplication, add both results to another operand	__smlald	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, perform 2x16-bit multiplication, add both results to another operand	__smlaldx	-	-	-	-	-
Perform 2x16-bit signed multiplications, take difference of products, subtracting high halfword product from low halfword product, and add difference to a 32-bit accumulate operand	__smlsd	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, perform two signed 16-bit multiplications, add difference of products to a 32-bit accumulate operand	__smlsdx	-	-	-	-	-
Perform 2x16-bit signed multiplications, take difference of products, subtracting high halfword product from low halfword product, add difference to a 64-bit accumulate operand	__smlsld	-	-	-	-	-
Exchange halfwords of one operand, perform 2x16-bit multiplications, add difference of products to a 64-bit accumulate operand	__smlsldx	-	-	-	-	-



## 12.2 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, summary descriptions, byte lanes, affected flags

The following table describes each ARMv6 SIMD intrinsic, providing a summary description together with information about byte lanes and affected flags.

**Table 12-2 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, summary descriptions, byte lanes, affected flags**

Intrinsic	Summary description	Byte lanes		Affected flags
		Returns	Operands	
<code>__qadd16</code>	2 x 16-bit addition, saturated to range $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__qadd8</code>	4 x 8-bit addition, saturated to range $-2^7 \leq x \leq 2^7 - 1$ .	int8x4	int8x4, int8x4	None
<code>__qasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, add high halfwords, subtract low halfwords, saturating in each case.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__qsax</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, subtract high halfwords, add low halfwords, saturating in each case.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__qsub16</code>	2 x 16-bit subtraction with saturation.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__qsub8</code>	4 x 8-bit subtraction with saturation.	int8x4	int8x4, int8x4	None
<code>__sadd16</code>	2 x 16-bit signed addition.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	APSR.GE bits
<code>__sadd8</code>	4 x 8-bit signed addition.	int8x4	int8x4, int8x4	APSR.GE bits
<code>__sasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, add high halfwords, subtract low halfwords.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	APSR.GE bits
<code>__se1</code>	Select each byte of the result from either the first operand or the second operand, according to the values of the GE bits. For each result byte, if the corresponding GE bit is set, the byte from the first operand is selected, otherwise the byte from the second operand is selected. Because of the way that int16x2 operations set two (duplicate) GE bits per value, the <code>__se1</code> intrinsic works equally well on (u)int16x2 and (u)int8x4 data.	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	None
<code>__shadd16</code>	2x16-bit signed addition, halving the results.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__shadd8</code>	4x8-bit signed addition, halving the results.	int8x4	int8x4, int8x4	None
<code>__shasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of the second operand, add high halfwords and subtract low halfwords, halving the results.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__shsax</code>	Exchange halfwords of the second operand, subtract high halfwords and add low halfwords, halving the results.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__shsub16</code>	2x16-bit signed subtraction, halving the results.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	None
<code>__shsub8</code>	4x8-bit signed subtraction, halving the results.	int8x4	int8x4, int8x4	None
<code>__smlad</code>	2x16-bit multiplication, adding both results to third operand.	int32	int16x2, int16x2, int32	Q bit
<code>__smladx</code>	Exchange halfwords of the second operand, 2x16-bit multiplication, adding both results to third operand.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	Q bit
<code>__smlald</code>	2x16-bit multiplication, adding both results to third operand. Overflow in addition is not detected.	int64	int16x2, int16x2, int64	None

**Table 12-2 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, summary descriptions, byte lanes, affected flags (continued)**

Intrinsic	Summary description	Byte lanes		Affected flags
		Returns	Operands	
__smlaldx	Exchange halfwords of second operand, perform 2x16-bit multiplication, adding both results to third operand. Overflow in addition is not detected.	int64	int16x2, int16x2, int64	None
__smlsd	2x16-bit signed multiplications. Take difference of products, subtract high halfword product from low halfword product, add difference to third operand.	int32	int16x2, int16x2, int32	Q bit
__smlsdx	Exchange halfwords of second operand, then 2x16-bit signed multiplications. Product difference is added to a third accumulate operand.	int32	int16x2, int16x2, int32	Q bit
__smlsld	2x16-bit signed multiplications. Take difference of products, subtracting high halfword product from low halfword product, and add difference to third operand. Overflow in addition is not detected.	int64	int16x2, int16x2, int64	None
__smlsldx	Exchange halfwords of second operand, then 2x16-bit signed multiplications. Take difference of products, subtracting high halfword product from low halfword product, and add difference to third operand. Overflow in addition is not detected.	int64	int16x2, int16x2, u64	None
__smuad	2x16-bit signed multiplications, adding the products together.	int32	int16x2, int16x2	Q bit
__smusd	2x16-bit signed multiplications. Take difference of products, subtracting high halfword product from low halfword product.	int32	int16x2, int16x2	None
__smusdx	2x16-bit signed multiplications. Product of high halfword of first operand and low halfword of second operand is subtracted from product of low halfword of first operand and high halfword of second operand, and difference is added to third operand.	int32	int16x2, int16x2	None
__ssat16	2x16-bit signed saturation to a selected width.	int16x2	int16x2, / *constant*/ unsigned int	Q bit
__ssax	Exchange halfwords of second operand, subtract high halfwords and add low halfwords.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	APSR.GE bits
__ssub16	2x16-bit signed subtraction.	int16x2	int16x2, int16x2	APSR.GE bits
__ssub8	4x8-bit signed subtraction.	int8x4	int8x4	APSR.GE bits
__smuadx	Exchange halfwords of second operand, perform 2x16-bit signed multiplications, and add products together.	int32	int16x2, int16x2	Q bit
__sxtab16	Two values at bit positions [23:16][7:0] are extracted from second operand, sign-extended to 16 bits, and added to first operand.	int16x2	int8x4, int16x2	None
__sxtb16	Two values at bit positions [23:16][7:0] are extracted from the operand and sign-extended to 16 bits.	int16x2	int8x4	None
__uadd16	2x16-bit unsigned addition.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	APSR.GE bits

**Table 12-2 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, summary descriptions, byte lanes, affected flags (continued)**

Intrinsic	Summary description	Byte lanes		Affected flags
		Returns	Operands	
<code>__uadd8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned addition.	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	APSR.GE bits
<code>__uasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, add high halfwords and subtract low halfwords.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	APSR.GE bits
<code>__uhadd16</code>	2x16-bit unsigned addition, halving the results.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uhadd8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned addition, halving the results.	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	None
<code>__uhasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, add high halfwords and subtract low halfwords, halving the results.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uhsax</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, subtract high halfwords and add low halfwords, halving the results.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uhsub16</code>	2x16-bit unsigned subtraction, halving the results.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uhsub8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned subtraction, halving the results.	uint8x4	uint8x4	None
<code>__uqadd16</code>	2x16-bit unsigned addition, saturating to range $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uqadd8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned addition, saturating to range $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	None
<code>__uqasx</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, perform saturating unsigned addition on high halfwords and saturating unsigned subtraction on low halfwords.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uqsax</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, perform saturating unsigned subtraction on high halfwords and saturating unsigned addition on low halfwords.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uqsub16</code>	2x16-bit unsigned subtraction, saturating to range $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	None
<code>__uqsub8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned subtraction, saturating to range $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	None
<code>__usad8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned subtraction, add absolute values of the differences together, return result as single unsigned integer.	uint32	uint8x4, uint8x4	None
<code>__usada8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned subtraction, add absolute values of the differences together, and add result to third operand.	uint32	uint8x4, uint8x4, uint32	None
<code>__usax</code>	Exchange halfwords of second operand, subtract high halfwords and add low halfwords.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	APSR.GE bits
<code>__usat16</code>	Saturate two 16-bit values to a selected unsigned range. Input values are signed and output values are non-negative.	int16x2	int16x2, / *constant*/ unsigned int	Q flag
<code>__usub16</code>	2x16-bit unsigned subtraction.	uint16x2	uint16x2, uint16x2	APSR.GE bits
<code>__usub8</code>	4x8-bit unsigned subtraction.	uint8x4	uint8x4, uint8x4	APSR.GE bits

**Table 12-2 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, summary descriptions, byte lanes, affected flags (continued)**

Intrinsic	Summary description	Byte lanes		Affected flags
		Returns	Operands	
<code>__uxtab16</code>	Two values at bit positions [23:16][7:0] are extracted from the second operand, zero-extended to 16 bits, and added to the first operand.	uint16x2	uint8x4, uint16x2	None
<code>__uxtb16</code>	Two values at bit positions [23:16][7:0] are extracted from the operand and zero-extended to 16 bits.	uint16x2	uint8x4	None

## 12.3 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures

The following table lists some ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics and compatible processors and architectures, as examples of compatibility.

Use of intrinsics that are not available on your target platform results in linkage failure with undefined symbols.

**Table 12-3 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures**

Intrinsics	Compatible --cpu options
__qadd16, __qadd8, __qasx	6, 6K, 6T2, 6Z, 7-A, 7-R, 7-A.security, Cortex-R4, Cortex-R4F, Cortex-R7, Cortex-R7.no_vfp, Cortex-A5, Cortex-A8, Cortex-A8.no_neon, Cortex-A8NoNEON, Cortex-A9, Cortex-A9.no_neon, Cortex-A9.no_neon.no_vfp, Cortex-A12, Cortex-A12.no_neon.no_vfp, Cortex-A15, Cortex-A15.no_neon, Cortex-A15.no_neon.no_vfp, Cortex-A7, Cortex-A7.no_neon, Cortex-A7.no_neon.no_vfp, Cortex-A17, Cortex-A17.no_neon.no_vfp, Cortex-M4, Cortex-M4.fp.sp, Cortex-M7, Cortex-M7.fp.sp, Cortex-M7.fp.dp, ARM1136J-S, ARM1136JF-S, ARM1136J-S-rev1, ARM1136JF-S-rev1, ARM1156T2-S, ARM1156T2F-S, ARM1176JZ-S, ARM1176JZF-S, MPCore, MPCore.no_vfp, MPCoreNoVFP, 88FR111, 88FR111.no_hw_divide, QSP, QSP.no_neon, QSP.no_neon.no_vfp

### Related references

[8.40 --cpu=list on page 8-371.](#)

[8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.](#)

## 12.4 ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics and APSR GE flags

The following table describes the action and operation of the APSR.GE flags for each ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsic.

**Table 12-4 ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics and APSR GE flags**

Intrinsic	APSR.GE flag action	APSR.GE operation
<code>__sel</code>	Reads GE flags	<pre> if APSR.GE[0] == 1 then res[7:0] = val1[7:0] else val2[7:0] if APSR.GE[1] == 1 then res[15:8] = val1[15:8] else val2[15:8] if APSR.GE[2] == 1 then res[23:16] = val1[23:16] else val2[23:16] if APSR.GE[3] == 1 then res[31:24] = val1[31:24] else val2[31:24] </pre>
<code>__sadd16</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if sum1 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if sum2 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>
<code>__sadd8</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if sum1 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0 if sum2 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0 if sum3 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0 if sum4 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0 </pre>
<code>__sasx</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if diff ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if sum ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>
<code>__ssax</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if sum ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if diff ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>
<code>__ssub16</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if diff1 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if diff2 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>
<code>__ssub8</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if diff1 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0 if diff2 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0 if diff3 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0 if diff4 ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0 </pre>
<code>__uadd16</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if sum1 ≥ 0x10000 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if sum2 ≥ 0x10000 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>
<code>__uadd8</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if sum1 ≥ 0x100 then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0 if sum2 ≥ 0x100 then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0 if sum3 ≥ 0x100 then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0 if sum4 ≥ 0x100 then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0 </pre>
<code>__uasx</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	<pre> if diff ≥ 0 then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00 if sum ≥ 0x10000 then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00 </pre>

**Table 12-4 ARMv6 SIMD instruction intrinsics and APSR GE flags (continued)**

<b>Intrinsic</b>	<b>APSR.GE flag action</b>	<b>APSR.GE operation</b>
<code>__usax</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	if $\text{sum} \geq 0 \times 10000$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[1:0] = 11$ else $00$ if $\text{diff} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[3:2] = 11$ else $00$
<code>__usub16</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	if $\text{diff1} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[1:0] = 11$ else $00$ if $\text{diff2} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[3:2] = 11$ else $00$
<code>__usub8</code>	Sets or clears GE flags	if $\text{diff1} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[0] = 1$ else $0$ if $\text{diff2} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[1] = 1$ else $0$ if $\text{diff3} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[2] = 1$ else $0$ if $\text{diff4} \geq 0$ then $\text{APSR.GE}[3] = 1$ else $0$

## 12.5 \_\_qadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit integer arithmetic additions in parallel, saturating the results to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two 16-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second two 16-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_qadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The saturated addition of the low halfwords in the low halfword of the return value
- The saturated addition of the high halfwords in the high halfword of the return value.

The returned results are saturated to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]
                               *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[QADD16.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)



## 12.6 \_\_qadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four 8-bit integer additions, saturating the results to the 8-bit signed integer range  $-2^7 \leq x \leq 2^7 - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands

*val2*

holds the other four 8-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_qadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The saturated addition of the first byte of each operand in the first byte of the return value
- The saturated addition of the second byte of each operand in the second byte of the return value
- The saturated addition of the third byte of each operand in the third byte of the return value
- The saturated addition of the fourth byte of each operand in the fourth byte of the return value.

The returned results are saturated to the 8-bit signed integer range  $-2^7 \leq x \leq 2^7 - 1$ .

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int add_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qadd8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]
                               res[15:8] = val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]
                               res[23:16] = val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]
                               res[31:24] = val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]
                               */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[QADD8.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.7 \_\_qasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the one operand, then add the high halfwords and subtract the low halfwords, saturating the results to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the subtraction in the low halfword, and the first operand for the addition in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the subtraction in the high halfword, and the second operand for the addition in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_qasx intrinsic returns:

- The saturated subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The saturated addition of the high halfword in the first operand and the low halfword in the second operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The returned results are saturated to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int exchange_add_and_subtract(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]
                             res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[15:0]
                             */
    /* Alternative equivalent representation:
       val2[15:0][31:16] = val2[31:16][15:0]
       res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]
       res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]
       */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[QASX.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.8 \_\_qsax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QSAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of one operand, then subtract the high halfwords and add the low halfwords, saturating the results to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qsax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the addition in the low halfword, and the first operand for the subtraction in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the addition in the high halfword, and the second operand for the subtraction in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_qsax intrinsic returns:

- The saturated addition of the low halfword of the first operand and the high halfword of the second operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The saturated subtraction of the low halfword of the second operand from the high halfword of the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The returned results are saturated to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int exchange_subtract_and_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qsax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]
                             res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]
                             */
    /* Alternative equivalent representation:
       val2[15:0][31:16] = val2[31:16][15:0]
       res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]
       res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]
       */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[QSAX.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.9 \_\_qsub16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QSUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit integer subtractions, saturating the results to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qsub16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_qsub16 intrinsic returns:

- The saturated subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the returned result.
- The saturated subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the returned result.

The returned results are saturated to the 16-bit signed integer range  $-2^{15} \leq x \leq 2^{15} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qsub16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]
                               */* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[QSUB16](#).

[Saturating instructions](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.10 \_\_qsub8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a QSUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four 8-bit integer subtractions, saturating the results to the 8-bit signed integer range  $-2^7 \leq x \leq 2^7 - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __qsub8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands.

### Return value

The \_\_qsub8 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

The returned results are saturated to the 8-bit signed integer range  $-2^7 \leq x \leq 2^7 - 1$ .

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int subtract_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __qsub8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                               res[15:8] = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                               res[23:16] = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                               res[31:24] = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                               */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[QSUB8.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.11 \_\_sadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed integer additions. The GE bits in the *Application Program Status Register* (APSR) are set according to the results of the additions.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two 16-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second two 16-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_sadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfwords in the low halfword of the return value.
- The addition of the high halfwords in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]
                               */   /* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic on page 12-841.](#)

### Related information

[SADD16.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.12 \_\_sadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four 8-bit signed integer additions. The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results of the additions.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_sadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the first bytes from each operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The addition of the second bytes of each operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The addition of the third bytes of each operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The addition of the fourth bytes of each operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[7:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[15:8] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[23:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[31:24] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0.

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sadd16(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]
                                res[15:8] = val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]
                                res[23:16] = val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]
                                res[31:24] = val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic on page 12-841.](#)

### Related information

[SADD8.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.13 \_\_sasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, add the high halfwords and subtract the low halfwords. The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the subtraction in the low halfword, and the first operand for the addition in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the subtraction in the high halfword, and the second operand for the addition in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_sasx intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The addition of the high halfword in the first operand and the low halfword in the second operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int exchange_subtract_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]
                             *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[15:0]
                             */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic](#) on page 12-841.

### Related information

[SASX](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).



## 12.14 \_\_sel intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SEL instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to select bytes from the input parameters, whereby the bytes that are selected depend on the results of previous SIMD instruction intrinsics. The results of previous SIMD instruction intrinsics are represented by the *Greater than or Equal* flags in the APSR.

The \_\_sel intrinsic works equally well on both halfword and byte operand intrinsic results. This is because halfword operand operations set two (duplicate) GE bits per value. For example, the \_\_sasx intrinsic.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sel(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds four selectable bytes

*val2*

holds four selectable bytes.

### Return value

The \_\_sel intrinsic selects bytes from the input parameters and returns them in the return value, *res*, according to the following criteria:

```
if APSR.GE[0] == 1 then res[7:0] = val1[7:0] else res[7:0] = val2[7:0]
if APSR.GE[1] == 1 then res[15:8] = val1[15:8] else res[15:8] = val2[15:8]
if APSR.GE[2] == 1 then res[23:16] = val1[23:16] else res[23:16] = val2[23:16]
if APSR.GE[3] == 1 then res[31:24] = val1[31:24] else res = val2[31:24]
```

### Examples

```
unsigned int ge_filter(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sel(val1, val2);
    return res;
}

unsigned int foo(unsigned int a, unsigned int b)
{
    int res;
    int filtered_res;
    res = __sasx(a, b); /* This intrinsic sets the GE flags */
    filtered_res = ge_filter(res); /* Filter the results of the __sasx */
                                /* intrinsic. Some results are filtered */
                                /* out based on the GE flags. */
    return filtered_res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)  
[12.11 \\_\\_saddl16 intrinsic on page 12-838.](#)  
[12.13 \\_\\_sasx intrinsic on page 12-840.](#)  
[12.34 \\_\\_ssax intrinsic on page 12-862.](#)  
[12.36 \\_\\_ssub8 intrinsic on page 12-864.](#)  
[12.35 \\_\\_ssub16 intrinsic on page 12-863.](#)  
[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

## Related information

[SEL](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.15 \_\_shadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two signed 16-bit integer additions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two 16-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second two 16-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_shadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the low halfwords from each operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved addition of the high halfwords from each operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int add_and_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]) >> 1
                                */
    res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]) >> 1
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SHADD16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.16 \_\_shadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four signed 8-bit integer additions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_shadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the first bytes from each operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the second bytes from each operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the third bytes from each operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the fourth bytes from each operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int add_and_half(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shadd8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = (val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]) >> 1
                                res[15:8] = (val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]) >> 1
                                res[23:16] = (val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]) >> 1
                                res[31:24] = (val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SHADD8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.17 \_\_shasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the two halfwords of one operand, perform one signed 16-bit integer addition and one signed 16-bit subtraction, and halve the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_shasx intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_add_subtract_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]) >> 1
                               *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]) >> 1
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SHASX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.18 \_\_shsax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHSAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the two halfwords of one operand, perform one signed 16-bit integer subtraction and one signed 16-bit addition, and halve the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shsax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_shsax intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the low halfword in the first operand and the high halfword in the second operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int exchange_subtract_add_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shsax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]) >> 1
                               *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]) >> 1
                               */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SHSAX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.19 \_\_shsub16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHSUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two signed 16-bit integer subtractions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shsub16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_shsub16 intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_and_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shsub16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]) >> 1
                                *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SHSUB16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.20 \_\_shsub8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a SHSUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four signed 8-bit integer subtractions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __shsub8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four operands

*val2*

holds the second four operands.

### Return value

The \_\_shsub8 intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int subtract_and_half(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __shsub8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = (val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]) >> 1
                                res[15:8] = (val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]) >> 1
                                res[23:16] = (val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]) >> 1
                                res[31:24] = (val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SHSUB8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)



## 12.21 \_\_smlad intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLAD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two signed 16-bit multiplications, adding both results to a 32-bit accumulate operand. The Q bit is set if the addition overflows. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smlad(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlad intrinsic returns the product of each multiplication added to the accumulate value, as a 32-bit integer.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_accumulate(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlad(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                                     res[31:0] = p1 + p2 + val3[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLAD](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.22 \_\_smladx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLADX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, perform two signed 16-bit multiplications, adding both results to a 32-bit accumulate operand. The Q bit is set if the addition overflows. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smladx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smladx intrinsic returns the product of each multiplication added to the accumulate value, as a 32-bit integer.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_accumulate(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smladx(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[31:16]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[15:0]
                                     res[31:0] = p1 + p2 + val3[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLAD](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.23 \_\_smlald intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLALD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two signed 16-bit multiplications, adding both results to a 64-bit accumulate operand. Overflow is only possible as a result of the 64-bit addition. This overflow is not detected if it occurs. Instead, the result wraps around modulo  $2^{64}$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned long long __smlald(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned long long val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlald intrinsic returns the product of each multiplication added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_accumulate(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlald(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                                     sum = p1 + p2 + val3[63:32][31:0]
                                     res[63:32] = sum[63:32]
                                     res[31:0] = sum[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SMLALD.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.24 \_\_smlaldx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLALDX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, and perform two signed 16-bit multiplications, adding both results to a 64-bit accumulate operand. Overflow is only possible as a result of the 64-bit addition. This overflow is not detected if it occurs. Instead, the result wraps around modulo  $2^{64}$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned long long __smlaldx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned long long val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlald intrinsic returns the product of each multiplication added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int dual_multiply_accumulate(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlald(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[31:16]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[15:0]
                                     sum = p1 + p2 + val3[63:32][31:0]
                                     res[63:32] = sum[63:32]
                                     res[31:0] = sum[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SMLALDX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.25 \_\_smlsd intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLSD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed multiplications, take the difference of the products, subtracting the high halfword product from the low halfword product, and add the difference to a 32-bit accumulate operand. The Q bit is set if the accumulation overflows. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications or the subtraction.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smlsd(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlsd intrinsic returns the difference of the product of each multiplication, added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_diff_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlsd(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                                     res[31:0] = p1 - p2 + val3[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLSD](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.26 \_\_smlsdx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLSDX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords in the second operand, then perform two 16-bit signed multiplications. The difference of the products is added to a 32-bit accumulate operand. The Q bit is set if the addition overflows. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications or the subtraction.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smlsdx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlsd intrinsic returns the difference of the product of each multiplication, added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_diff_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlsd(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[31:16]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[15:0]
                                     res[31:0] = p1 - p2 + val3[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLSDX](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.27 \_\_smlsld intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLS LD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed multiplications, take the difference of the products, subtracting the high halfword product from the low halfword product, and add the difference to a 64-bit accumulate operand. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications or the subtraction. Overflow can occur as a result of the 64-bit addition, and this overflow is not detected. Instead, the result wraps round to modulo  $2^{64}$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned long long __smlsld(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned long long val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlsld intrinsic returns the difference of the product of each multiplication, added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

```
unsigned long long dual_multiply_diff_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned long long val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlsld(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                                     res[63:0] = p1 - p2 + val3[63:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLS LD](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.28 \_\_smlsldx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMLS�DX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, perform two 16-bit multiplications, adding the difference of the products to a 64-bit accumulate operand. Overflow cannot occur during the multiplications or the subtraction. Overflow can occur as a result of the 64-bit addition, and this overflow is not detected. Instead, the result wraps round to modulo  $2^{64}$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned long long __smlsldx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned long long val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication

*val3*

holds the accumulate value.

### Return value

The \_\_smlsld intrinsic returns the difference of the product of each multiplication, added to the accumulate value.

### Examples

```
unsigned long long dual_multiply_diff_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned
long long val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smlsld(val1, val2, val3); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[31:16]
                                     p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[15:0]
                                     res[63:0] = p1 - p2 + val3[63:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMLS�DX](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).



## 12.29 \_\_smuad intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMUAD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed multiplications, adding the products together. The Q bit is set if the addition overflows.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smuad(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication.

### Return value

The \_\_smuad intrinsic returns the products of the two 16-bit signed multiplications.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smuad(val1, val2); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                               p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                               res[31:0] = p1 + p2
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SMUAD.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.30 \_\_smuadx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMUADX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, perform two 16-bit signed integer multiplications, and add the products together. Exchanging the halfwords of the second operand produces top  $\times$  bottom and bottom  $\times$  top multiplication. The Q flag is set if the addition overflows. The multiplications cannot overflow.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smuadx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication.

### Return value

The \_\_smuadx intrinsic returns the products of the two 16-bit signed multiplications.

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_dual_multiply_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smuadx(val1, val2); /* val2[31:16][15:0] = val2[15:0][31:16]
                                p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                                p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                                res[31:0] = p1 + p2
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SMUADX](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.31 \_\_smusd intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMUSD instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed multiplications, taking the difference of the products by subtracting the high halfword product from the low halfword product.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smusd(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication.

### Return value

The \_\_smusd intrinsic returns the difference of the products of the two 16-bit signed multiplications.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smusd(val1, val2); /* p1 = val1[15:0] x val2[15:0]
                               p2 = val1[31:16] x val2[31:16]
                               res[31:0] = p1 - p2
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SMUSD.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.32 \_\_smusdx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SMUSD<sub>X</sub> instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed multiplications, subtracting one of the products from the other. The halfwords of the second operand are exchanged before performing the arithmetic. This produces top × bottom and bottom × top multiplication.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __smusdx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each multiplication

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each multiplication.

### Return value

The \_\_smusdx intrinsic returns the difference of the products of the two 16-bit signed multiplications.

### Examples

```
unsigned int dual_multiply_prods(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __smuad(val1, val2); /* p1 = val1[15:0] × val2[31:16]
                               p2 = val1[31:16] × val2[15:0]
                               res[31:0] = p1 - p2
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SMUSD<sub>X</sub>.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.33 \_\_ssat16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SSAT16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to saturate two signed 16-bit values to a selected signed range.

The Q bit is set if either operation saturates.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __saturate_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the two signed 16-bit values to be saturated

*val2*

is the bit position for saturation, an integral constant expression in the range 1 to 16.

### Return value

The \_\_ssat16 intrinsic returns:

- The signed saturation of the low halfword in *val1*, saturated to the bit position specified in *val2* and returned in the low halfword of the return value.
- The signed saturation of the high halfword in *val1*, saturated to the bit position specified in *val2* and returned in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int saturate_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __ssat16(val1, val2); /* Saturate halfwords in val1 to the signed
                                range specified by the bit position in val2 */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[SSAT16.](#)

[Saturating instructions.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.34 \_\_ssax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SSAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the two halfwords of one operand and perform one 16-bit integer subtraction and one 16-bit addition.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ssax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the addition in the low halfword, and the first operand for the subtraction in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the addition in the high halfword, and the second operand for the subtraction in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_ssax intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfword in the first operand and the high halfword in the second operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

```

unsigned int exchange_subtract_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __ssax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]
                             */* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]
    return res;
}

```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic on page 12-841.](#)

### Related information

[SSAX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.35 \_\_ssub16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SSUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit signed integer subtractions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ssub16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operands of each subtraction in the low and the high halfwords

*val2*

holds the second operands for each subtraction in the low and the high halfwords.

### Return value

The \_\_ssub16 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __ssub16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]
                               *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]
    */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic](#) on page 12-841.

### Related information

[SSUB16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.36 \_\_ssub8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SSUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four 8-bit signed integer subtractions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __ssub8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands of each subtraction

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands of each subtraction.

### Return value

The \_\_ssub8 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first bytes of the return value.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[8:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[15:8] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[23:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[31:24] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int subtract_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __ssub8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                               res[15:8] = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                               res[23:16] = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                               res[31:24] = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                               */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

[12.14 \\_\\_sel intrinsic on page 12-841.](#)



## Related information

[SSUB8](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.37 \_\_sxtab16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SXTAB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to extract two 8-bit values from the second operand (at bit positions [7:0] and [23:16]), sign-extend them to 16-bits each, and add the results to the first operand.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sxtab16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the values that the extracted and sign-extended values are added to

*val2*

holds the two 8-bit values to be extracted and sign-extended.

### Return value

The \_\_sxtab16 intrinsic returns the addition of *val1* and *val2*, where the 8-bit values in *val2*[7:0] and *val2*[23:16] have been extracted and sign-extended prior to the addition.

### Examples

```
unsigned int extract_sign_extend_and_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sxtab16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0]
                                = val1[15:0] + SignExtended(val2[7:0])
                                res[31:16]
                                = val1[31:16] + SignExtended(val2[23:16])
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SXTAB16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.38 \_\_sxtb16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts an SXTB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to extract two 8-bit values from an operand and sign-extend them to 16 bits each.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __sxtb16(unsigned int val)
```

Where *val*[7:0] and *val*[23:16] hold the two 8-bit values to be sign-extended.

### Return value

The \_\_sxtb16 intrinsic returns the 8-bit values sign-extended to 16-bit values.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int sign_extend(unsigned int val)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __sxtb16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = SignExtended(val[7:0])
                               /* res[31:16] = SignExtended(val[23:16])
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[SXTB16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.39 \_\_uadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit unsigned integer additions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two halfword summands for each addition

*val2*

holds the second two halfword summands for each addition.

### Return value

The \_\_uadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfwords in each operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The addition of the high halfwords in each operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0x10000$  then APSR.GE[0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0x10000$  then APSR.GE[1] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]
                               *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UADD16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.40 \_\_uadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit integer additions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands for each addition

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit summands for each addition.

### Return value

The \_\_uadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the first bytes in each operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The addition of the second bytes in each operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The addition of the third bytes in each operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The addition of the fourth bytes in each operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[7:0] \geq 0x100$  then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[15:8] \geq 0x100$  then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[23:16] \geq 0x100$  then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[31:24] \geq 0x100$  then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0.

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int add_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uadd8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]
                               res[15:8] = val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]
                               res[23:16] = val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]
                               res[31:24] = val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]
                               */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UADD8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.41 \_\_uasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the two halfwords of the second operand, add the high halfwords and subtract the low halfwords.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the subtraction in the low halfword, and the first operand for the addition in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the subtraction in the high halfword and the second operand for the addition in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_uasx intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The addition of the high halfword in the first operand and the low halfword in the second operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0x10000$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int exchange_add_subtract(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]
                             *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[15:0]
                             */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UASX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.42 \_\_uhadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two unsigned 16-bit integer additions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two 16-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second two 16-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_uhadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the low halfwords in each operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved addition of the high halfwords in each operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int add_halfwords_then_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]) >> 1
                                *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[UHADD16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.43 \_\_uhadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit integer additions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_uhadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the first bytes in each operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the second bytes in each operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the third bytes in each operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The halved addition of the fourth bytes in each operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_bytes_then_halfve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhadd8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = (val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]) >> 1
                                res[15:8] = (val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]) >> 1
                                res[23:16] = (val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]) >> 1
                                res[31:24] = (val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UHADD8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)



## 12.44 \_\_uhasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, add the high halfwords and subtract the low halfwords, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the subtraction in the low halfword, and the first operand for the addition in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the subtraction in the high halfword, and the second operand for the addition in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_uhasx intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand.
- The halved addition of the high halfword in the first operand and the low halfword in the second operand.

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_add_subtract(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]) >> 1
                               *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] + val2[15:0]) >> 1
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UHASX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.45 \_\_uhsax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHSAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, subtract the high halfwords and add the low halfwords, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhsax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the addition in the low halfword, and the first operand for the subtraction in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the addition in the high halfword, and the second operand for the subtraction in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_uhsax intrinsic returns:

- The halved addition of the high halfword in the second operand and the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_subtract_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhsax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]) >> 1
                               *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]) >> 1
                               */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UHSAX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.46 \_\_uhsb16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHSUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two unsigned 16-bit integer subtractions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhsb16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two 16-bit operands

*val2*

holds the second two 16-bit operands.

### Return value

The \_\_uhsb16 intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_and_halve(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhsb16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = (val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]) >> 1
                                *      res[31:16] = (val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UHSUB16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.47 \_\_uhsb8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UHSUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit integer subtractions, halving the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uhsb8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands.

### Return value

The \_\_uhsb8 intrinsic returns:

- The halved subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The halved subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_and_half(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uhsb8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = (val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]) >> 1
                                res[15:8] = (val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]) >> 1
                                res[23:16] = (val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]) >> 1
                                res[31:24] = (val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]) >> 1
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UHSUB8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.48 \_\_uqadd16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQADD16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two unsigned 16-bit integer additions, saturating the results to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqadd16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two halfword summands

*val2*

holds the second two halfword summands.

### Return value

The \_\_uqadd16 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfword in the first operand and the low halfword in the second operand.
- The addition of the high halfword in the first operand and the high halfword in the second operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqadd16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[15:0]
                                */   /* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[31:16]
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[UQADD16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.49 \_\_uqadd8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQADD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit integer additions, saturating the results to the 8-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqadd8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit summands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit summands.

### Return value

The \_\_uqadd8 intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the first bytes in each operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The addition of the second bytes in each operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The addition of the third bytes in each operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The addition of the fourth bytes in each operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 8-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int add_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqadd8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] + val2[7:0]
                                res[15:8] = val1[15:8] + val2[15:8]
                                res[23:16] = val1[23:16] + val2[23:16]
                                res[31:24] = val1[31:24] + val2[31:24]
                                */
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UQADD8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.50 \_\_uqasx intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQASX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand and perform one unsigned 16-bit integer addition and one unsigned 16-bit subtraction, saturating the results to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqasx(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second two halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_uqasx intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_add_subtract(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqasx(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[31:16]
                               *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] + val2[15:0]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[UQASX](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.51 \_\_uqsax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQSAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand and perform one unsigned 16-bit integer subtraction and one unsigned 16-bit addition, saturating the results to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqsax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first 16-bit operand for the addition in the low halfword, and the first 16-bit operand for the subtraction in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second 16-bit halfword for the addition in the high halfword, and the second 16-bit halfword for the subtraction in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_uqsax intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfword in the first operand and the high halfword in the second operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int exchange_subtract_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqsax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]
                               *      res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UQSAX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)



## 12.52 \_\_uqsub16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQSUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two unsigned 16-bit integer subtractions, saturating the results to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqsub16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first halfword operands for each subtraction

*val2*

holds the second halfword operands for each subtraction.

### Return value

The \_\_uqsub16 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 16-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^{16} - 1$ .

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqsub16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]
                                */   res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[UQSUB16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.53 \_\_uqsub8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UQSUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit integer subtractions, saturating the results to the 8-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uqsub8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands.

### Return value

The \_\_uqsub8 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

The results are saturated to the 8-bit unsigned integer range  $0 \leq x \leq 2^8 - 1$ .

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int subtract_bytes(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uqsub8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                                res[15:8] = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                                res[23:16] = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                                res[31:24] = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                                */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UQSUB8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.54 \_\_usad8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USAD8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit subtractions, and add the absolute values of the differences together, returning the result as a single unsigned integer.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usad8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands for the subtractions

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands for the subtractions.

### Return value

The \_\_usad8 intrinsic returns the sum of the absolute differences of:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand.

The sum is returned as a single unsigned integer.

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int subtract_add_abs(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __usad8(val1, val2); /* absdiff1 = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                                absdiff2 = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                                absdiff3 = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                                absdiff4 = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                                res[31:0] = absdiff1 + absdiff2 + absdiff3
                                    + absdiff4
                                */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[USAD8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.55 \_\_usada8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USADA8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four unsigned 8-bit subtractions, and add the absolute values of the differences to a 32-bit accumulate operand.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usada8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int val3)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands for the subtractions

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands for the subtractions

*val3*

holds the accumulation value.

### Return value

The \_\_usada8 intrinsic returns the sum of the absolute differences of the following bytes, added to the accumulation value:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand.

### Examples

---

```

unsigned int subtract_add_diff_accumulate(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2, unsigned int
val3)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __usada8(val1, val2, val3); /* absdiff1 = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                                     absdiff2 = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                                     absdiff3 = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                                     absdiff4 = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                                     sum = absdiff1 + absdiff2 + absdiff3
                                     + absdiff4
                                     res[31:0] = sum[31:0] + val3[31:0]
                                     */
    return res;
}

```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[USADA8](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

## 12.56 \_\_usat16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USAT16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to saturate two signed 16-bit values to a selected unsigned range. The Q flag is set if either operation saturates.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usat16(unsigned int val1, /* constant */ unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the two 16-bit values that are to be saturated

*val2*

specifies the bit position for saturation, and must be an integral constant expression.

### Return value

The \_\_usat16 intrinsic returns the saturation of the two signed 16-bit values, as non-negative values.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int saturate_halfwords(unsigned int val1)
{
    unsigned int res;
    #define VAL2 12
    res = __usat16(val1, VAL2); /* Saturate halfwords in val1 to the unsigned
                                range specified by the bit position in VAL2
                                */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[USAT16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.57 \_\_usax intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USAX instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to exchange the halfwords of the second operand, subtract the high halfwords and add the low halfwords.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usax(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first operand for the addition in the low halfword, and the first operand for the subtraction in the high halfword

*val2*

holds the second operand for the addition in the high halfword, and the second operand for the subtraction in the low halfword.

### Return value

The \_\_usax intrinsic returns:

- The addition of the low halfword in the first operand and the high halfword in the second operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0x10000$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int exchange_subtract_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __usax(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] + val2[31:16]
                             */* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[15:0]
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[USAX.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.58 \_\_usub16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USUB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform two 16-bit unsigned integer subtractions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usub16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first two halfword operands

*val2*

holds the second two halfword operands.

### Return value

The \_\_usub16 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the low halfword in the second operand from the low halfword in the first operand, in the low halfword of the return value.
- The subtraction of the high halfword in the second operand from the high halfword in the first operand, in the high halfword of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[15:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1:0] = 11 else 00.
- If  $res[31:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3:2] = 11 else 00.

### Examples

```
unsigned int subtract_halfwords(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __usub16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = val1[15:0] - val2[15:0]
                                */* res[31:16] = val1[31:16] - val2[31:16]
    return res;
}
```

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[USUB16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.59 \_\_usub8 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a USUB8 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to perform four 8-bit unsigned integer subtractions.

The GE bits in the APSR are set according to the results.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __usub8(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where:

*val1*

holds the first four 8-bit operands

*val2*

holds the second four 8-bit operands.

### Return value

The \_\_usub8 intrinsic returns:

- The subtraction of the first byte in the second operand from the first byte in the first operand, in the first byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the second byte in the second operand from the second byte in the first operand, in the second byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the third byte in the second operand from the third byte in the first operand, in the third byte of the return value.
- The subtraction of the fourth byte in the second operand from the fourth byte in the first operand, in the fourth byte of the return value.

Each bit in APSR.GE is set or cleared for each byte in the return value, depending on the results of the operation. If *res* is the return value, then:

- If  $res[7:0] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[0] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[15:8] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[1] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[23:16] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[2] = 1 else 0.
- If  $res[31:24] \geq 0$  then APSR.GE[3] = 1 else 0.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int subtract(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __usub8(val1, val2); /* res[7:0] = val1[7:0] - val2[7:0]
                               res[15:8] = val1[15:8] - val2[15:8]
                               res[23:16] = val1[23:16] - val2[23:16]
                               res[31:24] = val1[31:24] - val2[31:24]
                               */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[USUB8.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)



## 12.60 \_\_uxtab16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UXTAB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to extract two 8-bit values from one operand, zero-extend them to 16 bits each, and add the results to two 16-bit values from another operand.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uxtab16(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
```

Where *val2*[7:0] and *val2*[23:16] hold the two 8-bit values to be zero-extended.

### Return value

The \_\_uxtab16 intrinsic returns the 8-bit values in *val2*, zero-extended to 16-bit values and added to *val1*.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int extend_add(unsigned int val1, unsigned int val2)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uxtab16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = ZeroExt(val2[7:0] to 16 bits)
                                + val1[15:0]
                                res[31:16] = ZeroExt(val2[31:16] to 16 bits)
                                + val1[31:16]
                                */
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics on page 10-769.](#)

### Related information

[UXTAB16.](#)

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary.](#)

## 12.61 \_\_uxtb16 intrinsic

This intrinsic inserts a UXTB16 instruction into the instruction stream generated by the compiler.

It enables you to extract two 8-bit values from an operand and zero-extend them to 16 bits each.

### Syntax

```
unsigned int __uxtb16(unsigned int val)
```

Where `val[7:0]` and `val[23:16]` hold the two 8-bit values to be zero-extended.

### Return value

The \_\_uxtb16 intrinsic returns the 8-bit values zero-extended to 16-bit values.

### Examples

---

```
unsigned int zero_extend(unsigned int val)
{
    unsigned int res;
    res = __uxtb16(val1, val2); /* res[15:0] = ZeroExtended(val[7:0])
                               /* res[31:16] = ZeroExtended(val[23:16])
    return res;
}
```

---

### Related references

[10.147 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics](#) on page 10-769.

### Related information

[UXTB16](#).

[ARM and Thumb instruction summary](#).

# Chapter 13

## Via File Syntax

Describes the syntax of via files accepted by the armcc.

It contains the following sections:

- [\*13.1 Overview of via files\*](#) on page 13-892.
- [\*13.2 Via file syntax rules\*](#) on page 13-893.

## 13.1 Overview of via files

Via files are plain text files that allow you to specify compiler command-line arguments and options.

Typically, you use a via file to overcome the command-line length limitations. However, you might want to create multiple via files that:

- Group similar arguments and options together.
- Contain different sets of arguments and options to be used in different scenarios.

---

**Note**

In general, you can use a via file to specify any command-line option to a tool, including `--via`. This means that you can call multiple nested via files from within a via file.

---

### Via file evaluation

When the compiler is invoked it:

1. Replaces the first specified `--via via_file` argument with the sequence of argument words extracted from the via file, including recursively processing any nested `--via` commands in the via file.
2. Processes any subsequent `--via via_file` arguments in the same way, in the order they are presented.

That is, via files are processed in the order you specify them, and each via file is processed completely including processing nested via files before processing the next via file.

### Related references

[13.2 Via file syntax rules on page 13-893.](#)

[8.194 --via=filename on page 8-544.](#)

## 13.2 Via file syntax rules

Via files must conform to some syntax rules.

- A via file is a text file containing a sequence of words. Each word in the text file is converted into an argument string and passed to the tool.
- Words are separated by whitespace, or the end of a line, except in delimited strings, for example:

```
--c90 --strict (two words)
```

```
--c90--strict (one word)
```

- The end of a line is treated as whitespace, for example:

```
--c90
--strict
```

This is equivalent to:

```
--c90 --strict
```

- Strings enclosed in quotation marks ("), or apostrophes (') are treated as a single word. Within a quoted word, an apostrophe is treated as an ordinary character. Within an apostrophe delimited word, a quotation mark is treated as an ordinary character.

Use quotation marks to delimit filenames or path names that contain spaces, for example:

```
-I C:\My Project\includes (three words)
```

```
-I "C:\My Project\includes" (two words)
```

Use apostrophes to delimit words that contain quotes, for example:

```
-DNAME='ARM Compiler' (one word)
```

- Characters enclosed in parentheses are treated as a single word, for example:

```
--option(x, y, z) (one word)
```

```
--option (x, y, z) (two words)
```

- Within quoted or apostrophe delimited strings, you can use a backslash (\) character to escape the quote, apostrophe, and backslash characters.
- A word that occurs immediately next to a delimited word is treated as a single word, for example:

```
-I"C:\Project\includes"
```

This is treated as the single word:

```
-IC:\Project\includes
```

- Lines beginning with a semicolon (;) or a hash (#) character as the first nonwhitespace character are comment lines. A semicolon or hash character that appears anywhere else in a line is not treated as the start of a comment, for example:

```
-o objectname.axf ;this is not a comment
```

A comment ends at the end of a line, or at the end of the file. There are no multi-line comments, and there are no part-line comments.

- Lines that include the preprocessor option `-Dsymbol="value"` must be delimited with a single quote, either as `'-Dsymbol="value"'` or as `-Dsymbol=' "value" '`. For example:

```
-c -DFOO_VALUE=' "FOO_VALUE" '
```

### Related concepts

[13.1 Overview of via files on page 13-892.](#)

### Related references

[8.194 --via=filename on page 8-544.](#)

## Chapter 14

# Summary Table of GNU Language Extensions

Describes ARM compiler support for GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages.

It contains the following sections:

- [14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.](#)

## 14.1 Supported GNU extensions

Describes ARM compiler support for GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages.

**Table 14-1 Supported GNU extensions**

GNU extension	Origin	Modes supported
<a href="#">10.4 <code>__alignof__</code> on page 10-610</a>	GCC-Specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Aggregate initializer elements for automatic variables	Standard C99, Standard C++.	C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Alternate keywords	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
asm keyword	Standard C++.	C++, GNU C90, GNU C++.
Assembler labels	-	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Case ranges	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Cast of a union	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99.
Character escape sequence	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Compound literals	Standard C99.	C99, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Conditional statements with omitted operands	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Designated initializers	Standard C99.	C99, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Dollar signs in identifiers	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Extended lvalues <sup>f</sup>	Standard C++.	C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.30 <i>Function attributes</i> on page 10-640</a>	-	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.154 <i>GNU built-in functions</i> on page 10-780</a>	-	-
Inline functions	Standard C99, Standard C++.	C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Labels as values	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Pointer arithmetic on void pointers and function pointers	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99.
Statement expressions	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Unnamed embedded structures or unions	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.57 <code>__attribute__((aligned))</code> type attribute on page 10-669</a>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.63 <code>__attribute__((aligned))</code> variable attribute on page 10-675</a>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.64 <code>__attribute__((deprecated))</code> variable attribute on page 10-676</a>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<a href="#">10.58 <code>__attribute__((packed))</code> type attribute on page 10-670</a>	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.

<sup>f</sup> Only accepted for certain values of `--gnu_version`.

**Table 14-1 Supported GNU extensions (continued)**

<b>GNU extension</b>	<b>Origin</b>	<b>Modes supported</b>
<i>10.66 __attribute__((packed)) variable attribute on page 10-678</i>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<i>10.67 __attribute__((section("name"))) variable attribute on page 10-679</i>	GCC-specific.	C99, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<i>10.59 __attribute__((transparent_union)) type attribute on page 10-671</i>	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99.
<i>10.68 __attribute__((unused)) variable attribute on page 10-680</i>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
<i>10.69 __attribute__((used)) variable attribute on page 10-681</i>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, GNU C90, GNU C99.
<i>10.71 __attribute__((weak)) variable attribute on page 10-683</i>	GCC-specific.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++.
Variadic macros	Standard C99.	C90, C99, C++, GNU C90, GNU C99, GNU C++ . <sup>g</sup>
Zero-length arrays	GCC-specific.	GNU C90, GNU C99.

#### **Related information**

*Which GNU language extensions are supported by the ARM Compiler?.*

<sup>g</sup> If -gnu is specified (GNU modes), GNU-specific syntax applies.



# Chapter 15

## Standard C Implementation Definition

Provides information required by the ISO C standard for conforming C implementations.

It contains the following sections:

- [\*15.1 Implementation definition\*](#) on page 15-898.
- [\*15.2 Translation\*](#) on page 15-899.
- [\*15.3 Environment\*](#) on page 15-900.
- [\*15.4 Identifiers\*](#) on page 15-902.
- [\*15.5 Characters\*](#) on page 15-903.
- [\*15.6 Integers\*](#) on page 15-905.
- [\*15.7 Floating-point\*](#) on page 15-906.
- [\*15.8 Arrays and pointers\*](#) on page 15-907.
- [\*15.9 Registers\*](#) on page 15-908.
- [\*15.10 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields\*](#) on page 15-909.
- [\*15.11 Qualifiers\*](#) on page 15-913.
- [\*15.12 Expression evaluation\*](#) on page 15-914.
- [\*15.13 Preprocessing directives\*](#) on page 15-915.
- [\*15.14 Library functions\*](#) on page 15-916.
- [\*15.15 Behaviors considered undefined by the ISO C Standard\*](#) on page 15-917.

## 15.1 Implementation definition

Appendix G of the ISO C standard (ISO/IEC 9899:1990 (E)) collates information about portability issues. Sub-clause G3 lists the behavior that each implementation must document. The following topics correspond to the relevant sections of sub-clause G3. They describe aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library, not defined by the ISO C standard, that are implementation-defined.

---

**Note**

The support for the `wctype.h` and `wchar.h` headers excludes wide file operations.

---

### Related references

- [15.2 Translation on page 15-899.](#)
- [15.3 Environment on page 15-900.](#)
- [15.4 Identifiers on page 15-902.](#)
- [15.5 Characters on page 15-903.](#)
- [15.6 Integers on page 15-905.](#)
- [15.7 Floating-point on page 15-906.](#)
- [15.8 Arrays and pointers on page 15-907.](#)
- [15.9 Registers on page 15-908.](#)
- [15.10 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields on page 15-909.](#)
- [15.11 Qualifiers on page 15-913.](#)
- [15.12 Expression evaluation on page 15-914.](#)
- [15.13 Preprocessing directives on page 15-915.](#)
- [15.14 Library functions on page 15-916.](#)

## 15.2 Translation

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to translation, as required by the ISO C standard.

Diagnostic messages produced by the compiler are of the form:

```
source-file, line-number: severity: error-code: explanation
```

where *severity* is one of:

[blank]

If the severity is blank, this is a remark and indicates common, but sometimes unconventional, use of C or C++. Remarks are not displayed by default. Use the `--remarks` option to display remark messages. Compilation continues.

Warning

Flags unusual conditions in your code that might indicate a problem. Compilation continues.

Error

Indicates a problem that causes the compilation to stop. For example, violations in the syntactic or semantic rules of the C or C++ language.

Internal fault

Indicates an internal problem with the compiler. Contact your supplier.

Here:

*error-code*

Is a number identifying the error type.

*explanation*

Is a text description of the error.

### Related references

[6 Compiler Diagnostic Messages on page 6-258.](#)

## 15.3 Environment

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to environment, as required by the ISO C standard requires.

The mapping of a command line from the ARM architecture-based environment into arguments to `main()` is implementation-specific. The generic ARM C library supports the following:

### `main()`

The arguments given to `main()` are the words of the command line not including input/output redirections, delimited by whitespace, except where the whitespace is contained in double quotes.

#### ————— **Note** —————

- A whitespace character is any character where the result of `isspace()` is true.
- A double quote or backslash character `\` inside double quotes must be preceded by a backslash character.
- An input/output redirection is not recognized inside double quotes.

### Interactive device

In a nonhosted implementation of the ARM C library, the term *interactive device* might be meaningless. The generic ARM C library supports a pair of devices, both called `:tt`, intended to handle keyboard input and VDU screen output. In the generic implementation:

- No buffering is done on any stream connected to `:tt` unless input/output redirection has occurred.
- If input/output redirection other than to `:tt` has occurred, full file buffering is used except that line buffering is used if both `stdout` and `stderr` were redirected to the same file.

### Redirecting standard input, output, and error streams

Using the generic ARM C library, the standard input, output and error streams can be redirected at runtime. For example, if `mycopy` is a program running on a host debugger that copies the standard input to the standard output, the following line runs the program:

```
mycopy < infile > outfile 2> errfile
```

and redirects the files as follows:

`stdin`

The standard input stream is redirected to `infile`.

`stdout`

The standard output stream is redirected to `outfile`.

`stderr`

The standard error stream is redirected to `errfile`.

The permitted redirections are:

`0< filename`

Reads `stdin` from `filename`.

`< filename`

Reads `stdin` from `filename`.

`1> filename`

Writes `stdout` to `filename`.

`> filename`

Writes `stdout` to `filename`.

`2> filename`

Writes `stderr` to `filename`.

2>&1           Writes stderr to the same place as stdout.  
>& *file*           Writes both stdout and stderr to *filename*.  
>> *filename*           Appends stdout to *filename*.  
>>& *filename*           Appends both stdout and stderr to *filename*.

To redirect stdin, stdout, and stderr on the target, you must define:

```
#pragma import(_main_redirection)
```

File redirection is done only if either:

- The invoking operating system supports it.
- The program reads and writes characters and has not replaced the C library functions `fputc()` and `fgetc()`.

## 15.4 Identifiers

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to identifiers, as required by the ISO C standard.

The following point applies to the identifiers expected by the compiler:

- Uppercase and lowercase characters are distinct in all internal and external identifiers. An identifier can also contain a dollar (\$) character unless the `--strict` compiler option is specified. To permit dollar signs in identifiers with the `--strict` option, also use the `--dollar` command-line option.

## 15.5 Characters

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to characters, as required by the ISO C standard.

The following points apply to the character sets expected by the compiler:

- Calling `setlocale(LC_CTYPE, "ISO8859-1")` makes the `isupper()` and `islower()` functions behave as expected over the full 8-bit Latin-1 alphabet, rather than over the 7-bit ASCII subset. The locale must be selected at link time.
- Source files are compiled according to the currently selected locale. You might have to change the locale using the `--locale` command-line option if the source file contains non-ASCII characters. If you do not specify `--locale`, the system locale is used.
- The compiler supports multibyte character sets, such as Unicode. You can control this support using the `--[no_]multibyte_chars` options.
- If the source file encoding is UTF-8 or UTF-16, and the file starts with a byte order mark then the compiler ignores the `--[no_]multibyte_chars` and `--locale` options and interprets the file as UTF-8 or UTF-16.
- Other properties of the source character set are host-specific.

The properties of the execution character set are target-specific. The ARM C and C++ libraries support the ISO 8859-1 (Latin-1 Alphabet) character set with the following consequences:

- The execution character set is identical to the source character set.
- There are eight bits in a character in the execution character set.
- There are four characters (bytes) in an `int`. If the memory system is:

### Little-endian

The bytes are ordered from least significant at the lowest address to most significant at the highest address.

### Big-endian

The bytes are ordered from least significant at the highest address to most significant at the lowest address.

- In C all character constants have type `int`. In C++ a character constant containing one character has the type `char` and a character constant containing more than one character has the type `int`. Up to four characters of the constant are represented in the integer value. The last character in the constant occupies the lowest-order byte of the integer value. Up to three preceding characters are placed at higher-order bytes. Unused bytes are filled with the NUL (`\0`) character.
- All integer character constants that contain a single character, or character escape sequence, are represented in both the source and execution character sets. The following table lists the supported character escape codes.

**Table 15-1 Character escape codes**

Escape sequence	Char value	Description
<code>\a</code>	7	Attention (bell)
<code>\b</code>	8	Backspace
<code>\t</code>	9	Horizontal tab
<code>\n</code>	10	New line (line feed)
<code>\v</code>	11	Vertical tab
<code>\f</code>	12	Form feed
<code>\r</code>	13	Carriage return

**Table 15-1 Character escape codes (continued)**

Escape sequence	Char value	Description
\xnn	0xnn	ASCII code in hexadecimal
\nnn	0nnn	ASCII code in octal

- Characters of the source character set in string literals and character constants map identically into the execution character set.
- Data items of type **char** are unsigned by default. They can be explicitly declared as **signed char** or **unsigned char**:
  - the `--signed_chars` option makes the **char** signed
  - the `--unsigned_chars` option makes the **char** unsigned.

———— **Note** —————

Care must be taken when mixing translation units that have been compiled with and without the `--signed_chars` and `--unsigned_chars` options, and that share interfaces or data structures.

The ARM ABI defines **char** as an unsigned byte, and this is the interpretation used by the C++ libraries supplied with the ARM compilation tools.

- Converting multibyte characters into the corresponding wide characters for a wide character constant does not use a locale. This is not relevant to the generic implementation.



## 15.6 Integers

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to integers, as required by the ISO C standard.

Integers are represented in two's complement form. The low word of a **long long** is at the low address in little-endian mode, and at the high address in big-endian mode.

## 15.7 Floating-point

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to floating-point operations, as required by the ISO C standard.

Floating-point quantities are stored in IEEE format:

- **float** values are represented by IEEE single-precision values
- **double** and **long double** values are represented by IEEE double-precision values.

For **double** and **long double** quantities the word containing the sign, the exponent, and the most significant part of the mantissa is stored with the lower machine address in big-endian mode and at the higher address in little-endian mode.

## 15.8 Arrays and pointers

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to arrays and pointers, as required by the ISO C standard.

The following statements apply to all pointers to objects in C and C++, except pointers to members:

- Adjacent bytes have addresses that differ by one.
- The macro `NULL` expands to the value 0.
- Casting between integers and pointers results in no change of representation.
- The compiler warns of casts between pointers to functions and pointers to data.
- The type `size_t` is defined as `unsigned int`.
- The type `ptrdiff_t` is defined as `signed int`.

## 15.9 Registers

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to registers, as required by the ISO C standard.

Using the ARM compiler, you can declare any number of local objects to have the storage class **register**.

## 15.10 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields, as required by the ISO C standard.

The ISO/IEC C standard requires the following implementation details to be documented for structured data types:

- The outcome when a member of a union is accessed using a member of different type.
- The padding and alignment of members of structures.
- Whether a plain **int** bitfield is treated as a **signed int** bitfield or as an **unsigned int** bitfield.
- The order of allocation of bitfields within a unit.
- Whether a bitfield can straddle a storage-unit boundary.
- The integer type chosen to represent the values of an enumeration type.

### Unions

When a member of a **union** is accessed using a member of a different type, the resulting value can be predicted from the representation of the original type. No error is given.

### Enumerations

An object of type **enum** is implemented in the smallest integral type that contains the range of the **enum**.

In C mode, and in C++ mode without `--enum_is_int`, if an **enum** contains only positive enumerator values, the storage type of the **enum** is the first *unsigned* type from the following list, according to the range of the enumerators in the **enum**. In other modes, and in cases where an **enum** contains any negative enumerator values, the storage type of the **enum** is the first of the following, according to the range of the enumerators in the **enum**:

- **unsigned char** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed char** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **unsigned short** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed short** if not using `--enum_is_int`
- **signed int**
- **unsigned int** except C with `--strict`
- **signed long long** except C with `--strict`
- **unsigned long long** except C with `--strict`.

---

#### Note

- In RVCT 4.0, the storage type of the **enum** being the first unsigned type from the list was only applicable in GNU (`--gnu`) mode.
- In ARM Compiler 4.1 and later, the storage type of the **enum** being the first unsigned type from the list applies irrespective of mode.

---

Implementing **enum** in this way can reduce data size. The command-line option `--enum_is_int` forces the underlying type of **enum** to at least as wide as **int**.

See the description of C language mappings in the *Procedure Call Standard for the ARM Architecture* specification for more information.

---

#### Note

Care must be taken when mixing translation units that have been compiled with and without the `--enum_is_int` option, and that share interfaces or data structures.

---

In strict C, enumerator values must be representable as **ints**. That is, they must be in the range -2147483648 to +2147483647, inclusive. A warning is issued for out-of-range enumerator values:

```
#66: enumeration value is out of "int" range
```

Such values are treated the same way as in C++, that is, they are treated as **unsigned int**, **long long**, or **unsigned long long**.

To ensure that out-of-range Warnings are reported, use the following command to change them into Errors:

```
armcc --diag_error=66 ...
```

## Padding and alignment of structures

The following points apply to:

- all C structures
- all C++ structures and classes not using virtual functions or base classes.

Structures can contain padding to ensure that fields are correctly aligned and that the structure itself is correctly aligned. The following diagram shows an example of a conventional, nonpacked structure. Bytes 1, 2, and 3 are padded to ensure correct field alignment. Bytes 11 and 12 are padded to ensure correct structure alignment. The `sizeof()` function returns the size of the structure including padding.

```
struct {char c; int x; short s;} ex1;
```

0	1	2	3
c	padding		
4	5	7	8
x			
9	10	11	12
s		padding	

**Figure 15-1 Conventional nonpacked structure example**

The compiler pads structures in one of the following ways, according to how the structure is defined:

- Structures that are defined as **static** or **extern** are padded with zeros.
- Structures on the stack or heap, such as those defined with `malloc()` or **auto**, are padded with whatever is previously stored in those memory locations. You cannot use `memcmp()` to compare padded structures defined in this way.

Use the `--remarks` option to view the messages that are generated when the compiler inserts padding in a **struct**.

Structures with empty initializers are permitted in C++:

```
struct
{
    int x;
} x = { };
```

However, if you are compiling C, or compiling C++ with the `--cpp` and `--c90` options, an error is generated.

## Bitfields

In nonpacked structures, ARM Compiler allocates bitfields in *containers*. A container is a correctly aligned object of a declared type.

Bitfields are allocated so that the first field specified occupies the lowest-addressed bits of the word, depending on configuration:

#### Little-endian

Lowest addressed means least significant.

#### Big-endian

Lowest addressed means most significant.

A bitfield container can be any of the integral types.

---

#### Note

---

In strict 1990 ISO Standard C, the only types permitted for a bit field are **int**, **signed int**, and **unsigned int**. For non-**int** bitfields, the compiler displays an error.

---

A plain bitfield, declared without either **signed** or **unsigned** qualifiers, is treated as **unsigned**. For example, `int x:10` allocates an unsigned integer of 10 bits.

A bitfield is allocated to the first container of the correct type that has a sufficient number of unallocated bits, for example:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    int y:20;
};
```

The first declaration creates an integer container and allocates 10 bits to `x`. At the second declaration, the compiler finds the existing integer container with a sufficient number of unallocated bits, and allocates `y` in the same container as `x`.

A bitfield is wholly contained within its container. A bitfield that does not fit in a container is placed in the next container of the same type. For example, the declaration of `z` overflows the container if an additional bitfield is declared for the structure:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    int y:20;
    int z:5;
};
```

The compiler pads the remaining two bits for the first container and assigns a new integer container for `z`.

Bitfield containers can *overlap* each other, for example:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:2;
};
```

The first declaration creates an integer container and allocates 10 bits to `x`. These 10 bits occupy the first byte and two bits of the second byte of the integer container. At the second declaration, the compiler checks for a container of type **char**. There is no suitable container, so the compiler allocates a new correctly aligned **char** container.

Because the natural alignment of **char** is 1, the compiler searches for the first byte that contains a sufficient number of unallocated bits to completely contain the bitfield. In the example structure, the second byte of the **int** container has two bits allocated to `x`, and six bits unallocated. The compiler allocates a **char** container starting at the second byte of the previous **int** container, skips the first two bits that are allocated to `x`, and allocates two bits to `y`.

If `y` is declared `char y:8`, the compiler pads the second byte and allocates a new **char** container to the third byte, because the bitfield cannot overflow its container. The following figure shows the bitfield allocation for the following example structure:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:8;
};
```

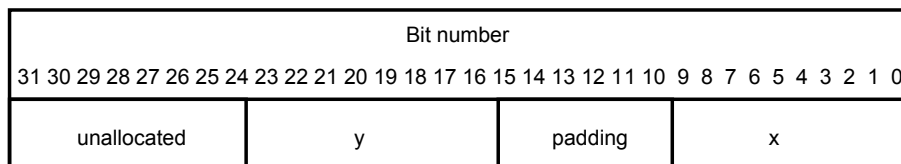


Figure 15-2 Bitfield allocation 1

———— **Note** ————

The same basic rules apply to bitfield declarations with different container types. For example, adding an **int** bitfield to the example structure gives:

```
struct X
{
    int x:10;
    char y:8;
    int z:5;
}
```

The compiler allocates an **int** container starting at the same location as the `int x:10` container and allocates a byte-aligned **char** and 5-bit bitfield, as follows:

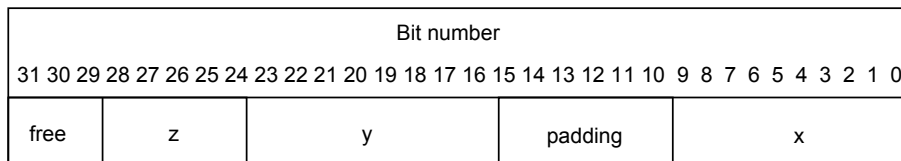


Figure 15-3 Bitfield allocation 2

You can explicitly pad a bitfield container by declaring an unnamed bitfield of size zero. A bitfield of zero size fills the container up to the end if the container is not empty. A subsequent bitfield declaration starts a new empty container.

———— **Note** ————

As an optimization, the compiler might overwrite padding bits in a container with unspecified values when a bitfield is written. This does not affect normal usage of bitfields.



## 15.11 Qualifiers

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to qualifiers, as required by the ISO C standard.

An object that has a volatile-qualified type is accessed as a word, halfword, or byte as determined by its size and alignment. For volatile objects larger than a word, the order of accesses to the parts of the object is undefined. Updates to volatile bitfields generally require a read-modify-write. Accesses to aligned word, halfword and byte types are atomic. Other volatile accesses are not necessarily atomic.

Otherwise, reads and writes to volatile qualified objects occur as directly implied by the source code, in the order implied by the source code.

## 15.12 Expression evaluation

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to expression evaluation, as required by the ISO C standard.

The compiler can re-order expressions involving only associative and commutative operators of equal precedence, even in the presence of parentheses. For example,  $a + (b + c)$  might be evaluated as  $(a + b) + c$  if  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are integer expressions.

Between sequence points, the compiler can evaluate expressions in any order, regardless of parentheses. Therefore, side effects of expressions between sequence points can occur in any order.

The compiler can evaluate function arguments in any order.

Any aspect of evaluation order not prescribed by the relevant standard can be varied by:

- The optimization level you are compiling at.
- The release of the compiler you are using.

## 15.13 Preprocessing directives

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to preprocessing directives, as required by the ISO C standard.

The ISO standard C header files can be referred to as described in the standard, for example, `#include <stdio.h>`.

Quoted names for includable source files are supported. The compiler accepts host filenames or UNIX filenames. For UNIX filenames on non-UNIX hosts, the compiler tries to translate the filename to a local equivalent.

The following C99 pragmas are recognized by the compiler, but ignored:

STDC CX\_LIMITED\_RANGE

See *ISO/IEC 9899:1999/Cor 2:2004*, Section 7.3.4.

STDC FENV\_ACCESS

See *ISO/IEC 9899:1999/Cor 2:2004*, Section 7.6.1.

STDC FP\_CONTRACT

See *ISO/IEC 9899:1999/Cor 2:2004*, Section 7.12.2.

### Related references

[1.2 Source language modes of the compiler on page 1-31.](#)

## 15.14 Library functions

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to library functions, as required by the ISO C standard.

The ISO C library variants are listed in *ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support User Guide*.

The precise nature of each C library is unique to the particular implementation. The generic ARM C library has, or supports, the following features:

- The macro `NULL` expands to the integer constant 0.
- If a program redefines a reserved external identifier such as `printf`, an error might occur when the program is linked with the standard libraries. If it is not linked with standard libraries, no error is detected.
- The `__aeabi_assert()` function prints details of the failing diagnostic on `stderr` and then calls the `abort()` function:

```
*** assertion failed: expression, file name, line number
```

———— **Note** —————

The behavior of the `assert` macro depends on the conditions in operation at the most recent occurrence of `#include <assert.h>`.

For implementation details of mathematical functions, macros, locale, signals, and input/output see *ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support User Guide*.

### Related information

[The ARM C and C++ Libraries.](#)

## 15.15 Behaviors considered undefined by the ISO C Standard

Describes implementation-defined aspects of the ARM C compiler and C library relating to behaviors considered undefined by the ISO C Standard, as required by the ISO C standard.

The following are considered undefined behavior by the ISO C Standard:

- In character and string escapes, if the character following the \ has no special meaning, the value of the escape is the character itself. For example, a warning is generated if you use \s because it is the same as s.
- A **struct** that has no named fields but at least one unnamed field is accepted by default, but generates an error in strict 1990 ISO Standard C.

# Chapter 16

## Standard C++ Implementation Definition

Lists the C++ language features defined in the ISO/IEC standard for C++, and states whether or not ARM C++ supports that language feature.

The ARM compiler supports the majority of the language features described in the standard.

———— **Note** —————

This documentation does not duplicate information that is part of the standard C implementation

———— **Note** —————

When compiling C++ in ISO C mode, the ARM compiler is identical to the ARM C compiler. Where there is an implementation feature specific to either C or C++, this is noted in the text.

It contains the following sections:

- [16.1 Integral conversion on page 16-919.](#)
- [16.2 Calling a pure virtual function on page 16-920.](#)
- [16.3 Major features of language support on page 16-921.](#)
- [16.4 Standard C++ library implementation definition on page 16-922.](#)

## 16.1 Integral conversion

During integral conversion, if the destination type is signed, the value is unchanged if it can be represented in the destination type and bitfield width. Otherwise, the value is truncated to fit the size of the destination type.

---

**Note**

This topic is related to *Section 4.7 Integral conversions*, in the ISO/IEC standard.

---

## 16.2 Calling a pure virtual function

Calling a pure virtual function is illegal. If your code calls a pure virtual function, then the compiler includes a call to the library function `__cxa_pure_virtual`.

`__cxa_pure_virtual` raises the signal **SIGPVFN**. The default signal handler prints an error message and exits.



## 16.3 Major features of language support

The following table shows the major features of the language that this release of ARM C++ supports.

**Table 16-1 Major feature support for language**

Major feature	ISO/IEC standard section	Support
Core language	1 to 13	Yes.
Templates	14	Yes, with the exception of export templates.
Exceptions	15	Yes.
Libraries	17 to 27	See <i>ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support User Guide</i> .

## 16.4 Standard C++ library implementation definition

The Rogue Wave Standard C++ provides a subset of the library defined in the standard. There are small differences from the 1999 ISO C standard.

For information on the implementation definition, see [\*ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support User Guide\*](#).

The library can be used with user-defined functions to produce target-dependent applications. See [\*ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support User Guide\*](#).

# Chapter 17

## C and C++ Compiler Implementation Limits

Describes the implementation limits when using the ARM compiler to compile C and C++.

It contains the following sections:

- [\*17.1 C++ ISO/IEC standard limits\*](#) on page 17-924.
- [\*17.2 Limits for integral numbers\*](#) on page 17-926.
- [\*17.3 Limits for floating-point numbers\*](#) on page 17-927.

## 17.1 C++ ISO/IEC standard limits

The ISO/IEC C++ standard recommends minimum limits that a conforming compiler must accept. You must be aware of these when porting applications between compilers.

The following table gives a summary of these limits.

In this table, a limit of memory indicates that the ARM compiler imposes no limit, other than that imposed by the available memory.

**Table 17-1 Implementation limits**

Description	Recommended	ARM
Nesting levels of compound statements, iteration control structures, and selection control structures.	256	memory
Nesting levels of conditional inclusion.	256	memory
Pointer, array, and function declarators (in any combination) modifying an arithmetic, structure, union, or incomplete type in a declaration.	256	memory
Nesting levels of parenthesized expressions within a full expression.	256	memory
Number of initial characters in an internal identifier or macro name.	1 024	memory
Number of initial characters in an external identifier.	1 024	memory
External identifiers in one translation unit.	65 536	memory
Identifiers with block scope declared in one block.	1 024	memory
Macro identifiers simultaneously defined in one translation unit.	65 536	memory
Parameters in one function declaration.	256	memory
Arguments in one function call.	256	memory
Parameters in one macro definition.	256	memory
Arguments in one macro invocation.	256	memory
Characters in one logical source line.	65 536	memory
Characters in a character string literal or wide string literal after concatenation.	65 536	memory
Size of a C or C++ object (including arrays).	262 144	4 294 967 296
Nesting levels of #include file.	256	memory
Case labels for a <b>switch</b> statement, excluding those for any nested <b>switch</b> statements.	16 384	memory
Data members in a single class, structure, or union.	16 384	memory
Enumeration constants in a single enumeration.	4 096	memory
Levels of nested class, structure, or union definitions in a single <b>struct</b> declaration-list.	256	memory
Functions registered by <b>atexit()</b> .	32	33
Direct and indirect base classes.	16 384	memory
Direct base classes for a single class.	1 024	memory
Members declared in a single class.	4 096	memory
Final overriding virtual functions in a class, accessible or not.	16 384	memory

**Table 17-1 Implementation limits (continued)**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Recommended</b>	<b>ARM</b>
Direct and indirect virtual bases of a class.	1 024	memory
Static members of a class.	1 024	memory
Friend declarations in a class.	4 096	memory
Access control declarations in a class.	4 096	memory
Member initializers in a constructor definition.	6 144	memory
Scope qualifications of one identifier.	256	memory
Nested external specifications.	1 024	memory
Template arguments in a template declaration.	1 024	memory
Recursively nested template instantiations.	17	memory
Handlers per try block.	256	memory
Throw specifications on a single function declaration.	256	memory

## 17.2 Limits for integral numbers

The following table gives the ranges for integral numbers in ARM C and C++.

The **Value** column of the table gives the numerical value of the range endpoint. The **Hex value** column gives the bit pattern (in hexadecimal) that is interpreted as this value by the ARM compiler. These constants are defined in the `limits.h` include file.

When entering a constant, choose the size and sign with care. Constants are interpreted differently in decimal and hexadecimal/octal. See the appropriate C or C++ standard, or any of the recommended C and C++ textbooks for more information, as described in the *ARM Compiler Getting Started Guide*.

**Table 17-2 Integer ranges**

Constant	Meaning	Value	Hex value
CHAR_MAX	Maximum value of <b>char</b>	255	0xFF
CHAR_MIN	Minimum value of <b>char</b>	0	0x00
SCHAR_MAX	Maximum value of <b>signed char</b>	127	0x7F
SCHAR_MIN	Minimum value of <b>signed char</b>	–128	0x80
UCHAR_MAX	Maximum value of <b>unsigned char</b>	255	0xFF
SHRT_MAX	Maximum value of <b>short</b>	32 767	0x7FFF
SHRT_MIN	Minimum value of <b>short</b>	–32 768	0x8000
USHRT_MAX	Maximum value of <b>unsigned short</b>	65 535	0xFFFF
INT_MAX	Maximum value of <b>int</b>	2 147 483 647	0x7FFFFFFF
INT_MIN	Minimum value of <b>int</b>	–2 147 483 648	0x80000000
LONG_MAX	Maximum value of <b>long</b>	2 147 483 647	0x7FFFFFFF
LONG_MIN	Minimum value of <b>long</b>	–2 147 483 648	0x80000000
ULONG_MAX	Maximum value of <b>unsigned long</b>	4 294 967 295	0xFFFFFFFF
LLONG_MAX	Maximum value of <b>long long</b>	9.2E+18	0x7FFFFFFFFFFFFFFF
LLONG_MIN	Minimum value of <b>long long</b>	–9.2E+18	0x8000000000000000
ULLONG_MAX	Maximum value of <b>unsigned long long</b>	1.8E+19	0xFFFFFFFFFFFFFFFF

## 17.3 Limits for floating-point numbers

This topic describes the characteristics of floating-point numbers.

The following table gives the limits for floating-point numbers. These constants are defined in the `float.h` include file.

**Table 17-3 Floating-point limits**

Constant	Meaning	Value
FLT_MAX	Maximum value of <b>float</b> .	3.40282347e+38F
FLT_MIN	Minimum normalized positive floating-point number value of <b>float</b> .	1.175494351e-38F
DBL_MAX	Maximum value of <b>double</b> .	1.79769313486231571e+308
DBL_MIN	Minimum normalized positive floating-point number value of <b>double</b> .	2.22507385850720138e-308
LDBL_MAX	Maximum value of <b>long double</b> .	1.79769313486231571e+308
LDBL_MIN	Minimum normalized positive floating-point number value of <b>long double</b> .	2.22507385850720138e-308
FLT_MAX_EXP	Maximum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>float</b> .	128
FLT_MIN_EXP	Minimum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>float</b> .	-125
DBL_MAX_EXP	Maximum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>double</b> .	1 024
DBL_MIN_EXP	Minimum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>double</b> .	-1 021
LDBL_MAX_EXP	Maximum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>long double</b> .	1 024
LDBL_MIN_EXP	Minimum value of base 2 exponent for type <b>long double</b> .	-1 021
FLT_MAX_10_EXP	Maximum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>float</b> .	38
FLT_MIN_10_EXP	Minimum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>float</b> .	-37
DBL_MAX_10_EXP	Maximum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>double</b> .	308
DBL_MIN_10_EXP	Minimum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>double</b> .	-307
LDBL_MAX_10_EXP	Maximum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>long double</b> .	308
LDBL_MIN_10_EXP	Minimum value of base 10 exponent for type <b>long double</b> .	-307

The following table describes other characteristics of floating-point numbers. These constants are also defined in the `float.h` include file.

**Table 17-4 Other floating-point characteristics**

Constant	Meaning	Value
FLT_RADIX	Base (radix) of the ARM floating-point number representation.	2
FLT_ROUNDS	Rounding mode for floating-point numbers.	(nearest) 1
FLT_DIG	Decimal digits of precision for <b>float</b> .	6
DBL_DIG	Decimal digits of precision for <b>double</b> .	15
LDBL_DIG	Decimal digits of precision for <b>long double</b> .	15
FLT_MANT_DIG	Binary digits of precision for type <b>float</b> .	24
DBL_MANT_DIG	Binary digits of precision for type <b>double</b> .	53

**Table 17-4 Other floating-point characteristics (continued)**

Constant	Meaning	Value
LDBL_MANT_DIG	Binary digits of precision for type <b>long double</b> .	53
FLT_EPSILON	Smallest positive value of $x$ that $1.0 + x \neq 1.0$ for type <b>float</b> .	1.19209290e-7F
DBL_EPSILON	Smallest positive value of $x$ that $1.0 + x \neq 1.0$ for type <b>double</b> .	2.2204460492503131e-16
LDBL_EPSILON	Smallest positive value of $x$ that $1.0 + x \neq 1.0$ for type <b>long double</b> .	2.2204460492503131e-16L

———— **Note** —————

- When a floating-point number is converted to a shorter floating-point number, it is rounded to the nearest representable number.
- Floating-point arithmetic conforms to IEEE 754.



# Chapter 18

## Using NEON Support

Describes NEON intrinsics support in this release of the ARM compilation tools. It contains the following sections:

- [18.1 Introduction to NEON intrinsics](#) on page 18-931.
- [18.2 Vector data types](#) on page 18-932.
- [18.3 NEON intrinsics](#) on page 18-933.
- [18.4 NEON intrinsics for addition](#) on page 18-935.
- [18.5 NEON intrinsics for multiplication](#) on page 18-937.
- [18.6 NEON intrinsics for subtraction](#) on page 18-939.
- [18.7 NEON intrinsics for comparison](#) on page 18-941.
- [18.8 NEON intrinsics for absolute difference](#) on page 18-943.
- [18.9 NEON intrinsics for maximum and minimum](#) on page 18-944.
- [18.10 NEON intrinsics for pairwise addition](#) on page 18-945.
- [18.11 NEON intrinsics for folding maximum](#) on page 18-946.
- [18.12 NEON intrinsics for folding minimum](#) on page 18-947.
- [18.13 NEON intrinsics for reciprocal and sqrt](#) on page 18-948.
- [18.14 NEON intrinsics for shifts by signed variable](#) on page 18-949.
- [18.15 NEON intrinsics for shifts by a constant](#) on page 18-951.
- [18.16 NEON intrinsics for shifts with insert](#) on page 18-955.
- [18.17 NEON intrinsics for loading a single vector or lane](#) on page 18-957.
- [18.18 NEON intrinsics for storing a single vector or lane](#) on page 18-959.
- [18.19 NEON intrinsics for loading an N-element structure](#) on page 18-961.
- [18.20 NEON intrinsics for extracting lanes from a vector into a register](#) on page 18-970.
- [18.21 NEON intrinsics for loading a single lane of a vector from a literal](#) on page 18-971.

- *18.22 NEON intrinsics for initializing a vector from a literal bit pattern on page 18-972.*
- *18.23 NEON intrinsics for setting all lanes to the same value on page 18-973.*
- *18.24 NEON intrinsics for combining vectors on page 18-975.*
- *18.25 NEON intrinsics for splitting vectors on page 18-976.*
- *18.26 NEON intrinsics for converting vectors on page 18-977.*
- *18.27 NEON intrinsics for table look up on page 18-978.*
- *18.28 NEON intrinsics for extended table look up on page 18-979.*
- *18.29 NEON intrinsics for operations with a scalar value on page 18-980.*
- *18.30 NEON intrinsics for vector extraction on page 18-984.*
- *18.31 NEON intrinsics for reversing vector elements (swap endianness) on page 18-985.*
- *18.32 NEON intrinsics for other single operand arithmetic on page 18-986.*
- *18.33 NEON intrinsics for logical operations on page 18-988.*
- *18.34 NEON intrinsics for transposition operations on page 18-990.*
- *18.35 NEON intrinsics for vector cast operations on page 18-991.*
- *18.36 NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics on page 18-992.*

## 18.1 Introduction to NEON intrinsics

The ARM compilation tools provide intrinsics to generate NEON code for all Cortex-A series processors in both ARM and Thumb state. The NEON intrinsics are defined in the header file `arm_neon.h`.

The header file defines both the intrinsics and a set of vector types.

There is no support for NEON intrinsics for architectures before ARMv7. When building for earlier architectures, or for ARMv7 architecture profiles that do not include NEON, the compiler treats NEON intrinsics as ordinary function calls. This results in an error at link time.

## 18.2 Vector data types

Vector data types represent vectors of varying type and size.

NEON vector data types are named according to the following pattern:

```
<type><size>x<number of lanes>_t
```

For example, `int16x4_t` is a vector containing four lanes each containing a signed 16-bit integer.

The following table lists the vector data types.

**Table 18-1 Vector data types**

<code>int8x8_t</code>	<code>int8x16_t</code>
<code>int16x4_t</code>	<code>int16x8_t</code>
<code>int32x2_t</code>	<code>int32x4_t</code>
<code>int64x1_t</code>	<code>int64x2_t</code>
<code>uint8x8_t</code>	<code>uint8x16_t</code>
<code>uint16x4_t</code>	<code>uint16x8_t</code>
<code>uint32x2_t</code>	<code>uint32x4_t</code>
<code>uint64x1_t</code>	<code>uint64x2_t</code>
<code>float16x4_t</code>	<code>float16x8_t</code>
<code>float32x2_t</code>	<code>float32x4_t</code>
<code>poly8x8_t</code>	<code>poly8x16_t</code>
<code>poly16x4_t</code>	<code>poly16x8_t</code>

Some intrinsics use an array of vector types of the form:

```
<type><size>x<number of lanes>x<length of array>_t
```

These types are treated as ordinary C structures containing a single element named `val`.

An example structure definition is:

```
struct int16x4x2_t
{
    int16x4_t val[2];
};
```

There are array types defined for array lengths between 2 and 4, with any of the vector types listed in the following table.

---

**Note**

The vector data types and arrays of the vector data types cannot be initialized by direct literal assignment. You must initialize them using one of the load intrinsics.

---

## 18.3 NEON intrinsics

NEON intrinsics map closely to NEON instructions.

The documentation for each intrinsic begins with a list of function prototypes, with a comment specifying an equivalent assembler instruction. The compiler selects an instruction that has the required semantics, but there is no guarantee that the compiler produces the listed instruction.

The intrinsics use a naming scheme that is similar to the NEON unified assembler syntax. That is, each intrinsic has the form:

```
<opname>[q]_<type>
```

The optional `q` flag specifies that the intrinsic operates on 128-bit vectors.

For example:

- `vmul_s16`, multiplies two vectors of signed 16-bit values.

This compiles to `VMUL.I16 d2, d0, d1`.

- `vaddl_u8`, is a long add of two 64-bit vectors containing unsigned 8-bit values, resulting in a 128-bit vector of unsigned 16-bit values.

This compiles to `VADDL.U8 q1, d0, d1`.

Registers other than those specified in these examples might be used. In addition, the compiler might perform optimization that in some way changes the instruction that the source code compiles to.

### ———— Note ————

The intrinsic function prototypes in this documentation use the following type annotations:

`__const(n)`

The argument *n* must be a compile-time constant.

`__constrange(min, max)`

The argument must be a compile-time constant in the range *min* to *max*.

`__transfersize(n)`

The intrinsic loads *n* lanes from this pointer.

### ———— Note ————

The NEON intrinsic function prototypes that use `__fp16` are only available for targets that have the NEON half-precision VFP extension. To enable use of `__fp16`, use the `--fp16_format` command-line option.

## Related references

[8.85 --fp16\\_format=format](#) on page 8-420.

[18.4 NEON intrinsics for addition](#) on page 18-935.

[18.5 NEON intrinsics for multiplication](#) on page 18-937.

[18.6 NEON intrinsics for subtraction](#) on page 18-939.

[18.7 NEON intrinsics for comparison](#) on page 18-941.

[18.8 NEON intrinsics for absolute difference](#) on page 18-943.

[18.9 NEON intrinsics for maximum and minimum](#) on page 18-944.

[18.10 NEON intrinsics for pairwise addition](#) on page 18-945.

[18.11 NEON intrinsics for folding maximum](#) on page 18-946.

[18.12 NEON intrinsics for folding minimum](#) on page 18-947.

[18.13 NEON intrinsics for reciprocal and sqrt](#) on page 18-948.

[18.14 NEON intrinsics for shifts by signed variable](#) on page 18-949.

- 18.15 NEON intrinsics for shifts by a constant on page 18-951.*
- 18.16 NEON intrinsics for shifts with insert on page 18-955.*
- 18.17 NEON intrinsics for loading a single vector or lane on page 18-957.*
- 18.18 NEON intrinsics for storing a single vector or lane on page 18-959.*
- 18.19 NEON intrinsics for loading an N-element structure on page 18-961.*
- 18.20 NEON intrinsics for extracting lanes from a vector into a register on page 18-970.*
- 18.21 NEON intrinsics for loading a single lane of a vector from a literal on page 18-971.*
- 18.22 NEON intrinsics for initializing a vector from a literal bit pattern on page 18-972.*
- 18.23 NEON intrinsics for setting all lanes to the same value on page 18-973.*
- 18.24 NEON intrinsics for combining vectors on page 18-975.*
- 18.25 NEON intrinsics for splitting vectors on page 18-976.*
- 18.26 NEON intrinsics for converting vectors on page 18-977.*
- 18.27 NEON intrinsics for table look up on page 18-978.*
- 18.28 NEON intrinsics for extended table look up on page 18-979.*
- 18.29 NEON intrinsics for operations with a scalar value on page 18-980.*
- 18.30 NEON intrinsics for vector extraction on page 18-984.*
- 18.31 NEON intrinsics for reversing vector elements (swap endianness) on page 18-985.*
- 18.32 NEON intrinsics for other single operand arithmetic on page 18-986.*
- 18.33 NEON intrinsics for logical operations on page 18-988.*
- 18.34 NEON intrinsics for transposition operations on page 18-990.*
- 18.35 NEON intrinsics for vector cast operations on page 18-991.*

## 18.4 NEON intrinsics for addition

These intrinsics add vectors. Each lane in the result is the consequence of performing the addition on the corresponding lanes in each operand vector.

**Vector add: `vadd{q}_<type>`. `Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]`**

`Vr`, `Va`, `Vb` have equal lane sizes.

```
int8x8_t    vadd_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);        // VADD.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vadd_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);     // VADD.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vadd_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);     // VADD.I32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t   vadd_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);     // VADD.I64 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vadd_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VADD.F32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vadd_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);      // VADD.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vadd_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);   // VADD.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vadd_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);   // VADD.I32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t  vadd_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b);   // VADD.I64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vaddq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);    // VADD.I8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vaddq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);    // VADD.I16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vaddq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);    // VADD.I32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t   vaddq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);    // VADD.I64 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vaddq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VADD.F32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vaddq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VADD.I8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vaddq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);  // VADD.I16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vaddq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);  // VADD.I32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t  vaddq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b);  // VADD.I64 q0,q0,q0
```

**Vector long add: `vaddl_<type>`. `Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]`**

`Va`, `Vb` have equal lane sizes, result is a 128 bit vector of lanes that are twice the width.

```
int16x8_t   vaddl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);       // VADDL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t   vaddl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VADDL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vaddl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VADDL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t  vaddl_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);     // VADDL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t  vaddl_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VADDL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t  vaddl_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VADDL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

**Vector wide add: `vaddw_<type>`. `Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]`**

```
int16x8_t   vaddw_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VADDW.S8 q0,q0,d0
int32x4_t   vaddw_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VADDW.S16 q0,q0,d0
int64x2_t   vaddw_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VADDW.S32 q0,q0,d0
uint16x8_t  vaddw_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VADDW.U8 q0,q0,d0
uint32x4_t  vaddw_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VADDW.U16 q0,q0,d0
uint64x2_t  vaddw_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VADDW.U32 q0,q0,d0
```

**Vector halving add: `vhadd{q}_<type>`. `Vr[i]:=(Va[i]+Vb[i])>>1`**

```
int8x8_t    vhadd_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);       // VHADD.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vhadd_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VHADD.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vhadd_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VHADD.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vhadd_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);     // VHADD.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vhadd_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VHADD.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vhadd_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VHADD.U32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vhaddq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);    // VHADD.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vhaddq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);   // VHADD.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vhaddq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);   // VHADD.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vhaddq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);  // VHADD.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vhaddq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VHADD.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vhaddq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VHADD.U32 q0,q0,q0
```

**Vector rounding halving add: `vrhadd{q}_<type>`. `Vr[i]:=(Va[i]+Vb[i]+1)>>1`**

```
int8x8_t    vrhadd_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VRHADD.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vrhadd_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);   // VRHADD.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vrhadd_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);   // VRHADD.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vrhadd_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VRHADD.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vrhadd_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VRHADD.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vrhadd_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VRHADD.U32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vrhaddq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);  // VRHADD.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vrhaddq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);  // VRHADD.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vrhaddq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);  // VRHADD.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vrhaddq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VRHADD.U8 q0,q0,q0
```

```
uint16x8_t vrhaddq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VRHADD.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vrhaddq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VRHADD.U32 q0,q0,q0
```

### VQADD: Vector saturating add

```
int8x8_t   vqadd_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VQADD.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vqadd_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQADD.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vqadd_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQADD.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vqadd_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VQADD.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vqadd_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VQADD.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vqadd_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VQADD.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vqadd_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VQADD.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vqadd_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b); // VQADD.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vqaddq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VQADD.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vqaddq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQADD.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vqaddq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQADD.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vqaddq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VQADD.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vqaddq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VQADD.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vqaddq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VQADD.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vqaddq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VQADD.U32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vqaddq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VQADD.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

### Vector add high half: vaddhn\_<type>.Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]

```
int8x8_t   vaddhn_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VADDHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
int16x4_t  vaddhn_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VADDHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
int32x2_t  vaddhn_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VADDHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
uint8x8_t  vaddhn_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VADDHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
uint16x4_t vaddhn_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VADDHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
uint32x2_t vaddhn_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VADDHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
```

### Vector rounding add high half: vraddhn\_<type>.

```
int8x8_t   vraddhn_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VRADDHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
int16x4_t  vraddhn_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VRADDHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
int32x2_t  vraddhn_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VRADDHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
uint8x8_t  vraddhn_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VRADDHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
uint16x4_t vraddhn_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VRADDHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
uint32x2_t vraddhn_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VRADDHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
```



## 18.5 NEON intrinsics for multiplication

These intrinsics provide operations including multiplication.

### ———— Note ————

This topic describes the semantics of the intrinsics, rather than the semantics of the corresponding instructions.

For example,  $Vr[i] := Va[i] + Vb[i] * Vc[i]$  describes the semantics of the `vmla{q}_<type>` intrinsic, rather than the VMLA instruction.

The VMLA instruction uses three registers, multiplying the values in the 2 operand registers, adding the value in the destination register, and placing the final result in the destination register. That is:  $Va[i] := Va[i] + Vb[i] * Vc[i]$ .

However, the result vector `Vr` may not be the same entity as `Va` for the corresponding intrinsic. For example:

```
int8x8_t f(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c)
{
    int8x8_t r = vmla_s8(a, b, c);
    return vadd_s8(a, r);
}
```

### Vector multiply: `vmul{q}_<type>`. $Vr[i] := Va[i] * Vb[i]$

```
int8x8_t      vmul_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VMUL.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t     vmul_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VMUL.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t     vmul_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VMUL.I32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t   vmul_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);    // VMUL.F32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t     vmul_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VMUL.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t    vmul_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);      // VMUL.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t    vmul_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);      // VMUL.I32 d0,d0,d0
poly8x8_t     vmul_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b);        // VMUL.P8 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t     vmulq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);       // VMUL.I8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t     vmulq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VMUL.I16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t     vmulq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VMUL.I32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t   vmulq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b);   // VMUL.F32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t    vmulq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VMUL.I8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t    vmulq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VMUL.I16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t    vmulq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VMUL.I32 q0,q0,q0
poly8x16_t    vmulq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b);     // VMUL.P8 q0,q0,q0
```

### Vector multiply accumulate: `vmla{q}_<type>`. $Vr[i] := Va[i] + Vb[i] * Vc[i]$

```
int8x8_t      vmla_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c); // VMLA.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t     vmla_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VMLA.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t     vmla_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VMLA.I32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t   vmla_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32x2_t c); // VMLA.F32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t     vmla_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VMLA.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t    vmla_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VMLA.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t    vmla_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VMLA.I32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t     vmlaq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, int8x16_t c); // VMLA.I8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t     vmlaq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x8_t c); // VMLA.I16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t     vmlaq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x4_t c); // VMLA.I32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t   vmlaq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32x4_t c); // VMLA.F32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t    vmlaq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, uint8x16_t c); // VMLA.I8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t    vmlaq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x8_t c); // VMLA.I16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t    vmlaq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x4_t c); // VMLA.I32 q0,q0,q0
```

### Vector multiply accumulate long: `vmlal_<type>`. $Vr[i] := Va[i] + Vb[i] * Vc[i]$

```
int16x8_t     vmlal_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c); // VMLAL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t     vmlal_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VMLAL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t     vmlal_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VMLAL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t    vmlal_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VMLAL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t    vmlal_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VMLAL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t    vmlal_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VMLAL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

## Vector multiply subtract: `vmls{q}_<type>. Vr[i] := Va[i] - Vb[i] * Vc[i]`

```
int8x8_t    vmls_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c);      // VMLS.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vmls_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VMLS.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vmls_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VMLS.I32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vmls_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32x2_t c); // VMLS.F32 d0,d0,d0

uint8x8_t    vmls_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c);  // VMLS.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t   vmls_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VMLS.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t   vmls_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VMLS.I32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t    vmlsq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, int8x16_t c); // VMLS.I8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t    vmlsq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x8_t c); // VMLS.I16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t    vmlsq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x4_t c); // VMLS.I32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t  vmlsq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32x4_t c); // VMLS.F32 q0,q0,q0

uint8x16_t   vmlsq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, uint8x16_t c); // VMLS.I8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t   vmlsq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x8_t c); // VMLS.I16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t   vmlsq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x4_t c); // VMLS.I32 q0,q0,q0
```

## Vector multiply subtract long

```
int16x8_t   vmlsl_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c);    // VMLSL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t   vmlsl_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VMLSL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vmlsl_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VMLSL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t  vmlsl_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VMLSL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t  vmlsl_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VMLSL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t  vmlsl_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VMLSL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

## Vector saturating doubling multiply high

```
int16x4_t   vqdmulh_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQDMULH.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vqdmulh_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQDMULH.S32 d0,d0,d0
int16x8_t   vqdmulhq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQDMULH.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vqdmulhq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQDMULH.S32 q0,q0,q0
```

## Vector saturating rounding doubling multiply high

```
int16x4_t   vqrdmulh_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQRDMULH.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vqrdmulh_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQRDMULH.S32 d0,d0,d0
int16x8_t   vqrdmulhq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQRDMULH.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vqrdmulhq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQRDMULH.S32 q0,q0,q0
```

## Vector saturating doubling multiply accumulate long

```
int32x4_t   vqdmmlal_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VQDMLAL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vqdmmlal_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VQDMLAL.S32 q0,d0,d0
```

## Vector saturating doubling multiply subtract long

```
int32x4_t   vqdmmlsl_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VQDMLSL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vqdmmlsl_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VQDMLSL.S32 q0,d0,d0
```

## Vector long multiply

```
int16x8_t   vmull_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VMULL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t   vmull_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vmull_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t  vmull_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VMULL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t  vmull_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VMULL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t  vmull_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VMULL.U32 q0,d0,d0
poly16x8_t  vmull_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b); // VMULL.P8 q0,d0,d0
```

## Vector saturating doubling long multiply

```
int32x4_t   vqdmull_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQDMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vqdmull_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQDMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0
```

## 18.6 NEON intrinsics for subtraction

These intrinsics provide operations including subtraction.

### Vector subtract

```
int8x8_t    vsub_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);        // VSUB.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vsub_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);     // VSUB.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vsub_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);     // VSUB.I32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t   vsub_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);     // VSUB.I64 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vsub_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VSUB.F32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vsub_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);      // VSUB.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vsub_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);   // VSUB.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vsub_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);   // VSUB.I32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t  vsub_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b);   // VSUB.I64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vsubq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);     // VSUB.I8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vsubq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);    // VSUB.I16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vsubq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);    // VSUB.I32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t   vsubq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);    // VSUB.I64 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vsubq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VSUB.F32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vsubq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VSUB.I8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vsubq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);  // VSUB.I16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vsubq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);  // VSUB.I32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t  vsubq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b);  // VSUB.I64 q0,q0,q0
```

### Vector long subtract: vsubl\_<type>. Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]

```
int16x8_t   vsubl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);       // VSUBL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t   vsubl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VSUBL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t   vsubl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VSUBL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t  vsubl_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);     // VSUBL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t  vsubl_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VSUBL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t  vsubl_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VSUBL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

### Vector wide subtract: vsubw\_<type>. Vr[i]:=Va[i]+Vb[i]

```
int16x8_t   vsubw_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VSUBW.S8 q0,q0,d0
int32x4_t   vsubw_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VSUBW.S16 q0,q0,d0
int64x2_t   vsubw_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VSUBW.S32 q0,q0,d0
uint16x8_t  vsubw_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VSUBW.U8 q0,q0,d0
uint32x4_t  vsubw_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VSUBW.U16 q0,q0,d0
uint64x2_t  vsubw_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VSUBW.U32 q0,q0,d0
```

### Vector saturating subtract

```
int8x8_t    vqsub_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);       // VQSUB.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vqsub_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VQSUB.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vqsub_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VQSUB.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t   vqsub_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);    // VQSUB.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vqsub_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);     // VQSUB.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vqsub_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VQSUB.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vqsub_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VQSUB.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t  vqsub_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b);  // VQSUB.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vqsubq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);    // VQSUB.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vqsubq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);   // VQSUB.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vqsubq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);   // VQSUB.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t   vqsubq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);   // VQSUB.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vqsubq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);  // VQSUB.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vqsubq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VQSUB.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vqsubq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VQSUB.U32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t  vqsubq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VQSUB.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

### Vector halving subtract

```
int8x8_t    vhsb_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);       // VHSUB.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vhsb_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);    // VHSUB.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vhsb_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);    // VHSUB.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vhsb_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);     // VHSUB.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vhsb_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);  // VHSUB.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vhsb_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);  // VHSUB.U32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vhsbq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);    // VHSUB.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vhsbq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);   // VHSUB.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vhsbq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);   // VHSUB.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vhsbq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);  // VHSUB.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vhsbq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VHSUB.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vhsbq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VHSUB.U32 q0,q0,q0
```

## Vector subtract high half

```
int8x8_t   vsubhn_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);    // VSUBHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
int16x4_t  vsubhn_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);    // VSUBHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
int32x2_t  vsubhn_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);    // VSUBHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
uint8x8_t  vsubhn_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);  // VSUBHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
uint16x4_t vsubhn_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);  // VSUBHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
uint32x2_t vsubhn_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b);  // VSUBHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
```

## Vector rounding subtract high half

```
int8x8_t   vrsubhn_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);   // VRSUBHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
int16x4_t  vrsubhn_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);   // VRSUBHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
int32x2_t  vrsubhn_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);   // VRSUBHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
uint8x8_t  vrsubhn_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VRSUBHN.I16 d0,q0,q0
uint16x4_t vrsubhn_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VRSUBHN.I32 d0,q0,q0
uint32x2_t vrsubhn_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VRSUBHN.I64 d0,q0,q0
```

## 18.7 NEON intrinsics for comparison

A range of comparison intrinsics are provided. If the comparison is true for a lane, the result in that lane is all bits set to one. If the comparison is false for a lane, all bits are set to zero.

The return type is an unsigned integer. This means that you can use the result of a comparison as the first argument for the vbs1 intrinsics.

### Vector compare equal

```

uint8x8_t vceq_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VCEQ.I8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vceq_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);      // VCEQ.I16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vceq_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);      // VCEQ.I32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vceq_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);  // VCEQ.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vceq_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);        // VCEQ.U8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vceq_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);    // VCEQ.U16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vceq_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);    // VCEQ.U32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vceq_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b);        // VCEQ.P8 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vceqq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);     // VCEQ.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vceqq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);     // VCEQ.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vceqq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);     // VCEQ.Q32 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vceqq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VCEQ.F32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vceqq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VCEQ.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vceqq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);   // VCEQ.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vceqq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);   // VCEQ.Q32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vceqq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b);   // VCEQ.Q8 q0, q0, q0

```

### Vector compare greater-than or equal

```

uint8x8_t vcge_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VCGE.S8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcge_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);      // VCGE.S16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcge_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);      // VCGE.S32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcge_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);  // VCGE.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vcge_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);        // VCGE.U8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcge_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);    // VCGE.U16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcge_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);    // VCGE.U32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vcgeq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);     // VCGE.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcgeq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);     // VCGE.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgeq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);     // VCGE.Q32 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgeq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VCGE.F32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vcgeq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VCGE.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcgeq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);   // VCGE.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgeq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);   // VCGE.Q32 q0, q0, q0

```

### Vector compare less-than or equal

```

uint8x8_t vcle_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VCLE.S8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcle_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);      // VCLE.S16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcle_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);      // VCLE.S32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcle_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);  // VCLE.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vcle_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);        // VCLE.U8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcle_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);    // VCLE.U16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcle_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);    // VCLE.U32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vcleq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);     // VCLE.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcleq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);     // VCLE.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcleq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);     // VCLE.Q32 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcleq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VCLE.F32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vcleq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VCLE.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcleq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);   // VCLE.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcleq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);   // VCLE.Q32 q0, q0, q0

```

### Vector compare greater-than

```

uint8x8_t vcgt_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VCGT.S8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcgt_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);      // VCGT.S16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcgt_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);      // VCGT.S32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcgt_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);  // VCGT.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vcgt_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);        // VCGT.U8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vcgt_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);    // VCGT.U16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcgt_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);    // VCGT.U32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vcgtq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);     // VCGT.Q8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcgtq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);     // VCGT.Q16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgtq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);     // VCGT.Q32 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgtq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VCGT.F32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vcgtq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);   // VCGT.Q8 q0, q0, q0

```

```
uint16x8_t vcgtq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VCGT.U16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcgtq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VCGT.U32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector compare less-than

```
uint8x8_t vclt_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VCGT.S8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vclt_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VCGT.S16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vclt_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VCGT.S32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vclt_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VCGT.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vclt_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VCGT.U8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vclt_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VCGT.U16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vclt_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VCGT.U32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vcltq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VCGT.S8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcltq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VCGT.S16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcltq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VCGT.S32 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcltq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VCGT.F32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vcltq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VCGT.U8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vcltq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VCGT.U16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcltq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VCGT.U32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector compare absolute greater-than or equal

```
uint32x2_t vacge_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VACGE.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x4_t vacgeq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VACGE.F32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector compare absolute less-than or equal

```
uint32x2_t vcale_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VACGE.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x4_t vcaleq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VACGE.F32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector compare absolute greater-than

```
uint32x2_t vcagt_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VACGT.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x4_t vcagtq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VACGT.F32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector compare absolute less-than

```
uint32x2_t vcalt_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VACGT.F32 d0, d0, d0
uint32x4_t vcaltq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VACGT.F32 q0, q0, q0
```

### Vector test bits

```
uint8x8_t vtst_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VTST.8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vtst_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VTST.16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vtst_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VTST.32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vtst_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTST.8 d0, d0, d0
uint16x4_t vtst_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VTST.16 d0, d0, d0
uint32x2_t vtst_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VTST.32 d0, d0, d0
uint8x8_t vtst_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b); // VTST.8 d0, d0, d0
uint8x16_t vtstq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VTST.8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vtstq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VTST.16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vtstq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VTST.32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vtstq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VTST.8 q0, q0, q0
uint16x8_t vtstq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VTST.16 q0, q0, q0
uint32x4_t vtstq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VTST.32 q0, q0, q0
uint8x16_t vtstq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b); // VTST.8 q0, q0, q0
```

## 18.8 NEON intrinsics for absolute difference

These intrinsics provide operations including absolute difference.

**Absolute difference between the arguments: `vabd{q}<type>`.  $Vr[i] = |Va[i] - Vb[i]|$**

```
int8x8_t   vabd_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VABD.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vabd_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VABD.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vabd_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VABD.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vabd_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VABD.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vabd_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);      // VABD.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vabd_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);      // VABD.U32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vabd_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);   // VABD.F32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vabdq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);       // VABD.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vabdq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VABD.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vabdq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VABD.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vabdq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VABD.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vabdq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VABD.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vabdq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VABD.U32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vabdq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b);  // VABD.F32 q0,q0,q0
```

**Absolute difference - long**

```
int16x8_t  vabdl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);         // VABDL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t  vabdl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);      // VABDL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t  vabdl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);      // VABDL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t vabdl_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);       // VABDL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t vabdl_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);    // VABDL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t vabdl_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);    // VABDL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

**Absolute difference and accumulate: `vaba{q}<type>`.  $Vr[i] = Va[i] + |Vb[i] - Vc[i]|$**

```
int8x8_t   vaba_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c); // VABA.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vaba_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VABA.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vaba_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VABA.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vaba_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VABA.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vaba_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VABA.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vaba_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VABA.U32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vabaq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, int8x16_t c); // VABA.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vabaq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x8_t c); // VABA.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vabaq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x4_t c); // VABA.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vabaq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, uint8x16_t c); // VABA.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vabaq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x8_t c); // VABA.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vabaq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x4_t c); // VABA.U32 q0,q0,q0
```

**Absolute difference and accumulate - long**

```
int16x8_t  vabal_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c); // VABAL.S8 q0,d0,d0
int32x4_t  vabal_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VABAL.S16 q0,d0,d0
int64x2_t  vabal_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VABAL.S32 q0,d0,d0
uint16x8_t vabal_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VABAL.U8 q0,d0,d0
uint32x4_t vabal_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VABAL.U16 q0,d0,d0
uint64x2_t vabal_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VABAL.U32 q0,d0,d0
```

## 18.9 NEON intrinsics for maximum and minimum

These intrinsics provide maximum and minimum operations.

**vmax{q}\_<type>. Vr[i] := (Va[i] >= Vb[i]) ? Va[i] : Vb[i]**

```
int8x8_t    vmax_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VMAX.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vmax_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);   // VMAX.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vmax_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);   // VMAX.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vmax_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VMAX.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vmax_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VMAX.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vmax_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VMAX.U32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vmax_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VMAX.F32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vmaxq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);   // VMAX.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vmaxq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);  // VMAX.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vmaxq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);  // VMAX.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vmaxq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VMAX.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vmaxq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VMAX.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vmaxq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VMAX.U32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vmaxq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VMAX.F32 q0,q0,q0
```

**vmin{q}\_<type>. Vr[i] := (Va[i] >= Vb[i]) ? Vb[i] : Va[i]**

```
int8x8_t    vmin_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VMIN.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vmin_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);   // VMIN.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vmin_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);   // VMIN.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vmin_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VMIN.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vmin_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VMIN.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vmin_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VMIN.U32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vmin_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VMIN.F32 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t   vminq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);   // VMIN.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t   vminq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);  // VMIN.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t   vminq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);  // VMIN.S32 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t  vminq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VMIN.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t  vminq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VMIN.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t  vminq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VMIN.U32 q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vminq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VMIN.F32 q0,q0,q0
```



## 18.10 NEON intrinsics for pairwise addition

These intrinsics provide pairwise addition operations.

### Pairwise add

```
int8x8_t    vpadl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VPADD.I8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vpadl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);   // VPADD.I16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vpadl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);   // VPADD.I32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t    vpadl_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);    // VPADD.I8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t   vpadl_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VPADD.I16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t   vpadl_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VPADD.I32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t  vpadl_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VPADD.F32 d0,d0,d0
```

### Long pairwise add

```
int16x4_t   vpaddl_s8(int8x8_t a);                // VPADDL.S8 d0,d0
int32x2_t   vpaddl_s16(int16x4_t a);               // VPADDL.S16 d0,d0
int64x1_t   vpaddl_s32(int32x2_t a);               // VPADDL.S32 d0,d0
uint16x4_t   vpaddl_u8(uint8x8_t a);                // VPADDL.U8 d0,d0
uint32x2_t   vpaddl_u16(uint16x4_t a);              // VPADDL.U16 d0,d0
uint64x1_t   vpaddl_u32(uint32x2_t a);              // VPADDL.U32 d0,d0
int16x8_t   vpaddlq_s8(int8x16_t a);               // VPADDL.S8 q0,q0
int32x4_t   vpaddlq_s16(int16x8_t a);               // VPADDL.S16 q0,q0
int64x2_t   vpaddlq_s32(int32x4_t a);               // VPADDL.S32 q0,q0
uint16x8_t   vpaddlq_u8(uint8x16_t a);              // VPADDL.U8 q0,q0
uint32x4_t   vpaddlq_u16(uint16x8_t a);             // VPADDL.U16 q0,q0
uint64x2_t   vpaddlq_u32(uint32x4_t a);             // VPADDL.U32 q0,q0
```

### Long pairwise add and accumulate

```
int16x4_t   vpadal_s8(int16x4_t a, int8x8_t b);    // VPADAL.S8 d0,d0
int32x2_t   vpadal_s16(int32x2_t a, int16x4_t b);  // VPADAL.S16 d0,d0
int64x1_t   vpadal_s32(int64x1_t a, int32x2_t b);  // VPADAL.S32 d0,d0
uint16x4_t   vpadal_u8(uint16x4_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VPADAL.U8 d0,d0
uint32x2_t   vpadal_u16(uint32x2_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VPADAL.U16 d0,d0
uint64x1_t   vpadal_u32(uint64x1_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VPADAL.U32 d0,d0
int16x8_t   vpadalq_s8(int16x8_t a, int8x16_t b); // VPADAL.S8 q0,q0
int32x4_t   vpadalq_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x8_t b); // VPADAL.S16 q0,q0
int64x2_t   vpadalq_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x4_t b); // VPADAL.S32 q0,q0
uint16x8_t   vpadalq_u8(uint16x8_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VPADAL.U8 q0,q0
uint32x4_t   vpadalq_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VPADAL.U16 q0,q0
uint64x2_t   vpadalq_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VPADAL.U32 q0,q0
```

## 18.11 NEON intrinsics for folding maximum

These intrinsics compare adjacent pairs of elements in two vectors, and copy the larger of each pair into the corresponding element in the result vector.

```
int8x8_t    vmax_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);    // VPMAX.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vmax_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VPMAX.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vmax_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VPMAX.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vmax_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);  // VPMAX.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vmax_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VPMAX.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vmax_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VPMAX.U32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vmax_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VPMAX.F32 d0,d0,d0
```

## 18.12 NEON intrinsics for folding minimum

These intrinsics compare adjacent pairs of elements in two vectors, and copy the smaller of each pair into the corresponding element in the result vector.

```
int8x8_t    vpmi_n_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);    // VPMIN.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t   vpmi_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VPMIN.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t   vpmi_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VPMIN.S32 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vpmi_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);  // VPMIN.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vpmi_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VPMIN.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vpmi_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VPMIN.U32 d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vpmi_n_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VPMIN.F32 d0,d0,d0
```

## 18.13 NEON intrinsics for reciprocal and sqrt

These intrinsics perform the first of two steps in an iteration of the Newton-Raphson method to converge to a reciprocal or a square root.

```
float32x2_t vrecps_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VRECPS.F32 d0, d0, d0
float32x4_t vrecpsq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VRECPS.F32 q0, q0, q0
float32x2_t vrsqrts_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b); // VRSQRTS.F32 d0, d0, d0
float32x4_t vrsqrtsq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b); // VRSQRTS.F32 q0, q0, q0
```

## 18.14 NEON intrinsics for shifts by signed variable

These intrinsics provide operations including shift by signed variable.

**Vector shift left: `vshl{q}_<type>. Vr[i] := Va[i] << Vb[i]` (negative values shift right)**

```
int8x8_t   vshl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);      // VSHL.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vshl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);   // VSHL.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vshl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);   // VSHL.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vshl_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);   // VSHL.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vshl_u8(uint8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);     // VSHL.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vshl_u16(uint16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);  // VSHL.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vshl_u32(uint32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);  // VSHL.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vshl_u64(uint64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);  // VSHL.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vshlq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);   // VSHL.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vshlq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);  // VSHL.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vshlq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);  // VSHL.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vshlq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);  // VSHL.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vshlq_u8(uint8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);  // VSHL.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vshlq_u16(uint16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VSHL.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vshlq_u32(uint32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VSHL.U32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vshlq_u64(uint64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VSHL.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

**Vector saturating shift left: (negative values shift right)**

```
int8x8_t   vqshl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);     // VQSHL.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vqshl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);  // VQSHL.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vqshl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);  // VQSHL.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vqshl_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);  // VQSHL.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vqshl_u8(uint8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);     // VQSHL.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vqshl_u16(uint16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQSHL.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vqshl_u32(uint32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQSHL.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vqshl_u64(uint64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VQSHL.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vqshlq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);  // VQSHL.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vqshlq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQSHL.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vqshlq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQSHL.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vqshlq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VQSHL.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vqshlq_u8(uint8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VQSHL.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vqshlq_u16(uint16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQSHL.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vqshlq_u32(uint32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQSHL.U32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vqshlq_u64(uint64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VQSHL.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

**Vector rounding shift left: (negative values shift right)**

```
int8x8_t   vrshl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);     // VRSHL.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vrshl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);  // VRSHL.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vrshl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);  // VRSHL.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vrshl_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);  // VRSHL.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vrshl_u8(uint8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);     // VRSHL.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vrshl_u16(uint16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VRSHL.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vrshl_u32(uint32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VRSHL.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vrshl_u64(uint64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VRSHL.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vrshlq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);  // VRSHL.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vrshlq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VRSHL.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vrshlq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VRSHL.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vrshlq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VRSHL.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vrshlq_u8(uint8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VRSHL.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vrshlq_u16(uint16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VRSHL.U16 q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vrshlq_u32(uint32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VRSHL.U32 q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vrshlq_u64(uint64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VRSHL.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

**Vector saturating rounding shift left: (negative values shift right)**

```
int8x8_t   vqrshl_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);    // VQRSHL.S8 d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vqrshl_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQRSHL.S16 d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vqrshl_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQRSHL.S32 d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vqrshl_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VQRSHL.S64 d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vqrshl_u8(uint8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);    // VQRSHL.U8 d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vqrshl_u16(uint16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VQRSHL.U16 d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vqrshl_u32(uint32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VQRSHL.U32 d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vqrshl_u64(uint64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VQRSHL.U64 d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vqrshlq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VQRSHL.S8 q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vqrshlq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQRSHL.S16 q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vqrshlq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQRSHL.S32 q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vqrshlq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VQRSHL.S64 q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vqrshlq_u8(uint8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VQRSHL.U8 q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vqrshlq_u16(uint16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VQRSHL.U16 q0,q0,q0
```

```
uint32x4_t vqrshlq_u32(uint32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VQRSHL.U32 q0,q0,q0  
uint64x2_t vqrshlq_u64(uint64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VQRSHL.U64 q0,q0,q0
```

## 18.15 NEON intrinsics for shifts by a constant

These intrinsics provide operations for shifting by a constant.

### Vector shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t   vshr_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHR.S8 d0,d0,#8
int16x4_t  vshr_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHR.S16 d0,d0,#16
int32x2_t  vshr_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHR.S32 d0,d0,#32
int64x1_t  vshr_n_s64(int64x1_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VSHR.S64 d0,d0,#64
uint8x8_t  vshr_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHR.U8 d0,d0,#8
uint16x4_t vshr_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHR.U16 d0,d0,#16
uint32x2_t vshr_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHR.U32 d0,d0,#32
uint64x1_t vshr_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VSHR.U64 d0,d0,#64
int8x16_t  vshrq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHR.S8 q0,q0,#8
int16x8_t  vshrq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHR.S16 q0,q0,#16
int32x4_t  vshrq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHR.S32 q0,q0,#32
int64x2_t  vshrq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VSHR.S64 q0,q0,#64
uint8x16_t vshrq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHR.U8 q0,q0,#8
uint16x8_t vshrq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHR.U16 q0,q0,#16
uint32x4_t vshrq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHR.U32 q0,q0,#32
uint64x2_t vshrq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VSHR.U64 q0,q0,#64
```

### Vector shift left by constant

```
int8x8_t   vshl_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VSHL.I8 d0,d0,#0
int16x4_t  vshl_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VSHL.I16 d0,d0,#0
int32x2_t  vshl_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VSHL.I32 d0,d0,#0
int64x1_t  vshl_n_s64(int64x1_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VSHL.I64 d0,d0,#0
uint8x8_t  vshl_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VSHL.U8 d0,d0,#0
uint16x4_t vshl_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VSHL.U16 d0,d0,#0
uint32x2_t vshl_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VSHL.U32 d0,d0,#0
uint64x1_t vshl_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VSHL.U64 d0,d0,#0
int8x16_t  vshlq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VSHL.I8 q0,q0,#0
int16x8_t  vshlq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VSHL.I16 q0,q0,#0
int32x4_t  vshlq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VSHL.I32 q0,q0,#0
int64x2_t  vshlq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VSHL.I64 q0,q0,#0
uint8x16_t vshlq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VSHL.U8 q0,q0,#0
uint16x8_t vshlq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VSHL.U16 q0,q0,#0
uint32x4_t vshlq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VSHL.U32 q0,q0,#0
uint64x2_t vshlq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VSHL.U64 q0,q0,#0
```

### Vector rounding shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t   vrshr_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHR.S8 d0,d0,#8
int16x4_t  vrshr_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHR.S16 d0,d0,#16
int32x2_t  vrshr_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHR.S32 d0,d0,#32
int64x1_t  vrshr_n_s64(int64x1_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VRSHR.S64 d0,d0,#64
uint8x8_t  vrshr_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHR.U8 d0,d0,#8
uint16x4_t vrshr_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHR.U16 d0,d0,#16
uint32x2_t vrshr_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHR.U32 d0,d0,#32
uint64x1_t vrshr_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VRSHR.U64 d0,d0,#64
int8x16_t  vrshrq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHR.S8 q0,q0,#8
int16x8_t  vrshrq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHR.S16 q0,q0,#16
int32x4_t  vrshrq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHR.S32 q0,q0,#32
int64x2_t  vrshrq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VRSHR.S64 q0,q0,#64
uint8x16_t vrshrq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHR.U8 q0,q0,#8
uint16x8_t vrshrq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHR.U16 q0,q0,#16
uint32x4_t vrshrq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHR.U32 q0,q0,#32
uint64x2_t vrshrq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,64) int b); // VRSHR.U64 q0,q0,#64
```

### Vector shift right by constant and accumulate

```
int8x8_t   vsra_n_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VSRA.S8 d0,d0,#8
int16x4_t  vsra_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VSRA.S16 d0,d0,#16
int32x2_t  vsra_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VSRA.S32 d0,d0,#32
int64x1_t  vsra_n_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VSRA.S64 d0,d0,#64
uint8x8_t  vsra_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VSRA.U8 d0,d0,#8
uint16x4_t vsra_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VSRA.U16 d0,d0,#16
uint32x2_t vsra_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VSRA.U32 d0,d0,#32
uint64x1_t vsra_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c);
```

```

int8x16_t vsraq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VSRA.U64 d0,d0,#64
int16x8_t vsraq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VSRA.S8 q0,q0,#8
int32x4_t vsraq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VSRA.S16 q0,q0,#16
int64x2_t vsraq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VSRA.S32 q0,q0,#32
uint8x16_t vsraq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VSRA.S64 q0,q0,#64
uint16x8_t vsraq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VSRA.U8 q0,q0,#8
uint32x4_t vsraq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VSRA.U16 q0,q0,#16
uint64x2_t vsraq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VSRA.U32 q0,q0,#32

```

### Vector rounding shift right by constant and accumulate

```

int8x8_t vrsra_n_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VRSRA.S8 d0,d0,#8
int16x4_t vrsra_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VRSRA.S16 d0,d0,#16
int32x2_t vrsra_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VRSRA.S32 d0,d0,#32
int64x1_t vrsra_n_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VRSRA.S64 d0,d0,#64
uint8x8_t vrsra_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VRSRA.U8 d0,d0,#8
uint16x4_t vrsra_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VRSRA.U16 d0,d0,#16
uint32x2_t vrsra_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VRSRA.U32 d0,d0,#32
uint64x1_t vrsra_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VRSRA.U64 d0,d0,#64
int8x16_t vrsraq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VRSRA.S8 q0,q0,#8
int16x8_t vrsraq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VRSRA.S16 q0,q0,#16
int32x4_t vrsraq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VRSRA.S32 q0,q0,#32
int64x2_t vrsraq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VRSRA.S64 q0,q0,#64
uint8x16_t vrsraq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c); // VRSRA.U8 q0,q0,#8
uint16x8_t vrsraq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c); // VRSRA.U16 q0,q0,#16
uint32x4_t vrsraq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c); // VRSRA.U32 q0,q0,#32
uint64x2_t vrsraq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c); // VRSRA.U64 q0,q0,#64

```

### Vector saturating shift left by constant

```

int8x8_t vqshl_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHL.S8 d0,d0,#0
int16x4_t vqshl_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHL.S16 d0,d0,#0
int32x2_t vqshl_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHL.S32 d0,d0,#0
int64x1_t vqshl_n_s64(int64x1_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHL.S64 d0,d0,#0
uint8x8_t vqshl_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHL.U8 d0,d0,#0
uint16x4_t vqshl_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHL.U16 d0,d0,#0
uint32x2_t vqshl_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHL.U32 d0,d0,#0
uint64x1_t vqshl_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHL.U64 d0,d0,#0
int8x16_t vqshlq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHL.S8 q0,q0,#0
int16x8_t vqshlq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHL.S16 q0,q0,#0
int32x4_t vqshlq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHL.S32 q0,q0,#0
int64x2_t vqshlq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHL.S64 q0,q0,#0
uint8x16_t vqshlq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHL.U8 q0,q0,#0
uint16x8_t vqshlq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHL.U16 q0,q0,#0
uint32x4_t vqshlq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHL.U32 q0,q0,#0
uint64x2_t vqshlq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHL.U64 q0,q0,#0

```

### Vector signed->unsigned saturating shift left by constant

```

uint8x8_t vqshlu_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHLU.S8 d0,d0,#0
uint16x4_t vqshlu_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHLU.S16 d0,d0,#0
uint32x2_t vqshlu_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHLU.S32 d0,d0,#0
uint64x1_t vqshlu_n_s64(int64x1_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHLU.S64 d0,d0,#0
uint8x16_t vqshluq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, __constrange(0,7) int b); // VQSHLU.S8 q0,q0,#0
uint16x8_t vqshluq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(0,15) int b); // VQSHLU.S16 q0,q0,#0

```



```
uint32x4_t vqshluq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(0,31) int b); // VQSHLU.S32 q0,q0,#0
uint64x2_t vqshluq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(0,63) int b); // VQSHLU.S64 q0,q0,#0
```

### Vector narrowing shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t vshrn_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHRN.I16 d0,q0,#8
int16x4_t vshrn_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHRN.I32 d0,q0,#16
int32x2_t vshrn_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHRN.I64 d0,q0,#32
uint8x8_t vshrn_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VSHRN.I16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vshrn_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VSHRN.I32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vshrn_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VSHRN.I64 d0,q0,#32
```

### Vector signed->unsigned narrowing saturating shift right by constant

```
uint8x8_t vqshrun_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQSHRUN.S16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vqshrun_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQSHRUN.S32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vqshrun_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQSHRUN.S64 d0,q0,#32
```

### Vector signed->unsigned rounding narrowing saturating shift right by constant

```
uint8x8_t vqrshrun_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQRSHRUN.S16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vqrshrun_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQRSHRUN.S32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vqrshrun_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQRSHRUN.S64 d0,q0,#32
```

### Vector narrowing saturating shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t vqshrn_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQSHRN.S16 d0,q0,#8
int16x4_t vqshrn_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQSHRN.S32 d0,q0,#16
int32x2_t vqshrn_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQSHRN.S64 d0,q0,#32
uint8x8_t vqshrn_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQSHRN.U16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vqshrn_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQSHRN.U32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vqshrn_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQSHRN.U64 d0,q0,#32
```

### Vector rounding narrowing shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t vrshrn_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHRN.I16 d0,q0,#8
int16x4_t vrshrn_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHRN.I32 d0,q0,#16
int32x2_t vrshrn_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHRN.I64 d0,q0,#32
uint8x8_t vrshrn_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VRSHRN.I16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vrshrn_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VRSHRN.I32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vrshrn_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VRSHRN.I64 d0,q0,#32
```

### Vector rounding narrowing saturating shift right by constant

```
int8x8_t vqrshrn_n_s16(int16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQRSHRN.S16 d0,q0,#8
int16x4_t vqrshrn_n_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQRSHRN.S32 d0,q0,#16
int32x2_t vqrshrn_n_s64(int64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQRSHRN.S64 d0,q0,#32
uint8x8_t vqrshrn_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, __constrange(1,8) int b); // VQRSHRN.U16 d0,q0,#8
uint16x4_t vqrshrn_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,16) int b); // VQRSHRN.U32 d0,q0,#16
uint32x2_t vqrshrn_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VQRSHRN.U64 d0,q0,#32
```

## Vector widening shift left by constant

```
int16x8_t vshll_n_s8(int8x8_t a, __constrange(0,8) int b); // VSHLL.S8 q0,d0,#0
int32x4_t vshll_n_s16(int16x4_t a, __constrange(0,16) int b); // VSHLL.S16 q0,d0,#0
int64x2_t vshll_n_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(0,32) int b); // VSHLL.S32 q0,d0,#0
uint16x8_t vshll_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, __constrange(0,8) int b); // VSHLL.U8 q0,d0,#0
uint32x4_t vshll_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, __constrange(0,16) int b); // VSHLL.U16 q0,d0,#0
uint64x2_t vshll_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(0,32) int b); // VSHLL.U32 q0,d0,#0
```

## 18.16 NEON intrinsics for shifts with insert

These intrinsics provide operations including shifts with insert.

### Vector shift right and insert

```
int8x8_t  vsri_n_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 d0,d0,#8
int16x4_t vsri_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 d0,d0,#16
int32x2_t vsri_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c);
// VSRI.32 d0,d0,#32
int64x1_t vsri_n_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c);
// VSRI.64 d0,d0,#64
uint8x8_t vsri_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 d0,d0,#8
uint16x4_t vsri_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 d0,d0,#16
uint32x2_t vsri_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c);
// VSRI.32 d0,d0,#32
uint64x1_t vsri_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c);
// VSRI.64 d0,d0,#64
poly8x8_t vsri_n_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 d0,d0,#8
poly16x4_t vsri_n_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 d0,d0,#16
int8x16_t vsriq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 q0,q0,#8
int16x8_t vsriq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 q0,q0,#16
int32x4_t vsriq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c);
// VSRI.32 q0,q0,#32
int64x2_t vsriq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c);
// VSRI.64 q0,q0,#64
uint8x16_t vsriq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 q0,q0,#8
uint16x8_t vsriq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 q0,q0,#16
uint32x4_t vsriq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, __constrange(1,32) int c);
// VSRI.32 q0,q0,#32
uint64x2_t vsriq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, __constrange(1,64) int c);
// VSRI.64 q0,q0,#64
poly8x16_t vsriq_n_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b, __constrange(1,8) int c);
// VSRI.8 q0,q0,#8
poly16x8_t vsriq_n_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b, __constrange(1,16) int c);
// VSRI.16 q0,q0,#16
```

### Vector shift left and insert

```
int8x8_t  vsli_n_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VSLI.8 d0,d0,#0
int16x4_t vsli_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VSLI.16 d0,d0,#0
int32x2_t vsli_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, __constrange(0,31) int c);
// VSLI.32 d0,d0,#0
int64x1_t vsli_n_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, __constrange(0,63) int c);
// VSLI.64 d0,d0,#0
uint8x8_t vsli_n_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VSLI.8 d0,d0,#0
uint16x4_t vsli_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VSLI.16 d0,d0,#0
uint32x2_t vsli_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, __constrange(0,31) int c);
// VSLI.32 d0,d0,#0
uint64x1_t vsli_n_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, __constrange(0,63) int c);
// VSLI.64 d0,d0,#0
poly8x8_t vsli_n_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VSLI.8 d0,d0,#0
poly16x4_t vsli_n_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VSLI.16 d0,d0,#0
int8x16_t vsliq_n_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VSLI.8 q0,q0,#0
int16x8_t vsliq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VSLI.16 q0,q0,#0
int32x4_t vsliq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, __constrange(0,31) int c);
// VSLI.32 q0,q0,#0
int64x2_t vsliq_n_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, __constrange(0,63) int c);
// VSLI.64 q0,q0,#0
uint8x16_t vsliq_n_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VSLI.8 q0,q0,#0
uint16x8_t vsliq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
```

```
uint32x4_t vsliq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, __constrange(0,31) int c); // VSLI.16 q0,q0,#0
uint64x2_t vsliq_n_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, __constrange(0,63) int c); // VSLI.32 q0,q0,#0
poly8x16_t vsliq_n_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c); // VSLI.64 q0,q0,#0
poly16x8_t vsliq_n_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c); // VSLI.8 q0,q0,#0
// VSLI.16 q0,q0,#0
```

## 18.17 NEON intrinsics for loading a single vector or lane

Perform loads and stores of a single vector of some type.

### Load a single vector from memory

```
uint8x16_t vld1q_u8(__transfersize(16) uint8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint16x8_t vld1q_u16(__transfersize(8) uint16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]

uint32x4_t vld1q_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint64x2_t vld1q_u64(__transfersize(2) uint64_t const * ptr); // VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int8x16_t vld1q_s8(__transfersize(16) int8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int16x8_t vld1q_s16(__transfersize(8) int16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int32x4_t vld1q_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int64x2_t vld1q_s64(__transfersize(2) int64_t const * ptr); // VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
float16x8_t vld1q_f16(__transfersize(8) __fp16 const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
float32x4_t vld1q_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]

poly8x16_t vld1q_p8(__transfersize(16) poly8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
poly16x8_t vld1q_p16(__transfersize(8) poly16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]

uint8x8_t vld1_u8(__transfersize(8) uint8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0}, [r0]
uint16x4_t vld1_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0}, [r0]
uint32x2_t vld1_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0}, [r0]
uint64x1_t vld1_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t const * ptr); // VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]
int8x8_t vld1_s8(__transfersize(8) int8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0}, [r0]
int16x4_t vld1_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0}, [r0]
int32x2_t vld1_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0}, [r0]
int64x1_t vld1_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t const * ptr); // VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]
float16x4_t vld1_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0}, [r0]
float32x2_t vld1_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t const * ptr); // VLD1.32 {d0}, [r0]
poly8x8_t vld1_p8(__transfersize(8) poly8_t const * ptr); // VLD1.8 {d0}, [r0]
poly16x4_t vld1_p16(__transfersize(4) poly16_t const * ptr); // VLD1.16 {d0}, [r0]
```

### Load a single lane from memory

```
uint8x16_t vld1q_lane_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t const * ptr, uint8x16_t vec,
    __constrange(0,15) int lane); // VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint16x8_t vld1q_lane_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x8_t vec,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint32x4_t vld1q_lane_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x4_t vec,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint64x2_t vld1q_lane_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t const * ptr, uint64x2_t vec,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

int8x16_t vld1q_lane_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t const * ptr, int8x16_t vec,
    __constrange(0,15) int lane); // VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int16x8_t vld1q_lane_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t const * ptr, int16x8_t vec,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int32x4_t vld1q_lane_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t const * ptr, int32x4_t vec,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

float16x8_t vld1q_lane_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 const * ptr, float16x8_t vec,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

float32x4_t vld1q_lane_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t const * ptr, float32x4_t vec,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int64x2_t vld1q_lane_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t const * ptr, int64x2_t vec,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

poly8x16_t vld1q_lane_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t const * ptr, poly8x16_t vec,
    __constrange(0,15) int lane); // VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

poly16x8_t vld1q_lane_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x8_t vec,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint8x8_t vld1_lane_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t const * ptr, uint8x8_t vec,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint16x4_t vld1_lane_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x4_t vec,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
```

```
uint32x2_t vld1_lane_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

uint64x1_t vld1_lane_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t const * ptr, uint64x1_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,0) int lane);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

int8x8_t vld1_lane_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t const * ptr, int8x8_t vec,
                     __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int16x4_t vld1_lane_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t const * ptr, int16x4_t vec,
                       __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int32x2_t vld1_lane_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t const * ptr, int32x2_t vec,
                       __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

float16x4_t vld1_lane_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 const * ptr, float16x4_t vec,
                          __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

float32x2_t vld1_lane_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t const * ptr, float32x2_t vec,
                          __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VLD1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]

int64x1_t vld1_lane_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t const * ptr, int64x1_t vec,
                       __constrange(0,0) int lane);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

poly8x8_t vld1_lane_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t const * ptr, poly8x8_t vec,
                      __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VLD1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]

poly16x4_t vld1_lane_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VLD1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
```

### Load all lanes of vector with same value from memory

```
uint8x16_t vld1q_dup_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint16x8_t vld1q_dup_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint32x4_t vld1q_dup_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint64x2_t vld1q_dup_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

int8x16_t vld1q_dup_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

int16x8_t vld1q_dup_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

int32x4_t vld1q_dup_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

int64x2_t vld1q_dup_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

float16x8_t vld1q_dup_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

float32x4_t vld1q_dup_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

poly8x16_t vld1q_dup_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

poly16x8_t vld1q_dup_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint8x8_t vld1_dup_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint16x4_t vld1_dup_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint32x2_t vld1_dup_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

uint64x1_t vld1_dup_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

int8x8_t vld1_dup_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

int16x4_t vld1_dup_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

int32x2_t vld1_dup_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

int64x1_t vld1_dup_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0}, [r0]

float16x4_t vld1_dup_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]

float32x2_t vld1_dup_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.32 {d0[]}, [r0]

poly8x8_t vld1_dup_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.8 {d0[]}, [r0]

poly16x4_t vld1_dup_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.16 {d0[]}, [r0]
```

## 18.18 NEON intrinsics for storing a single vector or lane

Stores all lanes or a single lane of a vector.

### Store a single vector into memory

```
void vst1q_u8(__transfersize(16) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x16_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_u16(__transfersize(8) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_u64(__transfersize(2) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x2_t val);
// VST1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_s8(__transfersize(16) int8_t * ptr, int8x16_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_s16(__transfersize(8) int16_t * ptr, int16x8_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t * ptr, int32x4_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_s64(__transfersize(2) int64_t * ptr, int64x2_t val);
// VST1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_f16(__transfersize(8) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t * ptr, float32x4_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_p8(__transfersize(16) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x16_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1q_p16(__transfersize(8) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst1_u8(__transfersize(8) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x1_t val);
// VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_s8(__transfersize(8) int8_t * ptr, int8x8_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t * ptr, int16x4_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t * ptr, int32x2_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t * ptr, int64x1_t val);
// VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t * ptr, float32x2_t val);
// VST1.32 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_p8(__transfersize(8) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8_t val);
// VST1.8 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_p16(__transfersize(4) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4_t val);
// VST1.16 {d0}, [r0]
```

### Store a lane of a vector into memory

```
void vst1q_lane_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x16_t val,
__constrange(0,15) int lane);
// VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x2_t val,
__constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t * ptr, int8x16_t val,
__constrange(0,15) int lane);
// VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t * ptr, int16x8_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t * ptr, int32x4_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t * ptr, int64x2_t val,
```

```

    __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t * ptr, float32x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x16_t val,
    __constrange(0,15) int lane);         // VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1q_lane_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_u8(__transfersize(1) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_u16(__transfersize(1) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_u32(__transfersize(1) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_u64(__transfersize(1) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x1_t val,
    __constrange(0,0) int lane);          // VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_s8(__transfersize(1) int8_t * ptr, int8x8_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_s16(__transfersize(1) int16_t * ptr, int16x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_s32(__transfersize(1) int32_t * ptr, int32x2_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_s64(__transfersize(1) int64_t * ptr, int64x1_t val,
    __constrange(0,0) int lane);          // VST1.64 {d0}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_f16(__transfersize(1) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_f32(__transfersize(1) float32_t * ptr, float32x2_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST1.32 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_p8(__transfersize(1) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST1.8 {d0[0]}, [r0]
void vst1_lane_p16(__transfersize(1) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST1.16 {d0[0]}, [r0]

```



## 18.19 NEON intrinsics for loading an N-element structure

These intrinsics load or store an *n*-element structure.

The array structures are defined similarly, for example the `int16x4x2_t` structure is defined as:

```
struct int16x4x2_t
{
    int16x4_t val[2];
};
```

### Load N-element structure from memory

```
uint8x16x2_t vld2q_u8(__transfersize(32) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
uint16x8x2_t vld2q_u16(__transfersize(16) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
uint32x4x2_t vld2q_u32(__transfersize(8) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
int8x16x2_t vld2q_s8(__transfersize(32) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
int16x8x2_t vld2q_s16(__transfersize(16) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
int32x4x2_t vld2q_s32(__transfersize(8) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
float16x8x2_t vld2q_f16(__transfersize(16) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
float32x4x2_t vld2q_f32(__transfersize(8) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
poly8x16x2_t vld2q_p8(__transfersize(32) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
poly16x8x2_t vld2q_p16(__transfersize(16) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
uint8x8x2_t vld2_u8(__transfersize(16) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint16x4x2_t vld2_u16(__transfersize(8) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint32x2x2_t vld2_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint64x1x2_t vld2_u64(__transfersize(2) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int8x8x2_t vld2_s8(__transfersize(16) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int16x4x2_t vld2_s16(__transfersize(8) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int32x2x2_t vld2_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int64x1x2_t vld2_s64(__transfersize(2) int64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
float16x4x2_t vld2_f16(__transfersize(8) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
float32x2x2_t vld2_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
poly8x8x2_t vld2_p8(__transfersize(16) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
poly16x4x2_t vld2_p16(__transfersize(8) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
uint8x16x3_t vld3q_u8(__transfersize(48) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
uint16x8x3_t vld3q_u16(__transfersize(24) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
uint32x4x3_t vld3q_u32(__transfersize(12) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
int8x16x3_t vld3q_s8(__transfersize(48) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
int16x8x3_t vld3q_s16(__transfersize(24) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
int32x4x3_t vld3q_s32(__transfersize(12) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
float16x8x3_t vld3q_f16(__transfersize(24) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
float32x4x3_t vld3q_f32(__transfersize(12) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
poly8x16x3_t vld3q_p8(__transfersize(48) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
poly16x8x3_t vld3q_p16(__transfersize(24) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
uint8x8x3_t vld3_u8(__transfersize(24) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
uint16x4x3_t vld3_u16(__transfersize(12) uint16_t const * ptr);
```

```

uint32x2x3_t vld3_u32(__transfersize(6) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
uint64x1x3_t vld3_u64(__transfersize(3) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
int8x8x3_t vld3_s8(__transfersize(24) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
int16x4x3_t vld3_s16(__transfersize(12) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
int32x2x3_t vld3_s32(__transfersize(6) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
int64x1x3_t vld3_s64(__transfersize(3) int64_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
float16x4x3_t vld3_f16(__transfersize(12) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
float32x2x3_t vld3_f32(__transfersize(6) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
poly8x8x3_t vld3_p8(__transfersize(24) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
poly16x4x3_t vld3_p16(__transfersize(12) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
uint8x16x4_t vld4q_u8(__transfersize(64) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
uint16x8x4_t vld4q_u16(__transfersize(32) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
uint32x4x4_t vld4q_u32(__transfersize(16) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
int8x16x4_t vld4q_s8(__transfersize(64) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
int16x8x4_t vld4q_s16(__transfersize(32) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
int32x4x4_t vld4q_s32(__transfersize(16) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
float16x8x4_t vld4q_f16(__transfersize(32) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
float32x4x4_t vld4q_f32(__transfersize(16) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
poly8x16x4_t vld4q_p8(__transfersize(64) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
poly16x8x4_t vld4q_p16(__transfersize(32) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
uint8x8x4_t vld4_u8(__transfersize(32) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
uint16x4x4_t vld4_u16(__transfersize(16) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
uint32x2x4_t vld4_u32(__transfersize(8) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
uint64x1x4_t vld4_u64(__transfersize(4) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
int8x8x4_t vld4_s8(__transfersize(32) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
int16x4x4_t vld4_s16(__transfersize(16) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
int32x2x4_t vld4_s32(__transfersize(8) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
int64x1x4_t vld4_s64(__transfersize(4) int64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
float16x4x4_t vld4_f16(__transfersize(16) __fp16 const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
float32x2x4_t vld4_f32(__transfersize(8) float32_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
poly8x8x4_t vld4_p8(__transfersize(32) poly8_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
poly16x4x4_t vld4_p16(__transfersize(16) poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]

```

### Load all lanes of N-element structure with same value from memory

```

uint8x8x2_t vld2_dup_u8(__transfersize(2) uint8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
uint16x4x2_t vld2_dup_u16(__transfersize(2) uint16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
uint32x2x2_t vld2_dup_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
uint64x1x2_t vld2_dup_u64(__transfersize(2) uint64_t const * ptr);
// VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
int8x8x2_t vld2_dup_s8(__transfersize(2) int8_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.8 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
int16x4x2_t vld2_dup_s16(__transfersize(2) int16_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.16 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
int32x2x2_t vld2_dup_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t const * ptr);
// VLD2.32 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
int64x1x2_t vld2_dup_s64(__transfersize(2) int64_t const * ptr);

```

```

float16x4x2_t vld2_dup_f16(__transfersize(2) // VLD1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
    __fp16 const * ptr);
float32x2x2_t vld2_dup_f32(__transfersize(2) // VLD2.16 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
    float32_t const * ptr);
poly8x8x2_t vld2_dup_p8(__transfersize(2) // VLD2.32 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
    poly8_t const * ptr);
poly16x4x2_t vld2_dup_p16(__transfersize(2) // VLD2.8 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
    poly16_t const * ptr);
uint8x8x3_t vld3_dup_u8(__transfersize(3) // VLD2.16 {d0[], d1[]}, [r0]
    uint8_t const * ptr);
uint16x4x3_t vld3_dup_u16(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    uint16_t const * ptr);
uint32x2x3_t vld3_dup_u32(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    uint32_t const * ptr);
uint64x1x3_t vld3_dup_u64(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    uint64_t const * ptr);
int8x8x3_t vld3_dup_s8(__transfersize(3) // VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
    int8_t const * ptr);
int16x4x3_t vld3_dup_s16(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    int16_t const * ptr);
int32x2x3_t vld3_dup_s32(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    int32_t const * ptr);
int64x1x3_t vld3_dup_s64(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    int64_t const * ptr);
float16x4x3_t vld3_dup_f16(__transfersize(3) // VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
    __fp16 const * ptr);
float32x2x3_t vld3_dup_f32(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    float32_t const * ptr);
poly8x8x3_t vld3_dup_p8(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    poly8_t const * ptr);
poly16x4x3_t vld3_dup_p16(__transfersize(3) // VLD3.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    poly16_t const * ptr);
uint8x8x4_t vld4_dup_u8(__transfersize(4) // VLD3.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[]}, [r0]
    uint8_t const * ptr);
uint16x4x4_t vld4_dup_u16(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    uint16_t const * ptr);
uint32x2x4_t vld4_dup_u32(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    uint32_t const * ptr);
uint64x1x4_t vld4_dup_u64(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    uint64_t const * ptr);
int8x8x4_t vld4_dup_s8(__transfersize(4) // VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
    int8_t const * ptr);
int16x4x4_t vld4_dup_s16(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    int16_t const * ptr);
int32x2x4_t vld4_dup_s32(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    int32_t const * ptr);
int64x1x4_t vld4_dup_s64(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    int64_t const * ptr);
float16x4x4_t vld4_dup_f16(__transfersize(4) // VLD1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
    __fp16 const * ptr);
float32x2x4_t vld4_dup_f32(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    float32_t const * ptr);
poly8x8x4_t vld4_dup_p8(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.32 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    poly8_t const * ptr);
poly16x4x4_t vld4_dup_p16(__transfersize(4) // VLD4.8 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]
    poly16_t const * ptr);
// VLD4.16 {d0[], d1[], d2[], d3[]}, [r0]

```

### Load a single lane of N-element structure from memory

```

uint16x8x2_t vld2q_lane_u16(__transfersize(2) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
uint32x4x2_t vld2q_lane_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
int16x8x2_t vld2q_lane_s16(__transfersize(2) int16_t const * ptr, int16x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
int32x4x2_t vld2q_lane_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t const * ptr, int32x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
float16x8x2_t vld2q_lane_f16(__transfersize(2) __fp16 const * ptr, float16x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
float32x4x2_t vld2q_lane_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t const * ptr, float32x4x2_t
    src, __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
poly16x8x2_t vld2q_lane_p16(__transfersize(2) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
uint8x8x2_t vld2_lane_u8(__transfersize(2) uint8_t const * ptr, uint8x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

```

```

uint16x4x2_t vld2_lane_u16(__transfersize(2) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

uint32x2x2_t vld2_lane_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x2x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

int8x8x2_t vld2_lane_s8(__transfersize(2) int8_t const * ptr, int8x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

int16x4x2_t vld2_lane_s16(__transfersize(2) int16_t const * ptr, int16x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

int32x2x2_t vld2_lane_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t const * ptr, int32x2x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

float16x4x2_t vld2_lane_f16(__transfersize(2) fp16 const * ptr, float16x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

float32x2x2_t vld2_lane_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t const * ptr, float32x2x2_t
    src, __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

poly8x8x2_t vld2_lane_p8(__transfersize(2) poly8_t const * ptr, poly8x8x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

poly16x4x2_t vld2_lane_p16(__transfersize(2) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x4x2_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]

uint16x8x3_t vld3q_lane_u16(__transfersize(3) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

uint32x4x3_t vld3q_lane_u32(__transfersize(3) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

int16x8x3_t vld3q_lane_s16(__transfersize(3) int16_t const * ptr, int16x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

int32x4x3_t vld3q_lane_s32(__transfersize(3) int32_t const * ptr, int32x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

float16x8x3_t vld3q_lane_f16(__transfersize(3) fp16 const * ptr, float16x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

float32x4x3_t vld3q_lane_f32(__transfersize(3) float32_t const * ptr, float32x4x3_t
    src, __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

poly16x8x3_t vld3q_lane_p16(__transfersize(3) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]

uint8x8x3_t vld3_lane_u8(__transfersize(3) uint8_t const * ptr, uint8x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

uint16x4x3_t vld3_lane_u16(__transfersize(3) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

uint32x2x3_t vld3_lane_u32(__transfersize(3) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x2x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

int8x8x3_t vld3_lane_s8(__transfersize(3) int8_t const * ptr, int8x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

int16x4x3_t vld3_lane_s16(__transfersize(3) int16_t const * ptr, int16x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

int32x2x3_t vld3_lane_s32(__transfersize(3) int32_t const * ptr, int32x2x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

float16x4x3_t vld3_lane_f16(__transfersize(3) fp16 const * ptr, float16x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

float32x2x3_t vld3_lane_f32(__transfersize(3) float32_t const * ptr, float32x2x3_t
    src, __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

poly8x8x3_t vld3_lane_p8(__transfersize(3) poly8_t const * ptr, poly8x8x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

poly16x4x3_t vld3_lane_p16(__transfersize(3) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x4x3_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]

uint16x8x4_t vld4q_lane_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

uint32x4x4_t vld4q_lane_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

```

```
int16x8x4_t vld4q_lane_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t const * ptr, int16x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

int32x4x4_t vld4q_lane_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t const * ptr, int32x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

float16x8x4_t vld4q_lane_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 const * ptr, float16x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

float32x4x4_t vld4q_lane_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t const * ptr, float32x4x4_t
    src, __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

poly16x8x4_t vld4q_lane_p16(__transfersize(4) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]

uint8x8x4_t vld4_lane_u8(__transfersize(4) uint8_t const * ptr, uint8x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

uint16x4x4_t vld4_lane_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t const * ptr, uint16x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

uint32x2x4_t vld4_lane_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t const * ptr, uint32x2x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

int8x8x4_t vld4_lane_s8(__transfersize(4) int8_t const * ptr, int8x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

int16x4x4_t vld4_lane_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t const * ptr, int16x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

int32x2x4_t vld4_lane_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t const * ptr, int32x2x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

float16x4x4_t vld4_lane_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 const * ptr, float16x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

float32x2x4_t vld4_lane_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t const * ptr, float32x2x4_t
    src, __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VLD4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

poly8x8x4_t vld4_lane_p8(__transfersize(4) poly8_t const * ptr, poly8x8x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VLD4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

poly16x4x4_t vld4_lane_p16(__transfersize(4) poly16_t const * ptr, poly16x4x4_t src,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VLD4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
```

## Store N-element structure to memory

```
void vst2q_u8(__transfersize(32) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x16x2_t val);
    // VST2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_u16(__transfersize(16) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_u32(__transfersize(8) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x2_t val);
    // VST2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_s8(__transfersize(32) int8_t * ptr, int8x16x2_t val);
    // VST2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_s16(__transfersize(16) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_s32(__transfersize(8) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x2_t val);
    // VST2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_f16(__transfersize(16) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_f32(__transfersize(8) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x2_t val);
    // VST2.32 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_p8(__transfersize(32) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x16x2_t val);
    // VST2.8 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2q_p16(__transfersize(16) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d2}, [r0]
void vst2_u8(__transfersize(16) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_u16(__transfersize(8) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x2_t val);
    // VST2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_u64(__transfersize(2) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x1x2_t val);
    // VST1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_s8(__transfersize(16) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x2_t val);
    // VST2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_s16(__transfersize(8) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x2_t val);
    // VST2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x2_t val);
    // VST2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_s64(__transfersize(2) int64_t * ptr, int64x1x2_t val);
```

```

void vst2_f16(__transfersize(8) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x2_t val); // VST1.64 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x2_t val); // VST2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_p8(__transfersize(16) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x2_t val); // VST2.32 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst2_p16(__transfersize(8) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x2_t val); // VST2.8 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst3q_u8(__transfersize(48) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x16x3_t val); // VST2.16 {d0, d1}, [r0]
void vst3q_u16(__transfersize(24) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_u32(__transfersize(12) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_s8(__transfersize(48) int8_t * ptr, int8x16x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_s16(__transfersize(24) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_s32(__transfersize(12) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_f16(__transfersize(24) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_f32(__transfersize(12) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_p8(__transfersize(48) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x16x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3q_p16(__transfersize(24) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3_u8(__transfersize(24) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d2, d4}, [r0]
void vst3_u16(__transfersize(12) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_u32(__transfersize(6) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_u64(__transfersize(3) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x1x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_s8(__transfersize(24) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x3_t val); // VST1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_s16(__transfersize(12) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_s32(__transfersize(6) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_s64(__transfersize(3) int64_t * ptr, int64x1x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_f16(__transfersize(12) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x3_t val); // VST1.64 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_f32(__transfersize(6) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x3_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_p8(__transfersize(24) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x3_t val); // VST3.32 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst3_p16(__transfersize(12) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x3_t val); // VST3.8 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst4q_u8(__transfersize(64) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x16x4_t val); // VST3.16 {d0, d1, d2}, [r0]
void vst4q_u16(__transfersize(32) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_u32(__transfersize(16) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_u64(__transfersize(8) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x2x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_s8(__transfersize(64) int8_t * ptr, int8x16x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_s16(__transfersize(32) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_s32(__transfersize(16) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_s64(__transfersize(8) int64_t * ptr, int64x2x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_f16(__transfersize(32) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_f32(__transfersize(16) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_p8(__transfersize(64) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x16x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4q_p16(__transfersize(32) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4_u8(__transfersize(32) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d2, d4, d6}, [r0]
void vst4_u16(__transfersize(16) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_u32(__transfersize(8) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_u64(__transfersize(4) uint64_t * ptr, uint64x1x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_s8(__transfersize(32) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x4_t val); // VST1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_s16(__transfersize(16) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]

```

```

void vst4_s32(__transfersize(8) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_s64(__transfersize(4) int64_t * ptr, int64x1x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_f16(__transfersize(16) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x4_t val); // VST1.64 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_f32(__transfersize(8) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_p8(__transfersize(32) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x4_t val); // VST4.32 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_p16(__transfersize(16) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x4_t val); // VST4.8 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]
void vst4_p16(__transfersize(16) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x4_t val); // VST4.16 {d0, d1, d2, d3}, [r0]

```

### Store a single lane of N-element structure to memory

```

void vst2q_lane_u16(__transfersize(2) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_s16(__transfersize(2) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_f16(__transfersize(2) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2q_lane_p16(__transfersize(2) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_u8(__transfersize(2) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_u16(__transfersize(2) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_u32(__transfersize(2) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x2_t val,
__constrange(0,1) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_s8(__transfersize(2) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_s16(__transfersize(2) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_s32(__transfersize(2) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x2_t val,
__constrange(0,1) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_f16(__transfersize(2) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_f32(__transfersize(2) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x2_t val,
__constrange(0,1) int lane); // VST2.32 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_p8(__transfersize(2) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x2_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST2.8 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst2_lane_p16(__transfersize(2) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x2_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST2.16 {d0[0], d1[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_u16(__transfersize(3) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x3_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_u32(__transfersize(3) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x3_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_s16(__transfersize(3) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x3_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_s32(__transfersize(3) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x3_t val,
__constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_f16(__transfersize(3) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x3_t val,
__constrange(0,7) int lane); // VST3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_f32(__transfersize(3) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x3_t val,

```

```

    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST3.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3q_lane_p16(__transfersize(3) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST3.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_u8(__transfersize(3) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_u16(__transfersize(3) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_u32(__transfersize(3) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_s8(__transfersize(3) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_s16(__transfersize(3) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_s32(__transfersize(3) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_f16(__transfersize(3) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_f32(__transfersize(3) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST3.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_p8(__transfersize(3) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST3.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst3_lane_p16(__transfersize(3) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x3_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST3.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t * ptr, int16x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t * ptr, int32x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 * ptr, float16x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t * ptr, float32x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4q_lane_p16(__transfersize(4) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d2[0], d4[0], d6[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_u8(__transfersize(4) uint8_t * ptr, uint8x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_u16(__transfersize(4) uint16_t * ptr, uint16x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_u32(__transfersize(4) uint32_t * ptr, uint32x2x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_s8(__transfersize(4) int8_t * ptr, int8x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_s16(__transfersize(4) int16_t * ptr, int16x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_s32(__transfersize(4) int32_t * ptr, int32x2x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_f16(__transfersize(4) __fp16 * ptr, float16x4x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,3) int lane);          // VST4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_f32(__transfersize(4) float32_t * ptr, float32x2x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,1) int lane);          // VST4.32 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
void vst4_lane_p8(__transfersize(4) poly8_t * ptr, poly8x8x4_t val,
    __constrange(0,7) int lane);          // VST4.8 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]

```



```
void vst4_lane_p16(__transfer_size(4) poly16_t * ptr, poly16x4x4_t val,  
  __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VST4.16 {d0[0], d1[0], d2[0], d3[0]}, [r0]
```

## 18.20 NEON intrinsics for extracting lanes from a vector into a register

These intrinsics extract a single lane (element) from a vector.

```
uint8_t  vget_lane_u8(uint8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.U8 r0, d0[0]
uint16_t vget_lane_u16(uint16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.U16 r0, d0[0]
uint32_t vget_lane_u32(uint32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
int8_t   vget_lane_s8(int8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.S8 r0, d0[0]
int16_t  vget_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.S16 r0, d0[0]
int32_t  vget_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
poly8_t  vget_lane_p8(poly8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.U8 r0, d0[0]
poly16_t vget_lane_p16(poly16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.U16 r0, d0[0]
float32_t vget_lane_f32(float32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
uint8_t  vgetq_lane_u8(uint8x16_t vec, __constrange(0,15) int lane);
// VMOV.U8 r0, d0[0]
uint16_t vgetq_lane_u16(uint16x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.U16 r0, d0[0]
uint32_t vgetq_lane_u32(uint32x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
int8_t   vgetq_lane_s8(int8x16_t vec, __constrange(0,15) int lane);
// VMOV.S8 r0, d0[0]
int16_t  vgetq_lane_s16(int16x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.S16 r0, d0[0]
int32_t  vgetq_lane_s32(int32x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
poly8_t  vgetq_lane_p8(poly8x16_t vec, __constrange(0,15) int lane);
// VMOV.U8 r0, d0[0]
poly16_t vgetq_lane_p16(poly16x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VMOV.U16 r0, d0[0]
float32_t vgetq_lane_f32(float32x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VMOV.32 r0, d0[0]
int64_t  vget_lane_s64(int64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane);
// VMOV r0,r0,d0
uint64_t vget_lane_u64(uint64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane);
// VMOV r0,r0,d0
int64_t  vgetq_lane_s64(int64x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VMOV r0,r0,d0
uint64_t vgetq_lane_u64(uint64x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VMOV r0,r0,d0
```

## 18.21 NEON intrinsics for loading a single lane of a vector from a literal

These intrinsics set a single lane (element) within a vector.

```
uint8x8_t   vset_lane_u8(uint8_t value, uint8x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

uint16x4_t  vset_lane_u16(uint16_t value, uint16x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

uint32x2_t  vset_lane_u32(uint32_t value, uint32x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

int8x8_t    vset_lane_s8(int8_t value, int8x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

int16x4_t   vset_lane_s16(int16_t value, int16x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

int32x2_t   vset_lane_s32(int32_t value, int32x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

poly8x8_t   vset_lane_p8(poly8_t value, poly8x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

poly16x4_t  vset_lane_p16(poly16_t value, poly16x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

float32x2_t vset_lane_f32(float32_t value, float32x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

uint8x16_t  vsetq_lane_u8(uint8_t value, uint8x16_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,15) int lane);          // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

uint16x8_t  vsetq_lane_u16(uint16_t value, uint16x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

uint32x4_t  vsetq_lane_u32(uint32_t value, uint32x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

int8x16_t   vsetq_lane_s8(int8_t value, int8x16_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,15) int lane);          // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

int16x8_t   vsetq_lane_s16(int16_t value, int16x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

int32x4_t   vsetq_lane_s32(int32_t value, int32x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

poly8x16_t  vsetq_lane_p8(poly8_t value, poly8x16_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,15) int lane);          // VMOV.8 d0[0],r0

poly16x8_t  vsetq_lane_p16(poly16_t value, poly16x8_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,7) int lane);           // VMOV.16 d0[0],r0

float32x4_t vsetq_lane_f32(float32_t value, float32x4_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,3) int lane);           // VMOV.32 d0[0],r0

int64x1_t   vset_lane_s64(int64_t value, int64x1_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,0) int lane);           // VMOV d0,r0,r0

uint64x1_t  vset_lane_u64(uint64_t value, uint64x1_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,0) int lane);           // VMOV d0,r0,r0

int64x2_t   vsetq_lane_s64(int64_t value, int64x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VMOV d0,r0,r0

uint64x2_t  vsetq_lane_u64(uint64_t value, uint64x2_t vec,
                        __constrange(0,1) int lane);           // VMOV d0,r0,r0
```

## 18.22 NEON intrinsics for initializing a vector from a literal bit pattern

These intrinsics create a vector from a literal bit pattern.

```
int8x8_t    vcreate_s8(uint64_t a);    // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int16x4_t   vcreate_s16(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int32x2_t   vcreate_s32(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
float16x4_t vcreate_f16(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
float32x2_t vcreate_f32(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint8x8_t   vcreate_u8(uint64_t a);    // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint16x4_t  vcreate_u16(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint32x2_t  vcreate_u32(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint64x1_t  vcreate_u64(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
poly8x8_t   vcreate_p8(uint64_t a);    // VMOV d0,r0,r0
poly16x4_t  vcreate_p16(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int64x1_t   vcreate_s64(uint64_t a);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
```

## 18.23 NEON intrinsics for setting all lanes to the same value

These intrinsics set all lanes to the same value.

### Load all lanes of vector to the same literal value

```
uint8x8_t    vdup_n_u8(uint8_t value);      // VDUP.8 d0,r0
uint16x4_t   vdup_n_u16(uint16_t value);    // VDUP.16 d0,r0
uint32x2_t   vdup_n_u32(uint32_t value);    // VDUP.32 d0,r0
int8x8_t     vdup_n_s8(int8_t value);       // VDUP.8 d0,r0
int16x4_t    vdup_n_s16(int16_t value);     // VDUP.16 d0,r0
int32x2_t    vdup_n_s32(int32_t value);     // VDUP.32 d0,r0
poly8x8_t    vdup_n_p8(poly8_t value);     // VDUP.8 d0,r0
poly16x4_t   vdup_n_p16(poly16_t value);    // VDUP.16 d0,r0
float32x2_t  vdup_n_f32(float32_t value);   // VDUP.32 d0,r0
uint8x16_t   vdupq_n_u8(uint8_t value);    // VDUP.8 q0,r0
uint16x8_t   vdupq_n_u16(uint16_t value);   // VDUP.16 q0,r0
uint32x4_t   vdupq_n_u32(uint32_t value);   // VDUP.32 q0,r0
int8x16_t    vdupq_n_s8(int8_t value);     // VDUP.8 q0,r0
int16x8_t    vdupq_n_s16(int16_t value);    // VDUP.16 q0,r0
int32x4_t    vdupq_n_s32(int32_t value);    // VDUP.32 q0,r0
poly8x16_t   vdupq_n_p8(poly8_t value);    // VDUP.8 q0,r0
poly16x8_t   vdupq_n_p16(poly16_t value);   // VDUP.16 q0,r0
float32x4_t  vdupq_n_f32(float32_t value);  // VDUP.32 q0,r0
int64x1_t    vdup_n_s64(int64_t value);    // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint64x1_t   vdup_n_u64(uint64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int64x2_t    vdupq_n_s64(int64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint64x2_t   vdupq_n_u64(uint64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int8x8_t     vmov_n_u8(uint8_t value);     // VDUP.8 d0,r0
uint16x4_t   vmov_n_u16(uint16_t value);    // VDUP.16 d0,r0
uint32x2_t   vmov_n_u32(uint32_t value);    // VDUP.32 d0,r0
int8x8_t     vmov_n_s8(int8_t value);       // VDUP.8 d0,r0
int16x4_t    vmov_n_s16(int16_t value);     // VDUP.16 d0,r0
int32x2_t    vmov_n_s32(int32_t value);     // VDUP.32 d0,r0
poly8x8_t    vmov_n_p8(poly8_t value);     // VDUP.8 d0,r0
poly16x4_t   vmov_n_p16(poly16_t value);    // VDUP.16 d0,r0
float32x2_t  vmov_n_f32(float32_t value);   // VDUP.32 d0,r0
uint8x16_t   vmovq_n_u8(uint8_t value);    // VDUP.8 q0,r0
uint16x8_t   vmovq_n_u16(uint16_t value);   // VDUP.16 q0,r0
uint32x4_t   vmovq_n_u32(uint32_t value);   // VDUP.32 q0,r0
int8x16_t    vmovq_n_s8(int8_t value);     // VDUP.8 q0,r0
int16x8_t    vmovq_n_s16(int16_t value);    // VDUP.16 q0,r0
int32x4_t    vmovq_n_s32(int32_t value);    // VDUP.32 q0,r0
poly8x16_t   vmovq_n_p8(poly8_t value);    // VDUP.8 q0,r0
poly16x8_t   vmovq_n_p16(poly16_t value);   // VDUP.16 q0,r0
float32x4_t  vmovq_n_f32(float32_t value);  // VDUP.32 q0,r0
int64x1_t    vmov_n_s64(int64_t value);    // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint64x1_t   vmov_n_u64(uint64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
int64x2_t    vmovq_n_s64(int64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
uint64x2_t   vmovq_n_u64(uint64_t value);   // VMOV d0,r0,r0
```

### Load all lanes of the vector to the value of a lane of a vector

```
uint8x8_t    vdup_lane_u8(uint8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VDUP.8 d0,d0[0]
uint16x4_t   vdup_lane_u16(uint16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VDUP.16 d0,d0[0]
uint32x2_t   vdup_lane_u32(uint32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VDUP.32 d0,d0[0]
int8x8_t     vdup_lane_s8(int8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VDUP.8 d0,d0[0]
int16x4_t    vdup_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VDUP.16 d0,d0[0]
int32x2_t    vdup_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VDUP.32 d0,d0[0]
poly8x8_t    vdup_lane_p8(poly8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VDUP.8 d0,d0[0]
poly16x4_t   vdup_lane_p16(poly16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VDUP.16 d0,d0[0]
float32x2_t  vdup_lane_f32(float32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VDUP.32 d0,d0[0]
uint8x16_t   vdupq_lane_u8(uint8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VDUP.8 q0,d0[0]
uint16x8_t   vdupq_lane_u16(uint16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
// VDUP.16 q0,d0[0]
uint32x4_t   vdupq_lane_u32(uint32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane);
// VDUP.32 q0,d0[0]
int8x16_t    vdupq_lane_s8(int8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane);
// VDUP.8 q0,d0[0]
int16x8_t    vdupq_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane);
```

```

int32x4_t  vdupq_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VDUP.16 q0,d0[0]
poly8x16_t vdupq_lane_p8(poly8x8_t vec, __constrange(0,7) int lane); // VDUP.32 q0,d0[0]
poly16x8_t vdupq_lane_p16(poly16x4_t vec, __constrange(0,3) int lane); // VDUP.8 q0,d0[0]
float32x4_t vdupq_lane_f32(float32x2_t vec, __constrange(0,1) int lane); // VDUP.16 q0,d0[0]
int64x1_t  vdup_lane_s64(int64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane); // VDUP.32 q0,d0[0]
uint64x1_t vdup_lane_u64(uint64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane); // VMOV d0,d0
int64x2_t  vdupq_lane_s64(int64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane); // VMOV d0,d0
uint64x2_t vdupq_lane_u64(uint64x1_t vec, __constrange(0,0) int lane); // VMOV q0,q0

```

## 18.24 NEON intrinsics for combining vectors

These intrinsics join two 64 bit vectors into a single 128 bit vector.

```
int8x16_t  vcombine_s8(int8x8_t low, int8x8_t high);      // VMOV d0,d0
int16x8_t  vcombine_s16(int16x4_t low, int16x4_t high);   // VMOV d0,d0
int32x4_t  vcombine_s32(int32x2_t low, int32x2_t high);   // VMOV d0,d0
int64x2_t  vcombine_s64(int64x1_t low, int64x1_t high);   // VMOV d0,d0
float16x8_t vcombine_f16(float16x4_t low, float16x4_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
float32x4_t vcombine_f32(float32x2_t low, float32x2_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
uint8x16_t vcombine_u8(uint8x8_t low, uint8x8_t high);    // VMOV d0,d0
uint16x8_t vcombine_u16(uint16x4_t low, uint16x4_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
uint32x4_t vcombine_u32(uint32x2_t low, uint32x2_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
uint64x2_t vcombine_u64(uint64x1_t low, uint64x1_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
poly8x16_t vcombine_p8(poly8x8_t low, poly8x8_t high);    // VMOV d0,d0
poly16x8_t vcombine_p16(poly16x4_t low, poly16x4_t high); // VMOV d0,d0
```

## 18.25 NEON intrinsics for splitting vectors

These intrinsics split a 128 bit vector into 2 component 64 bit vectors.

```
int8x8_t    vget_high_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
int16x4_t   vget_high_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
int32x2_t   vget_high_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
int64x1_t   vget_high_s64(int64x2_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
float16x4_t vget_high_f16(float16x8_t a); // VMOV d0,d0
float32x2_t vget_high_f32(float32x4_t a); // VMOV d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vget_high_u8(uint8x16_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vget_high_u16(uint16x8_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vget_high_u32(uint32x4_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
uint64x1_t  vget_high_u64(uint64x2_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
poly8x8_t   vget_high_p8(poly8x16_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
poly16x4_t  vget_high_p16(poly16x8_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
int8x8_t    vget_low_s8(int8x16_t a);     // VMOV d0,d0
int16x4_t   vget_low_s16(int16x8_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
int32x2_t   vget_low_s32(int32x4_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
int64x1_t   vget_low_s64(int64x2_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
float16x4_t vget_low_f16(float16x8_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
float32x2_t vget_low_f32(float32x4_t a);  // VMOV d0,d0
uint8x8_t   vget_low_u8(uint8x16_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
uint16x4_t  vget_low_u16(uint16x8_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
uint32x2_t  vget_low_u32(uint32x4_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
uint64x1_t  vget_low_u64(uint64x2_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
poly8x8_t   vget_low_p8(poly8x16_t a);    // VMOV d0,d0
poly16x4_t  vget_low_p16(poly16x8_t a);   // VMOV d0,d0
```



## 18.26 NEON intrinsics for converting vectors

These intrinsics convert vectors.

### Convert from float

```
int32x2_t vcvf_s32_f32(float32x2_t a);           // VCVT.S32.F32 d0, d0
uint32x2_t vcvf_u32_f32(float32x2_t a);           // VCVT.U32.F32 d0, d0
int32x4_t vcvtf_s32_f32(float32x4_t a);           // VCVT.S32.F32 q0, q0
uint32x4_t vcvtf_u32_f32(float32x4_t a);           // VCVT.U32.F32 q0, q0
int32x2_t vcvf_n_s32_f32(float32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.S32.F32 d0, d0, #32
uint32x2_t vcvf_n_u32_f32(float32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.U32.F32 d0, d0, #32
int32x4_t vcvtf_n_s32_f32(float32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.S32.F32 q0, q0, #32
uint32x4_t vcvtf_n_u32_f32(float32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.U32.F32 q0, q0, #32
```

### Convert to float

```
float32x2_t vcvt_f32_s32(int32x2_t a);           // VCVT.F32.S32 d0, d0
float32x2_t vcvt_f32_u32(uint32x2_t a);           // VCVT.F32.U32 d0, d0
float32x4_t vcvtq_f32_s32(int32x4_t a);           // VCVT.F32.S32 q0, q0
float32x4_t vcvtq_f32_u32(uint32x4_t a);           // VCVT.F32.U32 q0, q0
float32x2_t vcvt_n_f32_s32(int32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.F32.S32 d0, d0, #32
float32x2_t vcvt_n_f32_u32(uint32x2_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.F32.U32 d0, d0, #32
float32x4_t vcvtq_n_f32_s32(int32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.F32.S32 q0, q0, #32
float32x4_t vcvtq_n_f32_u32(uint32x4_t a, __constrange(1,32) int b); // VCVT.F32.U32 q0, q0, #32
```

### Convert between floats

```
float16x4_t vcvt_f16_f32(float32x4_t a);           // VCVT.F16.F32 d0, q0
float32x4_t vcvt_f32_f16(float16x4_t a);           // VCVT.F32.F16 q0, d0
```

### Vector narrow integer

```
int8x8_t vmovn_s16(int16x8_t a);                 // VMOVN.I16 d0,q0
int16x4_t vmovn_s32(int32x4_t a);                 // VMOVN.I32 d0,q0
int32x2_t vmovn_s64(int64x2_t a);                 // VMOVN.I64 d0,q0
uint8x8_t vmovn_u16(uint16x8_t a);                 // VMOVN.U16 d0,q0
uint16x4_t vmovn_u32(uint32x4_t a);                 // VMOVN.U32 d0,q0
uint32x2_t vmovn_u64(uint64x2_t a);                 // VMOVN.U64 d0,q0
```

### Vector long move

```
int16x8_t vmovl_s8(int8x8_t a);                   // VMOVL.S8 q0,d0
int32x4_t vmovl_s16(int16x4_t a);                 // VMOVL.S16 q0,d0
int64x2_t vmovl_s32(int32x2_t a);                 // VMOVL.S32 q0,d0
uint16x8_t vmovl_u8(uint8x8_t a);                 // VMOVL.U8 q0,d0
uint32x4_t vmovl_u16(uint16x4_t a);                 // VMOVL.U16 q0,d0
uint64x2_t vmovl_u32(uint32x2_t a);                 // VMOVL.U32 q0,d0
```

### Vector saturating narrow integer

```
int8x8_t vqmovn_s16(int16x8_t a);                 // VQMOVN.S16 d0,q0
int16x4_t vqmovn_s32(int32x4_t a);                 // VQMOVN.S32 d0,q0
int32x2_t vqmovn_s64(int64x2_t a);                 // VQMOVN.S64 d0,q0
uint8x8_t vqmovn_u16(uint16x8_t a);                 // VQMOVN.U16 d0,q0
uint16x4_t vqmovn_u32(uint32x4_t a);                 // VQMOVN.U32 d0,q0
uint32x2_t vqmovn_u64(uint64x2_t a);                 // VQMOVN.U64 d0,q0
```

### Vector saturating narrow integer signed->unsigned

```
uint8x8_t vqmovun_s16(int16x8_t a);                 // VQMOVUN.S16 d0,q0
uint16x4_t vqmovun_s32(int32x4_t a);                 // VQMOVUN.S32 d0,q0
uint32x2_t vqmovun_s64(int64x2_t a);                 // VQMOVUN.S64 d0,q0
```

## 18.27 NEON intrinsics for table look up

These intrinsics uses byte indexes in a control vector to look up byte values in a table and generate a new vector. Indexes out of range return 0.

```
uint8x8_t vtbl1_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0}, d0
int8x8_t vtbl1_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbl1_p8(poly8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbl2_u8(uint8x8x2_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
int8x8_t vtbl2_s8(int8x8x2_t a, int8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbl2_p8(poly8x8x2_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbl3_u8(uint8x8x3_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
int8x8_t vtbl3_s8(int8x8x3_t a, int8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbl3_p8(poly8x8x3_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbl4_u8(uint8x8x4_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
int8x8_t vtbl4_s8(int8x8x4_t a, int8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbl4_p8(poly8x8x4_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VTBL.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
```

## 18.28 NEON intrinsics for extended table look up

These intrinsics use byte indexes in a control vector to look up byte values in a table and generate a new vector.

```
uint8x8_t vtbx1_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0}, d0
int8x8_t vtbx1_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbx1_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbx2_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8x2_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
int8x8_t vtbx2_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8x2_t b, int8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbx2_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8x2_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbx3_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8x3_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
int8x8_t vtbx3_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8x3_t b, int8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbx3_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8x3_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2}, d0
uint8x8_t vtbx4_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8x4_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
int8x8_t vtbx4_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8x4_t b, int8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
poly8x8_t vtbx4_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8x4_t b, uint8x8_t c);
// VTBX.8 d0, {d0, d1, d2, d3}, d0
```

## 18.29 NEON intrinsics for operations with a scalar value

These intrinsics perform operations with a scalar value.

Efficient code generation for these intrinsics is only guaranteed when the scalar argument is either a constant or a use of one of the `vget_lane` intrinsics.

### Vector multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int16x4_t  vmla_lane_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLA.I16 d0, d0, d0[0]

int32x2_t  vmla_lane_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.I32 d0, d0, d0[0]

uint16x4_t vmla_lane_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLA.U16 d0, d0, d0[0]

uint32x2_t vmla_lane_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.U32 d0, d0, d0[0]

float32x2_t vmla_lane_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.F32 d0, d0, d0[0]

int16x8_t  vmlaq_lane_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLA.I16 q0, q0, d0[0]

int32x4_t  vmlaq_lane_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.I32 q0, q0, d0[0]

uint16x8_t vmlaq_lane_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLA.U16 q0, q0, d0[0]

uint32x4_t vmlaq_lane_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.U32 q0, q0, d0[0]

float32x4_t vmlaq_lane_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLA.F32 q0, q0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int32x4_t  vmlal_lane_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLAL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]

int64x2_t  vmlal_lane_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLAL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]

uint32x4_t vmlal_lane_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLAL.U16 q0, d0, d0[0]

uint64x2_t vmlal_lane_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLAL.U32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening saturating doubling multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int32x4_t  vqdmmlal_lane_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VQDMLAL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]

int64x2_t  vqdmmlal_lane_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VQDMLAL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector multiply subtract with scalar

```
int16x4_t  vmls_lane_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLS.I16 d0, d0, d0[0]

int32x2_t  vmls_lane_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.I32 d0, d0, d0[0]

uint16x4_t vmls_lane_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t v,
                        __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLS.U16 d0, d0, d0[0]

uint32x2_t vmls_lane_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.U32 d0, d0, d0[0]

float32x2_t vmls_lane_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32x2_t v,
                        __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.F32 d0, d0, d0[0]
```

```
int16x8_t    vmlsq_lane_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x4_t v,
    __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLS.I16 q0, q0, d0[0]

int32x4_t    vmlsq_lane_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.I32 q0, q0, d0[0]

uint16x8_t   vmlsq_lane_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x4_t v,
    __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLS.U16 q0, q0, d0[0]

uint32x4_t   vmlsq_lane_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.U32 q0, q0, d0[0]

float32x4_t  vmlsq_lane_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLS.F32 q0, q0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening multiply subtract with scalar

```
int32x4_t    vmlsl_lane_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
    __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLSL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]

int64x2_t    vmlsl_lane_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLSL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]

uint32x4_t   vmlsl_lane_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t v,
    __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VMLSL.U16 q0, d0, d0[0]

uint64x2_t   vmlsl_lane_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VMLSL.U32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening saturating doubling multiply subtract with scalar

```
int32x4_t    vqdmssl_lane_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t v,
    __constrange(0,3) int l);    // VQDMSL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]

int64x2_t    vqdmssl_lane_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t v,
    __constrange(0,1) int l);    // VQDMSL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector multiply by scalar

```
int16x4_t    vmul_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16_t b);    // VMUL.I16 d0,d0,d0[0]
int32x2_t    vmul_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32_t b);    // VMUL.I32 d0,d0,d0[0]
float32x2_t  vmul_n_f32(float32x2_t a, float32_t b); // VMUL.F32 d0,d0,d0[0]
uint16x4_t   vmul_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16_t b);  // VMUL.U16 d0,d0,d0[0]
uint32x2_t   vmul_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32_t b);  // VMUL.U32 d0,d0,d0[0]
int16x8_t    vmulq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16_t b);   // VMUL.I16 q0,q0,d0[0]
int32x4_t    vmulq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32_t b);   // VMUL.I32 q0,q0,d0[0]
float32x4_t  vmulq_n_f32(float32x4_t a, float32_t b); // VMUL.F32 q0,q0,d0[0]
uint16x8_t   vmulq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16_t b);  // VMUL.U16 q0,q0,d0[0]
uint32x4_t   vmulq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32_t b);  // VMUL.U32 q0,q0,d0[0]
```

### Vector long multiply with scalar

```
int32x4_t    vmull_n_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16_t val2); // VMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0[0]
int64x2_t    vmull_n_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32_t val2); // VMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0[0]
uint32x4_t   vmull_n_u16(uint16x4_t vec1, uint16_t val2); // VMULL.U16 q0,d0,d0[0]
uint64x2_t   vmull_n_u32(uint32x2_t vec1, uint32_t val2); // VMULL.U32 q0,d0,d0[0]
```

### Vector long multiply by scalar

```
int32x4_t    vmull_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0[0]

int64x2_t    vmull_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0[0]

uint32x4_t   vmull_lane_u16(uint16x4_t vec1, uint16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VMULL.U16 q0,d0,d0[0]

uint64x2_t   vmull_lane_u32(uint32x2_t vec1, uint32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VMULL.U32 q0,d0,d0[0]
```

### Vector saturating doubling long multiply with scalar

```
int32x4_t    vqdmull_n_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16_t val2); // VQDMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0[0]
int64x2_t    vqdmull_n_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32_t val2); // VQDMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0[0]
```

### Vector saturating doubling long multiply by scalar

```
int32x4_t vqdmull_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VQDMULL.S16 q0,d0,d0[0]

int64x2_t vqdmull_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VQDMULL.S32 q0,d0,d0[0]
```

### Vector saturating doubling multiply high with scalar

```
int16x4_t vqdmulh_n_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16_t val2);    // VQDMULH.S16 d0,d0,d0[0]

int32x2_t vqdmulh_n_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32_t val2);    // VQDMULH.S32 d0,d0,d0[0]

int16x8_t vqdmulhq_n_s16(int16x8_t vec1, int16_t val2);    // VQDMULH.S16 q0,q0,d0[0]

int32x4_t vqdmulhq_n_s32(int32x4_t vec1, int32_t val2);    // VQDMULH.S32 q0,q0,d0[0]
```

### Vector saturating doubling multiply high by scalar

```
int16x4_t vqdmulh_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VQDMULH.S16 d0,d0,d0[0]
int32x2_t vqdmulh_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VQDMULH.S32 d0,d0,d0[0]
int16x8_t vqdmulhq_lane_s16(int16x8_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VQDMULH.S16 q0,q0,d0[0]
int32x4_t vqdmulhq_lane_s32(int32x4_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VQDMULH.S32 q0,q0,d0[0]
```

### Vector saturating rounding doubling multiply high with scalar

```
int16x4_t vqrdmulh_n_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16_t val2);    // VQRD MULH.S16 d0,d0,d0[0]
int32x2_t vqrdmulh_n_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32_t val2);    // VQRD MULH.S32 d0,d0,d0[0]
int16x8_t vqrdmulhq_n_s16(int16x8_t vec1, int16_t val2);    // VQRD MULH.S16 q0,q0,d0[0]
int32x4_t vqrdmulhq_n_s32(int32x4_t vec1, int32_t val2);    // VQRD MULH.S32 q0,q0,d0[0]
```

### Vector rounding saturating doubling multiply high by scalar

```
int16x4_t vqrdmulh_lane_s16(int16x4_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VQRD MULH.S16 d0,d0,d0[0]
int32x2_t vqrdmulh_lane_s32(int32x2_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VQRD MULH.S32 d0,d0,d0[0]
int16x8_t vqrdmulhq_lane_s16(int16x8_t vec1, int16x4_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 3) int val3);    // VQRD MULH.S16 q0,q0,d0[0]
int32x4_t vqrdmulhq_lane_s32(int32x4_t vec1, int32x2_t val2,
    __constrange(0, 1) int val3);    // VQRD MULH.S32 q0,q0,d0[0]
```

### Vector multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int16x4_t vmla_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);    // VMLA.I16 d0, d0, d0[0]
int32x2_t vmla_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);    // VMLA.I32 d0, d0, d0[0]
uint16x4_t vmla_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16_t c);    // VMLA.I16 d0, d0, d0[0]
uint32x2_t vmla_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32_t c);    // VMLA.I32 d0, d0, d0[0]
float32x2_t vmla_n_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32_t c);    // VMLA.F32 d0, d0, d0[0]
int16x8_t vmlaq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16_t c);    // VMLA.I16 q0, q0, d0[0]
int32x4_t vmlaq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32_t c);    // VMLA.I32 q0, q0, d0[0]
uint16x8_t vmlaq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16_t c);    // VMLA.I16 q0, q0, d0[0]
uint32x4_t vmlaq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32_t c);    // VMLA.I32 q0, q0, d0[0]
float32x4_t vmlaq_n_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32_t c);    // VMLA.F32 q0, q0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int32x4_t vmlal_n_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);    // VMLAL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]
int64x2_t vmlal_n_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);    // VMLAL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
uint32x4_t vmlal_n_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16_t c);
```

```
uint64x2_t  vmlal_n_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32_t c);
// VMLAL.U16 q0, d0, d0[0]
// VMLAL.U32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening saturating doubling multiply accumulate with scalar

```
int32x4_t   vqdmmlal_n_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);
// VQDMLAL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]
int64x2_t   vqdmmlal_n_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);
// VQDMLAL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector multiply subtract with scalar

```
int16x4_t   vmls_n_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);
// VMLS.I16 d0, d0, d0[0]
int32x2_t   vmls_n_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);
// VMLS.I32 d0, d0, d0[0]
uint16x4_t   vmls_n_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16_t c);
// VMLS.U16 d0, d0, d0[0]
uint32x2_t   vmls_n_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32_t c);
// VMLS.U32 d0, d0, d0[0]
float32x2_t   vmls_n_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32_t c);
// VMLS.F32 d0, d0, d0[0]
int16x8_t   vmlsq_n_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16_t c);
// VMLS.I16 q0, q0, d0[0]
int32x4_t   vmlsq_n_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32_t c);
// VMLS.I32 q0, q0, d0[0]
uint16x8_t   vmlsq_n_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16_t c);
// VMLS.U16 q0, q0, d0[0]
uint32x4_t   vmlsq_n_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32_t c);
// VMLS.U32 q0, q0, d0[0]
float32x4_t   vmlsq_n_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32_t c);
// VMLS.F32 q0, q0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening multiply subtract with scalar

```
int32x4_t   vmlsl_n_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);
// VMLSL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]
int64x2_t   vmlsl_n_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);
// VMLSL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
uint32x4_t   vmlsl_n_u16(uint32x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16_t c);
// VMLSL.U16 q0, d0, d0[0]
uint64x2_t   vmlsl_n_u32(uint64x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32_t c);
// VMLSL.U32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

### Vector widening saturating doubling multiply subtract with scalar

```
int32x4_t   vqdmmlsl_n_s16(int32x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16_t c);
// VQDMLSL.S16 q0, d0, d0[0]
int64x2_t   vqdmmlsl_n_s32(int64x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32_t c);
// VQDMLSL.S32 q0, d0, d0[0]
```

## 18.30 NEON intrinsics for vector extraction

These intrinsics perform vector extraction.

```
int8x8_t   vext_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.8 d0,d0,d0,#0
uint8x8_t vext_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.8 d0,d0,d0,#0
poly8x8_t vext_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.8 d0,d0,d0,#0
int16x4_t vext_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, __constrange(0,3) int c);
// VEXT.16 d0,d0,d0,#0
uint16x4_t vext_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, __constrange(0,3) int c);
// VEXT.16 d0,d0,d0,#0
poly16x4_t vext_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b, __constrange(0,3) int c);
// VEXT.16 d0,d0,d0,#0
int32x2_t vext_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, __constrange(0,1) int c);
// VEXT.32 d0,d0,d0,#0
uint32x2_t vext_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, __constrange(0,1) int c);
// VEXT.32 d0,d0,d0,#0
int64x1_t vext_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, __constrange(0,0) int c);
// VEXT.64 d0,d0,d0,#0
uint64x1_t vext_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, __constrange(0,0) int c);
// VEXT.64 d0,d0,d0,#0
int8x16_t vextq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VEXT.8 q0,q0,q0,#0
uint8x16_t vextq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VEXT.8 q0,q0,q0,#0
poly8x16_t vextq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b, __constrange(0,15) int c);
// VEXT.8 q0,q0,q0,#0
int16x8_t vextq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.16 q0,q0,q0,#0
uint16x8_t vextq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.16 q0,q0,q0,#0
poly16x8_t vextq_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b, __constrange(0,7) int c);
// VEXT.16 q0,q0,q0,#0
int32x4_t vextq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, __constrange(0,3) int c);
// VEXT.32 q0,q0,q0,#0
uint32x4_t vextq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, __constrange(0,3) int c);
// VEXT.32 q0,q0,q0,#0
int64x2_t vextq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, __constrange(0,1) int c);
// VEXT.64 q0,q0,q0,#0
uint64x2_t vextq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, __constrange(0,1) int c);
// VEXT.64 q0,q0,q0,#0
```



## 18.31 NEON intrinsics for reversing vector elements (swap endianness)

VREVn.m reverses the order of the m-bit lanes within a set that is n bits wide.

```

int8x8_t      vrev64_s8(int8x8_t vec);      // VREV64.8 d0,d0
int16x4_t     vrev64_s16(int16x4_t vec);     // VREV64.16 d0,d0
int32x2_t     vrev64_s32(int32x2_t vec);     // VREV64.32 d0,d0
uint8x8_t     vrev64_u8(uint8x8_t vec);      // VREV64.8 d0,d0
uint16x4_t    vrev64_u16(uint16x4_t vec);    // VREV64.16 d0,d0
uint32x2_t    vrev64_u32(uint32x2_t vec);    // VREV64.32 d0,d0
poly8x8_t     vrev64_p8(poly8x8_t vec);      // VREV64.8 d0,d0
poly16x4_t    vrev64_p16(poly16x4_t vec);    // VREV64.16 d0,d0
float32x2_t   vrev64_f32(float32x2_t vec);   // VREV64.32 d0,d0
int8x16_t     vrev64q_s8(int8x16_t vec);     // VREV64.8 q0,q0
int16x8_t     vrev64q_s16(int16x8_t vec);    // VREV64.16 q0,q0
int32x4_t     vrev64q_s32(int32x4_t vec);    // VREV64.32 q0,q0
uint8x16_t    vrev64q_u8(uint8x16_t vec);    // VREV64.8 q0,q0
uint16x8_t    vrev64q_u16(uint16x8_t vec);   // VREV64.16 q0,q0
uint32x4_t    vrev64q_u32(uint32x4_t vec);   // VREV64.32 q0,q0
poly8x16_t    vrev64q_p8(poly8x16_t vec);    // VREV64.8 q0,q0
poly16x8_t    vrev64q_p16(poly16x8_t vec);   // VREV64.16 q0,q0
float32x4_t   vrev64q_f32(float32x4_t vec);  // VREV64.32 q0,q0
int8x8_t      vrev32_s8(int8x8_t vec);       // VREV32.8 d0,d0
int16x4_t     vrev32_s16(int16x4_t vec);     // VREV32.16 d0,d0
uint8x8_t     vrev32_u8(uint8x8_t vec);      // VREV32.8 d0,d0
uint16x4_t    vrev32_u16(uint16x4_t vec);    // VREV32.16 d0,d0
poly8x8_t     vrev32_p8(poly8x8_t vec);      // VREV32.8 d0,d0
int8x16_t     vrev32q_s8(int8x16_t vec);     // VREV32.8 q0,q0
int16x8_t     vrev32q_s16(int16x8_t vec);    // VREV32.16 q0,q0
uint8x16_t    vrev32q_u8(uint8x16_t vec);    // VREV32.8 q0,q0
uint16x8_t    vrev32q_u16(uint16x8_t vec);   // VREV32.16 q0,q0
poly8x16_t    vrev32q_p8(poly8x16_t vec);    // VREV32.8 q0,q0
int8x8_t      vrev16_s8(int8x8_t vec);       // VREV16.8 d0,d0
uint8x8_t     vrev16_u8(uint8x8_t vec);      // VREV16.8 d0,d0
poly8x8_t     vrev16_p8(poly8x8_t vec);      // VREV16.8 d0,d0
int8x16_t     vrev16q_s8(int8x16_t vec);     // VREV16.8 q0,q0
uint8x16_t    vrev16q_u8(uint8x16_t vec);    // VREV16.8 q0,q0
poly8x16_t    vrev16q_p8(poly8x16_t vec);    // VREV16.8 q0,q0

```

## 18.32 NEON intrinsics for other single operand arithmetic

These intrinsics provide other single operand arithmetic.

**Absolute: vabs{q}\_<type>. Vd[i] = |Va[i]|**

```
int8x8_t   vabs_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VABS.S8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vabs_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VABS.S16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vabs_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VABS.S32 d0,d0
float32x2_t vabs_f32(float32x2_t a); // VABS.F32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vabsq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VABS.S8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vabsq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VABS.S16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vabsq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VABS.S32 q0,q0
float32x4_t vabsq_f32(float32x4_t a); // VABS.F32 q0,q0
```

**Saturating absolute: vqabs{q}\_<type>. Vd[i] = sat(|Va[i]|)**

```
int8x8_t   vqabs_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VQABS.S8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vqabs_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VQABS.S16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vqabs_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VQABS.S32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vqabsq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VQABS.S8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vqabsq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VQABS.S16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vqabsq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VQABS.S32 q0,q0
```

**Negate: vneg{q}\_<type>. Vd[i] = - Va[i]**

```
int8x8_t   vneg_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VNEG.S8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vneg_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VNEG.S16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vneg_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VNEG.S32 d0,d0
float32x2_t vneg_f32(float32x2_t a); // VNEG.F32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vnegq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VNEG.S8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vnegq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VNEG.S16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vnegq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VNEG.S32 q0,q0
float32x4_t vnegq_f32(float32x4_t a); // VNEG.F32 q0,q0
```

**Saturating Negate: vqneg{q}\_<type>. sat(Vd[i] = - Va[i])**

```
int8x8_t   vqneg_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VQNEG.S8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vqneg_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VQNEG.S16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vqneg_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VQNEG.S32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vqnegq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VQNEG.S8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vqnegq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VQNEG.S16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vqnegq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VQNEG.S32 q0,q0
```

**Count leading sign bits**

```
int8x8_t   vcls_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VCLS.S8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vcls_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VCLS.S16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vcls_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VCLS.S32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vclsq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VCLS.S8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vclsq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VCLS.S16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vclsq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VCLS.S32 q0,q0
```

**Count leading zeros**

```
int8x8_t   vclz_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VCLZ.I8 d0,d0
int16x4_t  vclz_s16(int16x4_t a);    // VCLZ.I16 d0,d0
int32x2_t  vclz_s32(int32x2_t a);    // VCLZ.I32 d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vclz_u8(uint8x8_t a);     // VCLZ.I8 d0,d0
uint16x4_t vclz_u16(uint16x4_t a);   // VCLZ.I16 d0,d0
uint32x2_t vclz_u32(uint32x2_t a);   // VCLZ.I32 d0,d0
int8x16_t  vclzq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VCLZ.I8 q0,q0
int16x8_t  vclzq_s16(int16x8_t a);   // VCLZ.I16 q0,q0
int32x4_t  vclzq_s32(int32x4_t a);   // VCLZ.I32 q0,q0
uint8x16_t vclzq_u8(uint8x16_t a);   // VCLZ.I8 q0,q0
uint16x8_t vclzq_u16(uint16x8_t a);  // VCLZ.I16 q0,q0
uint32x4_t vclzq_u32(uint32x4_t a);  // VCLZ.I32 q0,q0
```

**Count number of set bits**

```
uint8x8_t  vcnt_u8(uint8x8_t a);     // VCNT.8 d0,d0
int8x8_t   vcnt_s8(int8x8_t a);      // VCNT.8 d0,d0
poly8x8_t  vcnt_p8(poly8x8_t a);     // VCNT.8 d0,d0
uint8x16_t vcntq_u8(uint8x16_t a);   // VCNT.8 q0,q0
```

```
int8x16_t vcntq_s8(int8x16_t a);    // VCNT.8 q0,q0  
poly8x16_t vcntq_p8(poly8x16_t a); // VCNT.8 q0,q0
```

### Reciprocal estimate

```
float32x2_t vrecpe_f32(float32x2_t a); // VRECPE.F32 d0,d0  
uint32x2_t vrecpe_u32(uint32x2_t a);   // VRECPE.U32 d0,d0  
float32x4_t vrecpeq_f32(float32x4_t a); // VRECPE.F32 q0,q0  
uint32x4_t vrecpeq_u32(uint32x4_t a);  // VRECPE.U32 q0,q0
```

### Reciprocal square root estimate

```
float32x2_t vrsqrte_f32(float32x2_t a); // VRSQRTE.F32 d0,d0  
uint32x2_t vrsqrte_u32(uint32x2_t a);   // VRSQRTE.U32 d0,d0  
float32x4_t vrsqrteq_f32(float32x4_t a); // VRSQRTE.F32 q0,q0  
uint32x4_t vrsqrteq_u32(uint32x4_t a);  // VRSQRTE.U32 q0,q0
```

## 18.33 NEON intrinsics for logical operations

These intrinsics provide bitwise logical operations.

### Bitwise NOT

```

int8x8_t   vmvn_s8(int8x8_t a);           // VMVN d0,d0
int16x4_t  vmvn_s16(int16x4_t a);         // VMVN d0,d0
int32x2_t  vmvn_s32(int32x2_t a);         // VMVN d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vmvn_u8(uint8x8_t a);          // VMVN d0,d0
uint16x4_t vmvn_u16(uint16x4_t a);        // VMVN d0,d0
uint32x2_t vmvn_u32(uint32x2_t a);        // VMVN d0,d0
poly8x8_t  vmvn_p8(poly8x8_t a);          // VMVN d0,d0
int8x16_t  vmvnq_s8(int8x16_t a);         // VMVN q0,q0
int16x8_t  vmvnq_s16(int16x8_t a);        // VMVN q0,q0
int32x4_t  vmvnq_s32(int32x4_t a);        // VMVN q0,q0
uint8x16_t vmvnq_u8(uint8x16_t a);        // VMVN q0,q0
uint16x8_t vmvnq_u16(uint16x8_t a);       // VMVN q0,q0
uint32x4_t vmvnq_u32(uint32x4_t a);       // VMVN q0,q0
poly8x16_t vmvnq_p8(poly8x16_t a);        // VMVN q0,q0

```

### Bitwise AND

```

int8x8_t   vand_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vand_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vand_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vand_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vand_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vand_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vand_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vand_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b); // VAND d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vandq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vandq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vandq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vandq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vandq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vandq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vandq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vandq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VAND q0,q0,q0

```

### Bitwise OR

```

int8x8_t   vorr_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vorr_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vorr_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vorr_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vorr_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vorr_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vorr_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vorr_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b); // VORR d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vorrq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vorrq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vorrq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vorrq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vorrq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vorrq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vorrq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vorrq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VORR q0,q0,q0

```

### Bitwise exclusive or (EOR or XOR)

```

int8x8_t   veor_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  veor_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  veor_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  veor_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  veor_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t veor_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t veor_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t veor_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b); // VEOR d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  veorq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  veorq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  veorq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  veorq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t veorq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t veorq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t veorq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t veorq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b); // VEOR q0,q0,q0

```

**Bit Clear**

```

int8x8_t   vbic_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VBIC d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vbic_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VBIC d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vbic_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VBIC d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vbic_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);        // VBIC d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vbic_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VBIC d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vbic_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);      // VBIC d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vbic_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);      // VBIC d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vbic_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b);      // VBIC d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vbicq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);        // VBIC q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vbicq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VBIC q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vbicq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VBIC q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vbicq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);       // VBIC q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vbicq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VBIC q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vbicq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VBIC q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vbicq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VBIC q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vbicq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b);     // VBIC q0,q0,q0

```

**Bitwise OR complement**

```

int8x8_t   vorn_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VORN d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vorn_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VORN d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vorn_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VORN d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vorn_s64(int64x1_t a, int64x1_t b);        // VORN d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vorn_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VORN d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vorn_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);      // VORN d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vorn_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);      // VORN d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vorn_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b);      // VORN d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vornq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);        // VORN q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vornq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VORN q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vornq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VORN q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vornq_s64(int64x2_t a, int64x2_t b);       // VORN q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vornq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VORN q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vornq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VORN q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vornq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VORN q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vornq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b);     // VORN q0,q0,q0

```

**Bitwise Select**

————— **Note** —————

This intrinsic can compile to any of VBSL/VBIF/VBIT depending on register allocation.

```

int8x8_t   vbsl_s8(uint8x8_t a, int8x8_t b, int8x8_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
int16x4_t  vbsl_s16(uint16x4_t a, int16x4_t b, int16x4_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
int32x2_t  vbsl_s32(uint32x2_t a, int32x2_t b, int32x2_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
int64x1_t  vbsl_s64(uint64x1_t a, int64x1_t b, int64x1_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
uint8x8_t  vbsl_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b, uint8x8_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
uint16x4_t vbsl_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b, uint16x4_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
uint32x2_t vbsl_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b, uint32x2_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
uint64x1_t vbsl_u64(uint64x1_t a, uint64x1_t b, uint64x1_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
float32x2_t vbsl_f32(uint32x2_t a, float32x2_t b, float32x2_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
poly8x8_t  vbsl_p8(uint8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b, poly8x8_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
poly16x4_t vbsl_p16(uint16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b, poly16x4_t c); // VBSL d0,d0,d0
int8x16_t  vbslq_s8(uint8x16_t a, int8x16_t b, int8x16_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
int16x8_t  vbslq_s16(uint16x8_t a, int16x8_t b, int16x8_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
int32x4_t  vbslq_s32(uint32x4_t a, int32x4_t b, int32x4_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
int64x2_t  vbslq_s64(uint64x2_t a, int64x2_t b, int64x2_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
uint8x16_t vbslq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b, uint8x16_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
uint16x8_t vbslq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b, uint16x8_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
uint32x4_t vbslq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b, uint32x4_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
uint64x2_t vbslq_u64(uint64x2_t a, uint64x2_t b, uint64x2_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
float32x4_t vbslq_f32(uint32x4_t a, float32x4_t b, float32x4_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
poly8x16_t vbslq_p8(uint8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b, poly8x16_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0
poly16x8_t vbslq_p16(uint16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b, poly16x8_t c); // VBSL q0,q0,q0

```

## 18.34 NEON intrinsics for transposition operations

These intrinsics provide transposition operations.

### Transpose elements

```
int8x8x2_t    vtrn_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VTRN.8 d0,d0
int16x4x2_t   vtrn_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VTRN.16 d0,d0
int32x2x2_t   vtrn_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VTRN.32 d0,d0
uint8x8x2_t   vtrn_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VTRN.8 d0,d0
uint16x4x2_t  vtrn_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);       // VTRN.16 d0,d0
uint32x2x2_t  vtrn_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);       // VTRN.32 d0,d0
float32x2x2_t vtrn_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);     // VTRN.32 d0,d0
poly8x8x2_t   vtrn_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b);         // VTRN.8 d0,d0
poly16x4x2_t  vtrn_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b);      // VTRN.16 d0,d0
int8x16x2_t   vtrnq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);        // VTRN.8 q0,q0
int16x8x2_t   vtrnq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VTRN.16 q0,q0
int32x4x2_t   vtrnq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VTRN.32 q0,q0
uint8x16x2_t  vtrnq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VTRN.8 q0,q0
uint16x8x2_t  vtrnq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VTRN.16 q0,q0
uint32x4x2_t  vtrnq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VTRN.32 q0,q0
float32x4x2_t vtrnq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b);   // VTRN.32 q0,q0
poly8x16x2_t  vtrnq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b);      // VTRN.8 q0,q0
poly16x8x2_t  vtrnq_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b);     // VTRN.16 q0,q0
```

### Interleave elements

```
int8x8x2_t    vzip_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VZIP.8 d0,d0
int16x4x2_t   vzip_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VZIP.16 d0,d0
uint8x8x2_t   vzip_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VZIP.8 d0,d0
uint16x4x2_t  vzip_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);       // VZIP.16 d0,d0
float32x2x2_t vzip_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);     // VZIP.32 d0,d0
poly8x8x2_t   vzip_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b);         // VZIP.8 d0,d0
poly16x4x2_t  vzip_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b);      // VZIP.16 d0,d0
int8x16x2_t   vzipq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);        // VZIP.8 q0,q0
int16x8x2_t   vzipq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VZIP.16 q0,q0
int32x4x2_t   vzipq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VZIP.32 q0,q0
uint8x16x2_t  vzipq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VZIP.8 q0,q0
uint16x8x2_t  vzipq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VZIP.16 q0,q0
uint32x4x2_t  vzipq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VZIP.32 q0,q0
float32x4x2_t vzipq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b);   // VZIP.32 q0,q0
poly8x16x2_t  vzipq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b);      // VZIP.8 q0,q0
poly16x8x2_t  vzipq_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b);     // VZIP.16 q0,q0
```

### De-Interleave elements

```
int8x8x2_t    vuzp_s8(int8x8_t a, int8x8_t b);           // VUZP.8 d0,d0
int16x4x2_t   vuzp_s16(int16x4_t a, int16x4_t b);        // VUZP.16 d0,d0
int32x2x2_t   vuzp_s32(int32x2_t a, int32x2_t b);        // VUZP.32 d0,d0
uint8x8x2_t   vuzp_u8(uint8x8_t a, uint8x8_t b);         // VUZP.8 d0,d0
uint16x4x2_t  vuzp_u16(uint16x4_t a, uint16x4_t b);       // VUZP.16 d0,d0
uint32x2x2_t  vuzp_u32(uint32x2_t a, uint32x2_t b);       // VUZP.32 d0,d0
float32x2x2_t vuzp_f32(float32x2_t a, float32x2_t b);     // VUZP.32 d0,d0
poly8x8x2_t   vuzp_p8(poly8x8_t a, poly8x8_t b);         // VUZP.8 d0,d0
poly16x4x2_t  vuzp_p16(poly16x4_t a, poly16x4_t b);      // VUZP.16 d0,d0
int8x16x2_t   vuzpq_s8(int8x16_t a, int8x16_t b);        // VUZP.8 q0,q0
int16x8x2_t   vuzpq_s16(int16x8_t a, int16x8_t b);       // VUZP.16 q0,q0
int32x4x2_t   vuzpq_s32(int32x4_t a, int32x4_t b);       // VUZP.32 q0,q0
uint8x16x2_t  vuzpq_u8(uint8x16_t a, uint8x16_t b);      // VUZP.8 q0,q0
uint16x8x2_t  vuzpq_u16(uint16x8_t a, uint16x8_t b);     // VUZP.16 q0,q0
uint32x4x2_t  vuzpq_u32(uint32x4_t a, uint32x4_t b);     // VUZP.32 q0,q0
float32x4x2_t vuzpq_f32(float32x4_t a, float32x4_t b);   // VUZP.32 q0,q0
poly8x16x2_t  vuzpq_p8(poly8x16_t a, poly8x16_t b);      // VUZP.8 q0,q0
poly16x8x2_t  vuzpq_p16(poly16x8_t a, poly16x8_t b);     // VUZP.16 q0,q0
```

## 18.35 NEON intrinsics for vector cast operations

In some situations, you might want to treat a vector as having a different type, without changing its value. A set of intrinsics is provided to perform this type of conversion.

### Syntax

`vreinterpret{q}_dsttype_srctype`

Where:

**q** Specifies that the conversion operates on 128-bit vectors. If it is not present, the conversion operates on 64-bit vectors.

**dsttype** Represents the type to convert to.

**srctype** Represents the type being converted.

### Examples

---

The following intrinsic reinterprets a vector of four signed 16-bit integers as a vector of four unsigned integers:

```
uint16x4_t vreinterpret_u16_s16(int16x4_t a);
```

The following intrinsic reinterprets a vector of four 32-bit floating point values integers as a vector of four signed integers.

```
int8x16_t vreinterpretq_s8_f32(float32x4_t a);
```

These conversions do not change the bit pattern represented by the vector.

---

## 18.36 NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics

Most NEON instructions have an equivalent NEON intrinsic, however a small subset of instructions do not.

Even though these NEON instructions do not have equivalent intrinsics, their behavior can still be expressed either by using different intrinsics or standard C operations. See the following table for a list of NEON instructions that do not have an equivalent intrinsic:

**Table 18-2 NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics**

NEON instruction	Alternative
VBIF	The vbs1* intrinsics compile to any of VBSL/VBIF/VBIT depending on register allocation.
VBIT	
VLDM	The compiler generates these instructions automatically as appropriate for accesses to floating-point and vector data types.
VLDR	
VSTM	
VSTR	
VMRS	Use the named register variable <code>__asm("fpscr")</code> to access the Floating-Point Status and Control Register (FPSCR). Using the named register variable causes the compiler to emit VMRS/VMSR instructions as required.
VMSR	
VPOP	These instructions are used for saving and restoring callee-saved registers. The compiler generates them automatically at function entry and exit as appropriate for the registers used in the function.
VPUSH	
VSWP	This instruction has no benefit as an intrinsic because intrinsics use variables to encapsulate register allocation and access. As a result, swapping of variables can be performed using simple C-style variable assignments.

### Related references

- [18.4 NEON intrinsics for addition on page 18-935.](#)
- [18.5 NEON intrinsics for multiplication on page 18-937.](#)
- [18.6 NEON intrinsics for subtraction on page 18-939.](#)
- [18.7 NEON intrinsics for comparison on page 18-941.](#)
- [18.8 NEON intrinsics for absolute difference on page 18-943.](#)
- [18.9 NEON intrinsics for maximum and minimum on page 18-944.](#)
- [18.10 NEON intrinsics for pairwise addition on page 18-945.](#)
- [18.11 NEON intrinsics for folding maximum on page 18-946.](#)
- [18.12 NEON intrinsics for folding minimum on page 18-947.](#)
- [18.13 NEON intrinsics for reciprocal and sqrt on page 18-948.](#)
- [18.14 NEON intrinsics for shifts by signed variable on page 18-949.](#)
- [18.15 NEON intrinsics for shifts by a constant on page 18-951.](#)
- [18.16 NEON intrinsics for shifts with insert on page 18-955.](#)
- [18.17 NEON intrinsics for loading a single vector or lane on page 18-957.](#)
- [18.18 NEON intrinsics for storing a single vector or lane on page 18-959.](#)
- [18.19 NEON intrinsics for loading an N-element structure on page 18-961.](#)
- [18.20 NEON intrinsics for extracting lanes from a vector into a register on page 18-970.](#)
- [18.21 NEON intrinsics for loading a single lane of a vector from a literal on page 18-971.](#)
- [18.22 NEON intrinsics for initializing a vector from a literal bit pattern on page 18-972.](#)



- 18.23 NEON intrinsics for setting all lanes to the same value on page 18-973.*
- 18.24 NEON intrinsics for combining vectors on page 18-975.*
- 18.25 NEON intrinsics for splitting vectors on page 18-976.*
- 18.26 NEON intrinsics for converting vectors on page 18-977.*
- 18.27 NEON intrinsics for table look up on page 18-978.*
- 18.28 NEON intrinsics for extended table look up on page 18-979.*
- 18.29 NEON intrinsics for operations with a scalar value on page 18-980.*
- 18.30 NEON intrinsics for vector extraction on page 18-984.*
- 18.31 NEON intrinsics for reversing vector elements (swap endianness) on page 18-985.*
- 18.32 NEON intrinsics for other single operand arithmetic on page 18-986.*
- 18.33 NEON intrinsics for logical operations on page 18-988.*
- 18.34 NEON intrinsics for transposition operations on page 18-990.*
- 18.35 NEON intrinsics for vector cast operations on page 18-991.*

# Appendix A

## Compiler Document Revisions

Describes the technical changes that have been made to the armcc Compiler User Guide.

It contains the following sections:

- [\*A.1 Revisions for armcc Compiler User Guide\*](#) on page Appx-A-995.

## A.1 Revisions for armcc Compiler User Guide

The following technical changes have been made to the armcc Compiler User Guide.

**Table A-1 Differences between issue J and issue K**

Change	Topics affected
Added generic notes about supported features in ARM Compiler and code generation between releases.	<a href="#">1.1 The compiler</a> on page 1-30
Documented new C++11 support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">11.13 C++11 supported features</a> on page 11-818</li> <li><a href="#">8.38 --cpp11</a> on page 8-368</li> <li><a href="#">8.39 --cpp_compat</a> on page 8-369</li> <li><a href="#">1.2 Source language modes of the compiler</a> on page 1-31</li> </ul>
New Cortex-M7 and Cortex-A17 processors.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)</a> on page 5-222</li> <li><a href="#">12.3 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures</a> on page 12-829</li> </ul>
Added a note stating that support for Precompiled Header (PCH) files is deprecated.	Various topics.
Added note about libraries and no literal pools	<a href="#">8.77 --execute_only</a> on page 8-412
Added a note stating that support for the --gnu_instrument option is deprecated.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">8.94 --gnu_instrument, --no_gnu_instrument</a> on page 8-432</li> <li><a href="#">10.40 __attribute__((no_instrument_function)) function attribute</a> on page 10-652</li> </ul>
Updated topic for ARMv7.	<a href="#">8.186 --unaligned_access, --no_unaligned_access</a> on page 8-535
Mentioned that compiler data flow warnings are suppressed by default.	<a href="#">6.6 Compiler data flow warnings</a> on page 6-266
Added a Usage section and corrected the comment in the example.	<a href="#">10.7 __global_reg</a> on page 10-613
Extended the example.	<a href="#">6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas</a> on page 6-262
Added an example.	<a href="#">10.86 #pragma import symbol_name</a> on page 10-699
Mentioned how the compiler handles UTF-8 or UTF-16 encoded source files and clarified the default values for the --locale and --[no_]multibyte_chars options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">11.1 Character sets and identifiers in ARM C and C++</a> on page 11-798</li> <li><a href="#">8.122 --locale=lang_country</a> on page 8-462</li> <li><a href="#">8.133 --multibyte_chars, --no_multibyte_chars</a> on page 8-473</li> </ul>
Clarified the guidance on declaring named register variables.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">4.14 Compiler support for accessing registers using named register variables</a> on page 4-124.</li> <li><a href="#">10.153 Named register variables</a> on page 10-776.</li> </ul>

**Table A-1 Differences between issue J and issue K (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Mentioned that <code>#pragma [no_]exceptions_unwind</code> overrides <code>--[no_]exceptions_unwind</code> .	<a href="#">10.83 #pragma exceptions_unwind, #pragma no_exceptions_unwind</a> on page 10-696.
The <code>--message_locale</code> option no longer supports <code>zh_CN</code> or <code>ko_KR</code> settings.	<a href="#">8.130 --message_locale=lang_country[.codepage]</a> on page 8-470.

**Table A-2 Differences between issue I and issue J**

Change	Topics affected
Added the chapters from the Compiler Reference into the armcc Compiler User Guide. The Compiler Reference is no longer being provided as a separate document.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">8 Compiler Command-line Options</a> on page 8-317.</li> <li>• <a href="#">9 Language Extensions</a> on page 9-556.</li> <li>• <a href="#">10 Compiler-specific Features</a> on page 10-603.</li> <li>• <a href="#">11 C and C++ Implementation Details</a> on page 11-797.</li> <li>• <a href="#">12 ARMv6 SIMD Instruction Intrinsics</a> on page 12-821.</li> <li>• <a href="#">13 Via File Syntax</a> on page 13-891.</li> <li>• <a href="#">14 Summary Table of GNU Language Extensions</a> on page 14-894.</li> <li>• <a href="#">15 Standard C Implementation Definition</a> on page 15-897.</li> <li>• <a href="#">16 Standard C++ Implementation Definition</a> on page 16-918.</li> <li>• <a href="#">17 C and C++ Compiler Implementation Limits</a> on page 17-923.</li> <li>• <a href="#">18 Using NEON Support</a> on page 18-929.</li> </ul>
Documented new Cortex-A12 processor.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">10.155 Predefined macros</a> on page 10-789.</li> <li>• <a href="#">5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)</a> on page 5-222.</li> <li>• <a href="#">3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code</a> on page 3-76.</li> <li>• <a href="#">3.25 Vectorizable code example</a> on page 3-100.</li> <li>• <a href="#">3.26 DSP vectorizable code example</a> on page 3-102.</li> <li>• <a href="#">3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization</a> on page 3-104.</li> <li>• <a href="#">12.3 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures</a> on page 12-829.</li> </ul>
Added a topic about compiler support for literal pools.	<a href="#">4.21 Compiler support for literal pools</a> on page 4-134.
Added the <code>--execute_only</code> command-line option.	<a href="#">8.77 --execute_only</a> on page 8-412.
Added the <code>--integer_literal_pools</code> command-line option.	<a href="#">8.108 --integer_literal_pools, --no_integer_literal_pools</a> on page 8-446.
Added the <code>--float_literal_pools</code> command-line option.	<a href="#">8.82 --float_literal_pools, --no_float_literal_pools</a> on page 8-417.
Added the <code>--string_literal_pools</code> command-line option.	<a href="#">8.177 --string_literal_pools, --no_string_literal_pools</a> on page 8-522.
Added the <code>--branch_tables</code> command-line option.	<a href="#">8.18 --branch_tables, --no_branch_tables</a> on page 8-346.

**Table A-2 Differences between issue I and issue J (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Clarified use of <code>--diag_error=warning</code>	<a href="#">6.2 Options that change the severity of compiler diagnostic messages</a> on page 6-260.
Enhanced information about the impact of <code>-Onum</code> on the debug view.	<a href="#">5.3 Compiler optimization levels and the debug view</a> on page 5-156.
Added a note stating that the compiler may generate load and store instructions between the instructions generated for <code>__ldrex(d)</code> and <code>__strex(d)</code> intrinsics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">10.117 __ldrex intrinsic</a> on page 10-733.</li> <li><a href="#">10.118 __ldrex intrinsic</a> on page 10-735.</li> <li><a href="#">10.139 __strex intrinsic</a> on page 10-759.</li> <li><a href="#">10.140 __strex intrinsic</a> on page 10-761.</li> </ul>
Clarified that you cannot specify aliases in block scope.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">10.31 __attribute__((alias)) function attribute</a> on page 10-642.</li> <li><a href="#">10.61 __attribute__((alias)) variable attribute</a> on page 10-673.</li> </ul>
Added note about possible compiler optimizations when using the <code>__qsub()</code> intrinsic.	<a href="#">10.128 __qsub intrinsic</a> on page 10-747.
Changed references to environment variables from <code>ARMCCn_</code> to <code>ARMCC5_</code> .	Various topics.
Clarified that variable length arrays are created on the heap.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.11 Stack use in C and C++</a> on page 5-169.</li> <li><a href="#">8.196 --vla, --no_vla</a> on page 8-546.</li> </ul>
Clarified the access width data tables in the intrinsics documentation.	Various topics.
Clarified information in <code>-Onum</code> documentation.	<a href="#">8.139 -Onum</a> on page 8-480.
Clarified information about <code>__packed</code> bitfields in a structure.	<a href="#">11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++</a> on page 11-804.
Corrected the implicit FPU listed for Cortex-M4.fp to FPv4-SP.	<a href="#">5.53 Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)</a> on page 5-222.
Added missing <code>__TARGET_FPU_</code> variants.	<a href="#">10.155 Predefined macros</a> on page 10-789.
Clarified <code>__memory_changed</code> intrinsic documentation.	<a href="#">10.120 __memory_changed intrinsic</a> on page 10-738.
Clarified <code>__cdp</code> intrinsic documentation	<a href="#">10.105 __cdp intrinsic</a> on page 10-720.
Clarified the description of the <code>--reassociate_saturation</code> option.	<a href="#">8.158 --reassociate_saturation, --no_reassociate_saturation</a> on page 8-501.

**Table A-3 Differences between issue H and issue I**

Change	Topics affected
New topic.	<a href="#">8.124 --loop_optimization_level=opt</a> on page 8-464.
Removed the topic <code>--ltcg</code> .	<code>--ltcg</code> (This topic removed from Issue I).
Added information about NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics.	<a href="#">18.36 NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics</a> on page 18-992.
Removed note about <code>--vectorize</code> requiring a special license.	<a href="#">8.191 --vectorize, --no_vectorize</a> on page 8-541.

**Table A-3 Differences between issue H and issue I (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Removed links to deprecated document <i>Building Linux Applications with the ARM Compiler toolchain and GNU Libraries</i> .	Various topics.
Updated the example to use the <code>--asm</code> argument instead of the deprecated <code>-S</code> argument.	<a href="#">8.14 <code>--asm_dir=directory_name</code> on page 8-342.</a>
Updated the example to correctly show the interaction between <code>--depend_dir</code> and <code>--depend</code> .	<a href="#">8.51 <code>--depend_dir=directory_name</code> on page 8-385.</a>
Clarified interaction between <code>--multifile</code> and <code>-o</code> , and clarified relationship between number of source files, code structure, and compilation time.	<a href="#">8.134 <code>--multifile</code>, <code>--no_multifile</code> on page 8-474.</a>
Updated information about the <code>__irq</code> keyword.	<a href="#">10.11 <code>__irq</code> on page 10-618.</a>
Clarified <code>__attribute__((alias))</code> function and variable attributes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">10.31 <code>__attribute__((alias))</code> function attribute on page 10-642.</a></li> <li><a href="#">10.61 <code>__attribute__((alias))</code> variable attribute on page 10-673.</a></li> </ul>
Added a note about overwriting padding bits in bitfield containers.	<a href="#">11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++ on page 11-804.</a>
Removed note about a possible issue caused by overlapping diagnostic message number ranges. This is because the affected messages are renumbered in this release, resolving the issue.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">8.57 <code>--diag_error=tag[,tag,...]</code> on page 8-392.</a></li> <li><a href="#">8.58 <code>--diag_remark=tag[,tag,...]</code> on page 8-393.</a></li> <li><a href="#">8.60 <code>--diag_suppress=tag[,tag,...]</code> on page 8-395.</a></li> <li><a href="#">8.62 <code>--diag_warning=tag[,tag,...]</code> on page 8-397.</a></li> </ul>
Added new <code>--loop_optimization_level</code> option to list of compiler options.	<a href="#">2.2 Compiler command-line options listed by group on page 2-39.</a>
Update modified C3nnn message numbers to C4nnn.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">6.4 Prefix letters in compiler diagnostic messages on page 6-264.</a></li> <li><a href="#">6.6 Compiler data flow warnings on page 6-266.</a></li> </ul>
Fixed command-line option example to use <code>-O2</code> .	<a href="#">2.4 Order of compiler command-line options on page 2-46.</a>
Removed all mention of LTCG.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation on page 5-184.</a></li> <li><a href="#">5.28 Inline functions in C99 mode on page 5-188.</a></li> </ul>
Added information about enabling NEON and FPU for bare-metal.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.5 Enabling NEON and FPU for bare-metal on page 5-160.</a></li> <li><a href="#">3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code on page 3-76.</a></li> </ul>
Added information about using pragmas to control diagnostic messages.	<a href="#">6.3 Controlling compiler diagnostic messages with pragmas on page 6-262.</a>
Where appropriate, changed the terminology that implied that 16-bit Thumb and 32-bit Thumb are separate instruction sets.	Various topics.

**Table A-4 Differences between issue G and issue H**

Change	Topics affected
Added usage subtopics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10.76 <i>#pragma arm</i> on page 10-688.</li> <li>10.99 <i>#pragma thumb</i> on page 10-713.</li> </ul>
Documented Cortex-M0+ support.	8.41 <i>--cpu=name compiler option</i> on page 8-372.
Modified the description of the generation of RTTI data with <i>--no_rtti_data</i> .	8.166 <i>--rtti_data, --no_rtti_data</i> on page 8-509.
Clarified the different treatments of functions with side effects compared to those without them, by intrinsics that set scheduling barriers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10.121 <i>__nop intrinsic</i> on page 10-739.</li> <li>10.133 <i>__schedule_barrier intrinsic</i> on page 10-752.</li> </ul>
Added a note about a possible issue caused by overlapping diagnostic message number ranges.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8.57 <i>--diag_error=tag[,tag,...]</i> on page 8-392.</li> <li>8.58 <i>--diag_remark=tag[,tag,...]</i> on page 8-393.</li> <li>8.60 <i>--diag_suppress=tag[,tag,...]</i> on page 8-395.</li> <li>8.62 <i>--diag_warning=tag[,tag,...]</i> on page 8-397.</li> </ul>
Added information on estimating/measuring stack usage.	5.11 <i>Stack use in C and C++</i> on page 5-169.
Clarified which LDM instructions are not supported in the inline assembler.	7.12 <i>Inline assembler instruction restrictions in C and C++ code</i> on page 7-280.
Documented Cortex-M0+ support.	5.53 <i>Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)</i> on page 5-222.
Added two topics.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5.52 <i>Floating-point linkage and computational requirements of compiler options</i> on page 5-220.</li> <li>5.53 <i>Processors and their implicit Floating-Point Units (FPUs)</i> on page 5-222.</li> </ul>

**Table A-5 Differences between issue F and issue G**

Change	Topics affected
Clarified the difference between <i>__packed</i> and <i>#pragma pack</i> for address-taken fields.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10.12 <i>__packed</i> on page 10-619.</li> <li>10.58 <i>__attribute__((packed)) type attribute</i> on page 10-670.</li> <li>10.95 <i>#pragma pack(n)</i> on page 10-708.</li> </ul>
Mentioned that the compiler recognizes the pragmas <i>STDC CX_LIMITED_RANGE</i> , <i>STDC FENV_ACCESS</i> , and <i>STDC FP_CONTRACT</i> , but does not support them.	15.13 <i>Preprocessing directives</i> on page 15-915.
Where appropriate, rather than 16-bit Thumb or 32-bit Thumb, referred instead to Thumb, or Thumb-2 technology.	Various topics.
Noted that <i>armcc -E</i> disables implicit inclusion.	8.69 <i>-E</i> on page 8-404.
Added two entries for VFPv4, under <i>__TARGET_FPU_xx</i> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10.155 <i>Predefined macros</i> on page 10-789.</li> </ul>
Added restrictions on C55x intrinsic support.	10.149 <i>C55x intrinsics</i> on page 10-772.

**Table A-5 Differences between issue F and issue G (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Mentioned that GNU mode also affects C/C++ standards compliance.	<a href="#">8.92 --gnu</a> on page 8-430.
Modified the part of the usage section discouraging expressions with side effects, and clarified the text.	<a href="#">10.125 __promise intrinsic</a> on page 10-744.
Removed a reference to not accessing a physical register directly.	<a href="#">8.187 --use_frame_pointer, --no_use_frame_pointer</a> on page 8-537.
Added Cortex-A7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">8.41 --cpu=name</a> compiler option on page 8-372.</li> <li><a href="#">12.3 ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures</a> on page 12-829.</li> <li><a href="#">10.155 Predefined macros</a> on page 10-789.</li> </ul>
Modified the usage section for the <code>__weak</code> keyword for cases of multiple weak definitions.	<a href="#">10.20 __weak</a> on page 10-628.
Mentioned that NaNs used with the <code>--fpmode=std</code> or <code>--fpmode=fast</code> option can produce undefined behavior.	<a href="#">8.86 --fpmode=model</a> on page 8-421.
Added a usage section for function attributes.	<a href="#">10.30 Function attributes</a> on page 10-640.
Reduced use of 32-bit Thumb in favor of Thumb or Thumb-2 technology.	Various topics.
Clarified the difference between <code>__packed</code> and <code>#pragma pack</code> for address-taken fields.	<a href="#">5.40 Comparisons of an unpacked struct, a __packed struct, and a struct with individually __packed fields, and of a __packed struct and a #pragma packed struct</a> on page 5-201.
Where appropriate, rather than 16-bit Thumb or 32-bit Thumb, referred instead to Thumb or Thumb-2 technology.	Various topics.
Added three entries for VFPv4.	<a href="#">5.44 Vector Floating-Point (VFP) architectures</a> on page 5-209.
Added Cortex-A7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code</a> on page 3-76.</li> <li><a href="#">3.25 Vectorizable code example</a> on page 3-100.</li> <li><a href="#">3.26 DSP vectorizable code example</a> on page 3-102.</li> <li><a href="#">3.27 What can limit or prevent automatic vectorization</a> on page 3-104.</li> </ul>
Revised the topics related to integer division by zero.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.54 Integer division-by-zero errors in C code</a> on page 5-226.</li> </ul>

**Table A-6 Differences between issue E and issue F**

Change	Topics affected
Added a note stating that the <code>--device</code> option is deprecated.	<a href="#">8.56 --device=name</a> on page 8-391.
Added a note about the maximum version of gcc that armcc supports.	<a href="#">8.95 --gnu_version=version</a> on page 8-433.
Mentioned that downgradeable errors are also suppressed with <code>-J</code> .	<a href="#">8.111 -Jdir[,dir,...]</a> on page 8-449.
Modified the description for the <code>--licretry</code> option.	<a href="#">8.116 --licretry</a> on page 8-455.



**Table A-6 Differences between issue E and issue F (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Added the <code>--protect_stack</code> option.	<a href="#">8.157 <code>--protect_stack</code>, <code>--no_protect_stack</code> on page 8-500.</a>
Modified the description for the <code>--version_number</code> option.	<a href="#">8.192 <code>--version_number</code> on page 8-542.</a>
Modified the description for the <code>--vsn</code> option.	<a href="#">8.197 <code>--vsn</code> on page 8-547.</a>
Changed the format description for <code>__ARMCC_VERSION</code> .	<a href="#">10.155 <i>Predefined macros</i> on page 10-789.</a>
Where appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>changed Thumb-1 to 16-bit Thumb</li> <li>changed Thumb-2 to 32-bit Thumb</li> <li>changed Thumb-2EE to ThumbEE.</li> </ul>	Various topics.
Changed the <code>ARMCCnn_CCOPT</code> and <code>ARMCCnnINC</code> environment variables to <code>ARMCCn_CCOPT</code> and <code>ARMCCnINC</code> .	Various topics.

**Table A-7 Differences between issue D and issue E**

Change	Topics affected
Improved usage description of <code>--reassociate_saturation</code> .	<a href="#">8.158 <code>--reassociate_saturation</code>, <code>--no_reassociate_saturation</code> on page 8-501.</a>
Added the encoding details of opcodes and registers.	<a href="#">10.105 <code>__cdp</code> intrinsic on page 10-720.</a>
Added the options <code>--allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata</code> , and <code>--no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata</code> .	<a href="#">8.2 <code>--allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata</code>, <code>--no_allow_fpreg_for_nonfpdata</code> on page 8-323.</a>
Added the options <code>--conditionalize</code> , and <code>--no_conditionalize</code> .	<a href="#">8.28 <code>--conditionalize</code>, <code>--no_conditionalize</code> on page 8-358.</a>
Added SC000 to the table of <code>--cpu</code> options.	<a href="#">8.41 <code>--cpu=name</code> compiler option on page 8-372.</a>
Added SC300 and SC000 to the table of <code>--compatible</code> options.	<a href="#">8.26 <code>--compatible=name</code> on page 8-355.</a>
Changed <code>--depend=filename</code> to say that for multiple files, the generated dependency file contains dependency lines from all the source files.	<a href="#">8.50 <code>--depend=filename</code> on page 8-384.</a>
Added a caution that volatile is ignored if used with the <code>__global_reg</code> storage class specifier.	<a href="#">10.7 <code>__global_reg</code> on page 10-613.</a>
Revised the descriptions for topics related to integer division by zero.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">5.54 <i>Integer division-by-zero errors in C code</i> on page 5-226.</a></li> </ul>
Mentioned that the inline assembler supports VFPv2 instructions. Mentioned that the inline assembler does not support instructions added in VFPv3 or higher.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">7.2 <i>Inline assembler support in the compiler</i> on page 7-270.</a></li> <li><a href="#">7.3 <i>Restrictions on inline assembler support in the compiler</i> on page 7-271.</a></li> <li><a href="#">7.11 <i>Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point (VFP) restrictions in C and C++ code</i> on page 7-279.</a></li> </ul>

**Table A-7 Differences between issue D and issue E (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Changed the description of the restrictions on the inline assembler.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7.3 <i>Restrictions on inline assembler support in the compiler</i> on page 7-271.</li> <li>7.10 <i>Inline assembler Thumb instruction set restrictions in C and C++ code</i> on page 7-278.</li> <li>7.45 <i>Differences in compiler support for inline and embedded assembly code</i> on page 7-316.</li> </ul>
Removed the example of using coprocessor instructions in inline assembler because coprocessor instructions in inline assembler are discouraged. Added a new example for the use of VFP instructions in inline assembler.	7.11 <i>Inline assembler Vector Floating-Point (VFP) restrictions in C and C++ code</i> on page 7-279.
Added a row on VFP and NEON for differences between inline and embedded assembler.	7.45 <i>Differences in compiler support for inline and embedded assembly code</i> on page 7-316.
Where appropriate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prefixed Thumb with 16-bit.</li> <li>• Changed Thumb-1 to 16-bit Thumb.</li> <li>• Changed Thumb-2 to 32-bit Thumb.</li> </ul>	Various topics.
Changed the ARMCCnn_CCOPT and ARMCCnnINC environment variables to ARMCCn_CCOPT and ARMCCnINC.	Various topics.

**Table A-8 Differences between issue C and issue D**

Change	Topics affected
Added a summary table of intrinsics and their page numbers.	18.36 <i>NEON instructions without equivalent intrinsics</i> on page 18-992.
Added syntaxes and tables that provide a condensed representation of the intrinsics. Fixed minor errors in the intrinsic prototypes.	18.3 <i>NEON intrinsics</i> on page 18-933.
Removed the --profile option.	8 <i>Compiler Command-line Options</i> on page 8-317.
Added list of built-in GNU atomic memory access functions.	10.154 <i>GNU built-in functions</i> on page 10-780.
Added Cortex-A15 and Cortex-R7 to the cpu list.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8.40 <i>--cpu=list</i> on page 8-371.</li> <li>12.3 <i>ARMv6 SIMD intrinsics, compatible processors and architectures</i> on page 12-829.</li> <li>10.155 <i>Predefined macros</i> on page 10-789.</li> </ul>
Changed option from --implicit_using_std to --using_std.	10.155 <i>Predefined macros</i> on page 10-789.
Added v7E-M to table of Thumb architecture versions in relation to ARM architecture versions.	10.155 <i>Predefined macros</i> on page 10-789.
Added a note that some registers are not available on some architectures.	10.153 <i>Named register variables</i> on page 10-776.
Added the --echo option.	8.70 <i>--echo</i> on page 8-405.

**Table A-8 Differences between issue C and issue D (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Added the <code>--use_frame_pointer</code> option.	<a href="#">8.187 <code>--use_frame_pointer</code>, <code>--no_use_frame_pointer</code> on page 8-537.</a>
Added the <code>--depend_single_line</code> and <code>--no_depend_single_line</code> options.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">8.50 <code>--depend=filename</code> on page 8-384.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">8.53 <code>--depend_single_line</code>, <code>--no_depend_single_line</code> on page 8-388.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">8.128 <code>-M</code> on page 8-468.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">8.129 <code>--md</code> on page 8-469.</a></li> </ul>
Changed ARMCC41* environment variables to ARMCCnn*.	Various topics.
Changed ARM Compiler v4.1 to ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">8 Compiler Command-line Options on page 8-317.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">11.4 Structures, unions, enumerations, and bitfields in ARM C and C++ on page 11-804.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">11.6 Tentative arrays in ARM C++ on page 11-810.</a></li> </ul>
Added the <code>--library_interface=none</code> option.	<a href="#">8.114 <code>--library_interface=lib</code> on page 8-452.</a>
Added the <code>--preprocess_assembly</code> option.	<a href="#">8.155 <code>--preprocess_assembly</code> on page 8-498.</a>
Added the <code>-Warmcc</code> , <code>--gcc_fallback</code> option.	<a href="#">8.200 <code>-Warmcc</code>, <code>--gcc_fallback</code> on page 8-550.</a>
Modified description of <code>--remove_unneeded_entities</code> option.	<a href="#">8.162 <code>--remove_unneeded_entities</code>, <code>--no_remove_unneeded_entities</code> on page 8-505.</a>
Changed <code>--apcs</code> options to use variable list.	<a href="#">8.6 <code>--apcs=qualifier...qualifier</code> on page 8-327.</a>
Added note that the option is not required if you are using the ARM Compiler toolchain with DS-5.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <code>--reinitialize_workdir</code> (This topic removed from Issue J).</li> <li>• <code>--workdir=directory</code> (This topic removed from Issue J).</li> <li>• <code>--project=filename</code>, <code>--no_project</code> (This topic removed from Issue J).</li> </ul>
Added link to command line options and search paths.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">8.111 <code>-Jdir[,dir,...]</code> on page 8-449.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">8.99 <code>-Idir[,dir,...]</code> on page 8-437.</a></li> </ul>
Added <code>../include</code> as a search path.	<a href="#">8.102 <code>--implicit_include_searches</code>, <code>--no_implicit_include_searches</code> on page 8-440.</a>
Added <code>const unsigned int</code> for the variable declarations in the <code>__cdp</code> example. Also changed the value of <code>ops</code> from <code>0xAB</code> to <code>0xA3</code> because the second opcode must be 3 bits.	<a href="#">10.105 <code>__cdp intrinsic</code> on page 10-720.</a>
Changed the note to say that the <code>__irq</code> function compiles to ARM or Thumb code when compiling for a processor that supports ARM and 32-bit Thumb. Added links to <code>--arm</code> , <code>#pragma arm</code> , and ARM, Thumb, and ThumbEE instruction sets.	<a href="#">10.11 <code>__irq</code> on page 10-618.</a>
Mentioned that PC is set to LR-4 only in architectures other than ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M. And added note that for ARMv6-M and ARMv7-M, <code>__irq</code> does not affect the compiled output.	<a href="#">10.11 <code>__irq</code> on page 10-618.</a>

Table A-8 Differences between issue C and issue D (continued)

Change	Topics affected
Added note to deprecate <code>--ltcg</code> . Also added links to ltcg topics in <i>Using the Compiler</i> .	
Changed FPv4_SP to FPv4-SP.	<a href="#">8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.</a>
Added ARM Glossary to other information.	<a href="#">Conventions and feedback.</a>
Removed <code>#pragma GCC visibility</code> from <code>--visibility_inlines_hidden</code> .	<a href="#">8.195 --visibility_inlines_hidden on page 8-545.</a>
Added detail about <code>mask</code> and <code>flags</code> bit. Also added note and link to <code>&lt;fenv.h&gt;</code> topic in <i>Using the Compiler</i> . Changed "preferable" to "ARM recommends".	<a href="#">10.150 VFP status intrinsic on page 10-773.</a>
Mentioned class, struct, union, and enum types in the Usage section. Also added that you can apply this attribute to functions and variables.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">10.52 __attribute__((visibility("visibility_type"))) function attribute on page 10-664.</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">10.70 __attribute__((visibility("visibility_type"))) variable attribute on page 10-682.</a></li> </ul>
Changed <code>--vfp</code> to <code>--fpu</code> .	<a href="#">8.87 --fpu=list on page 8-423.</a>
Corrected description of the <code>--depend</code> option when specifying multiple source files.	<a href="#">8.50 --depend=filename on page 8-384.</a>
Added a topic on using GCC fallback.	<a href="#">2.14 Using GCC fallback when building applications on page 2-58.</a>
Removed the topics on Profiler-guided optimizations.	<a href="#">4 Compiler Features on page 4-107.</a>
Removed reference to ARM Profiler.	<a href="#">5.9 Code metrics on page 5-167.</a>
Removed references to Eclipse Workbench IDE and ARM Profiler.	<a href="#">5.10 Code metrics for measurement of code size and data size on page 5-168.</a>
Merged the following topics into the topic Stack use in C and C++:	<a href="#">5.11 Stack use in C and C++ on page 5-169.</a>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Methods of estimating stack usage.</li> <li>• Methods of reducing stack usage.</li> <li>• Using a debugger to estimate stack usage.</li> </ul>	
Changed <code>--info=summary</code> stack to <code>--info=summarystack</code> . Also removed references to ARM Profiler.	
Rephrased branches to function calls.	
Removed the note about profiler guided optimizations.	<a href="#">5.20 Inline functions on page 5-179.</a>
Removed reference to <code>--profile</code> .	<a href="#">5.23 Inline functions and removal of unused out-of-line functions at link time on page 5-183.</a>
Changed ARMCC41* environment variables to ARMCCnn*. And added link to the topic Toolchain environment variables in the <i>Introducing to ARM Compiler toolchain</i> document.	Various topics.

**Table A-8 Differences between issue C and issue D (continued)**

<b>Change</b>	<b>Topics affected</b>
Changed ARM Compiler 4.1 to ARM Compiler 4.1 and later.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation</a> on page 5-184.</li> <li>• <a href="#">4.22 Compiler eight-byte alignment features</a> on page 4-135.</li> <li>• <a href="#">4.9 Compiler support for European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) basic operations</a> on page 4-117.</li> <li>• <a href="#">3.4 Generating NEON instructions from C or C++ code</a> on page 3-76.</li> <li>• <a href="#">2.21 Effect of --multifile on compilation build time</a> on page 2-67.</li> <li>• <a href="#">2.19 Minimizing compilation build time</a> on page 2-64.</li> </ul>
Removed mention of Vista.	<a href="#">4.24 Precompiled Header (PCH) files</a> on page 4-137.
Removed mention of Solaris.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">2.19 Minimizing compilation build time</a> on page 2-64.</li> <li>• <a href="#">2.22 Minimizing compilation build time with parallel make</a> on page 2-68.</li> <li>• <a href="#">2.23 Compilation build time and operating system choice</a> on page 2-69.</li> </ul>
Changed onwards to later, and mentioned ARM Compiler 4.1.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">3.2 The NEON unit</a> on page 3-73.</li> <li>• <a href="#">4.8 Compiler intrinsics for Digital Signal Processing (DSP)</a> on page 4-116.</li> </ul>
Removed mention of FLEXlm license.	<a href="#">2.18 Compilation build time</a> on page 2-63.
When -J is not specified on the command-line, mention that the compiler searches ARMCCnnINC, then ARMINC, then ../include.	<a href="#">2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths</a> on page 2-54.
Added ARMINC to the list of search paths.	<a href="#">2.9 Factors influencing how the compiler searches for header files</a> on page 2-53.
Added link to Compiler command line options and search paths.	<a href="#">2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable</a> on page 2-56.
Changed description to say that ARMCCnnINC might be initialized.	<a href="#">2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable</a> on page 2-56.
Moved "...is colon separated on UNIX..." to the topic on ARMCCnnINC.	<a href="#">2.12 The ARMCC5INC environment variable</a> on page 2-56.
Specify the search order when -I and -J are both specified.	<a href="#">2.10 Compiler command-line options and search paths</a> on page 2-54.
Added note to deprecate --ltcg.	<a href="#">5.24 Automatic function inlining and multifile compilation</a> on page 5-184.
Inline assembler definitions with __asm and asm can include multiple strings.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">7.4 Inline assembly language syntax with the __asm keyword in C and C++</a> on page 7-272.</li> <li>• <a href="#">7.5 Inline assembly language syntax with the asm keyword in C++</a> on page 7-273.</li> <li>• <a href="#">7.6 Inline assembler rules for compiler keywords __asm and asm</a> on page 7-274.</li> </ul>

**Table A-9 Differences between issue B and issue C**

Change	Topics affected
Updated the Modes supported column, for example changed Standard C90 to C90. Added GNU C++ to Compound literals. Added C90, C99, C++ to Variadic macros. Changed the origin of <code>__alignof__</code> to GCC-specific. Removed GNU C++ from void pointer arithmetic.	<a href="#">14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.</a>
Removed the mention of the modes (C90 and C++) from the list of the Standard C99 features.	<a href="#">9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.</a>
Removed <code>asm</code> keyword from the list of features that are not part of the ISO standard. This is because the <code>asm</code> keyword is part of Standard C++. The <code>asm</code> keyword is mentioned separately.	<a href="#">9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.</a>
Renamed the column Extension origin to Origin. Mentioned GCC-specific in the Origin column for the entries on <code>__attribute__*</code> .	<a href="#">14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.</a>
Changed the doubleword alignment to be multiples of 8 instead of 4.	<a href="#">5.31 Advantages of natural data alignment on page 5-192.</a>

**Table A-10 Differences between issue A and issue B**

Change	Topics affected
Compiler faults use of <code>at</code> attribute when used on declarations with incomplete types.	<a href="#">10.62 <code>__attribute__((at(address)))</code> variable attribute on page 10-674.</a>
Input parameter descriptions. User guidance that this intrinsic is for expert use only.	<a href="#">10.105 <code>__cdp</code> intrinsic on page 10-720.</a>
Return value saturated to unsigned range $0 < x < 2^{sat} - 1$ .	<a href="#">10.143 <code>__usat</code> intrinsic on page 10-765.</a>
Introductory and usage descriptions.	<a href="#">10.125 <code>__promise</code> intrinsic on page 10-744.</a>
<code>--ignore_missing_headers</code> only takes effect when dependency generation options are specified.	<a href="#">8.100 <code>--ignore_missing_headers</code> on page 8-438.</a>
Descriptive clarification for <code>rvct30</code> , <code>rvct30_c90</code> , <code>rvct31</code> , <code>rvct31_c90</code> , <code>rvct40</code> , <code>rvct40_c90</code> .	<a href="#">8.114 <code>--library_interface=lib</code> on page 8-452.</a>
If using <code>--show_cmdline</code> with ARM Linux translation options, you must use <code>-Warmcc</code> .	<a href="#">8.170 <code>--show_cmdline</code> on page 8-514.</a>
Cases where <code>--show_cmdline</code> can be useful.	<a href="#">8.170 <code>--show_cmdline</code> on page 8-514.</a>
Clarification that <code>--default_definition_visibility=visibility</code> controls the default ELF symbol visibility of extern variable and function definitions.	<a href="#">8.47 <code>--default_definition_visibility=visibility</code> on page 8-381.</a>
<code>__declspec(dllimport)</code> imports a symbol through the dynamic symbol table when <i>linking against</i> DLL libraries. (Textual clarification only.)	<a href="#">10.24 <code>__declspec(dllimport)</code> on page 10-634.</a>
New topic.	<a href="#">8.136 <code>--narrow_volatile_bitfields</code> on page 8-476.</a>
Added APSR, PSR, DSP, MVFR1, MVFR0, FPINST, FPINST2.	<a href="#">10.153 Named register variables on page 10-776.</a>
Additional GNU built-in functions.	<a href="#">10.154 GNU built-in functions on page 10-780.</a>
Clarification to restrictions on use of <code>__packed</code> when casting.	<a href="#">10.12 <code>__packed</code> on page 10-619.</a>



**Table A-10 Differences between issue A and issue B (continued)**

Change	Topics affected
Added ARM v7E-M architecture, example processor Cortex-M4.	<a href="#">8.41 --cpu=name compiler option on page 8-372.</a>
Added <code>__TARGET_FEATURE_NEON</code> .	<a href="#">10.155 Predefined macros on page 10-789.</a>
New function attribute that is a GNU compiler extension that the ARM compiler supports.	<a href="#">10.37 __attribute__((format_arg(string-index))) function attribute on page 10-649.</a>
Default option depends on optimization level.	<a href="#">8.44 --data_reorder, --no_data_reorder on page 8-378.</a>
Removed "The keyword <code>__align</code> comes immediately before the variable name", because both of the following are now compilable:  <pre>__align(n) static int x; static __align(n) int x;</pre>	<a href="#">10.2 __align on page 10-608.</a>
GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">9.45 GNU extensions to the C and C++ languages on page 9-602.</a></li> <li><a href="#">14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.</a></li> </ul>
Restrictions clarification.	<a href="#">8.88 --fpu=name compiler option on page 8-424.</a>
Default option is independent of the optimization level.	<a href="#">8.134 --multifile, --no_multifile on page 8-474.</a>
Optimization level is independent of multifile compilation.	<a href="#">8.139 -Onum on page 8-480.</a>
Options are not necessarily restricted to vectorization usage.	<a href="#">8.158 --reassociate_saturation, --no_reassociate_saturation on page 8-501.</a>
Removed from document. Available as knowledgebase articles. See <a href="#">14.1 Supported GNU extensions on page 14-895.</a>	asm keyword, case ranges, cast of a union, character escape sequences, compound literals, conditionals, designated inits, extended lvalues, initializers, inline functions, labels as values, pointer arithmetic, statement expressions, unnamed fields, zero-length arrays.
Textual clarification.	<a href="#">10.145 __wfi intrinsic on page 10-767.</a>
Textual clarification.	<a href="#">10.146 __yield intrinsic on page 10-768.</a>
Changed the value of the modulo result for four intrinsic functions from modulo <sup>64</sup> to modulo 2 <sup>64</sup> .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><a href="#">12.23 __smlald intrinsic on page 12-851.</a></li> <li><a href="#">12.24 __smlaldx intrinsic on page 12-852.</a></li> <li><a href="#">12.27 __smlsld intrinsic on page 12-855.</a></li> <li><a href="#">12.28 __smlsldx intrinsic on page 12-856.</a></li> </ul>
Changed addition to subtraction for both of the val options in the <code>__ssub16</code> intrinsic.	<a href="#">12.35 __ssub16 intrinsic on page 12-863.</a>
New topic.	<a href="#">4.35 Default compiler options that are affected by optimization level on page 4-150.</a>
New topic.	<a href="#">4.19 How the compiler handles bit-band objects placed outside bit-band regions on page 4-132.</a>
Filename suffixes <code>.i</code> , <code>.ii</code> , <code>.a</code> , <code>.lib</code> , <code>.so</code> added.	<a href="#">2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.</a>
Usage notes for <code>.S</code> suffix.	<a href="#">2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.</a>

**Table A-10 Differences between issue A and issue B (continued)**

<b>Change</b>	<b>Topics affected</b>
Description for <code>.sx</code> suffix.	<i>2.7 Filename suffixes recognized by the compiler on page 2-50.</i>
Search criteria for <code>armlink</code> and <code>armasm</code> executables.	<i>2.3 Default compiler behavior on page 2-45.</i>
Example code for <code>promise.c</code> .	<i>3.19 Indicating loop iteration counts to the compiler with <code>__promise(expr)</code> on page 3-92.</i>
New topic.	<i>5.82 How to prevent uninitialized data from being initialized to zero on page 5-257.</i>