Agenda

• Overview
• Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessor Features
• Native / Manycore hosted Debugging
• Remote Debugging and Offloaded Execution
• Debugging Data Races
• Shared Virtual Memory
• Eclipse Integration
• Summary
Overview

Linux*: Intel debug solution based on GNU* GDB 7.5

- Capabilities are upstreamed to GNU* community
- C/C++ support, improved Fortran support
- Parallel Debug Extensions (PDBX)
- BTrace: crash-resistant back-trace
- Pointer Checker: assist in finding pointer issues
- Intel® Transactional Synchronization Extensions

Intel® Debugger (Intel® IDB) is deprecated

- Last version remains 13.0
Overview: Intel® Xeon Phi™

GDB* supports Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessors

• Available via Intel® MPSS
  - Via product suite e.g., Intel® Composer XE

GDB* on Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessors

• Native and cross/remote debugger versions
• C/C++ support, improved Fortran support
• Parallel Debug Extensions (PDBX)
GDB* in Intel MPSS

Coprocessor

Debug server and host debugger (PDBX, etc.)
/usr/linux-k1om-4.7/linux-k1om/usr/bin/gdbserver
/usr/linux-k1om-4.7/bin/x86_64-k1om-linux-gdb

Native debugger (no PDBX)
/usr/linux-k1om-4.7/linux-k1om/usr/bin/gdb

Host debugger (PDBX, etc.)
/opt/intel/mic/bin/gdb
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Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessor Architecture Features

List all new vector and mask registers

(gdb) info registers zmm
K0  0x0  0

Zmm31  {v16_float = {0x0 <repeats 16 times>},
     v8_double = {0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0},
     v64_int8 = {0x0 <repeats 64 times>},
     v32_int16 = {0x0 <repeats 32 times>},
     v16_int32 = {0x0 <repeats 16 times>},
     v8_int64 = {0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0},
     v4_uint128 = {0x0, 0x0, 0x0, 0x0}}

Disassemble instructions

(gdb) disassemble $pc, +10
Dump of assembler code from 0x11 to 0x24:
0x0000000000000011 <foobar+17>:
  vpackstorelps %zmm0,-0x10(%rbp){%k1}
0x0000000000000018 <foobar+24>:
  vbroadcastss -0x10(%rbp),%zmm0
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Native / Manycore hosted Debugging

Run GDB* on the Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessor
ssh -t mic0 /usr/bin/gdb

To attach to a running application via the process-id
(gdb) shell pidof my_application
42
(gdb) attach 42

To run an application directly from GDB*
(gdb) file /target/path/to/application
(gdb) start
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Remote Debugging

Run GDB* on your localhost
   /usr/linux-k1om-4.7/bin/x86_64-k1om-linux-gdb

Start gdbserver on the coprocessor
   - To remote debug using ssh
      (gdb) target extended-remote | ssh -T mic0 gdbserver -multi IP:port
   - To remote debug using stdio
      (gdb) target extended-remote | ssh -T mic0 gdbserver -multi -

Attach to a running application via process ID (pid)
   (gdb) file /local/path/to/application
   (gdb) attach <remote-pid>

Run an application directly
   (gdb) file /local/path/to/application
   (gdb) set remote exec-file /target/path/to/application

*Other brands and names are the property of their respective owners.
Offloaded Execution

Debugging into an offloaded code section on the host does not “switch” to a debugger on the target

• No debug synchronization (host / coprocessor)
• GUI integration will provide this “glue” logic; see “Upcoming Features” (Eclipse*)

Debugging offloaded code via command line

1. Wait within the offloaded code section
   ```c
   volatile int loop = 1;
   do {
     volatile int a = 1;
   } while (loop);
   ```

2. Attach to offload process on coprocessor via PID

Note: cross-compiling the entire application and debugging the previously offloaded section natively might be easier.
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Debugging Data Races: Example

Given: global variables
   a=1
   b=2

Given: two threads
   T1: x = a + b
   T2: b = 42

Value of x depends on execution order:
   If T1 runs before T2 → x = 3
   If T2 runs before T1 → x = 43

Data race e.g., “read-write”:
   T2’s update was not visible to T1’s calculation
Debugging Data Races: Symptoms

Debug data race symptoms

• Corrupted results (lost updates, large run-to-run variations in results, etc.)
• Corrupted data structures (crash)

Note: different levels of synchronization possible

• Thread-level ordering (global synchronization)
• Instruction level ordering / visibility (e.g., atomics)
  - Race-free but not necessarily run-to-run reproducible results
• No synchronization (data races might be acceptable)
Debugging Data Races: Detection

How to detect data races?
• Compile with "-debug parallel" (icc/icpc/ifort only)
• Coprocessor: debug server with corresponding host GDB*
• Host: enhanced GDB* (/opt/intel/mic/bin/gdb)

Debugger breaks when race has been detected:
(gdb) pdbx enable
(gdb) c
data race detected
1: write shared, 4 bytes from foo.c:36
3: read shared, 4 bytes from foo.c:40

Breakpoint -l1, 0x401515 in L_test___21 () at foo.c:36
*var = 42; /* bp.write */

Stop in the context of the access that triggers a race condition
Debugging Data Races: Filter Sets

Fine-tune detection and analysis via filter sets

- Add filter to selected filter set
  (gdb) pdbx filter line foo.c:36
  (gdb) pdbx filter code 0x40518..0x40524
  (gdb) pdbx filter var shared
  (gdb) pdbx filter data 0x60f48..0x60f50
  (gdb) pdbx filter reads # read accesses

- Ignore events specified by filters (default behavior)
  (gdb) pdbx fset suppress

- Ignore events not specified by filters
  (gdb) pdbx fset focus

- Get debug command help (pdbx)
  (gdb) help pdbx

Use cases
- Focused debugging e.g., debug a single symptom
- Limit overhead and control false positives
Debugging Data Races: Hints

Optimized code (symptom)

```plaintext
(gdb) run
data race detected
1: write question, 4 bytes from foo.c:36
3: read question, 4 bytes from foo.c:40

Breakpoint -11, 0x401515 in foo () at foo.c:36
36  *answer = 42;
(gdb)
```

Reported variable may appear to be wrong

- Remember: data races are reported on memory objects
- If symbol name cannot be resolved: only address is printed

Recommendation

- Unoptimized code (O0): avoids to miss finding data races (due to removed / optimized away temporaries, etc.)
Debugging Data Races: Hints (cont.)

Reported data races appear to be false positives e.g.,

- Distinct parallel sections (same stack frame) using the same variable can result in false positives
- Solution: enable/setup instrumentation (libiomp5)

Recommendation

- Set additional environment variables:
  INTEL_LIBITTNOTIFY64=""
  INTEL_ITTNOTIFY_GROUPS=sync
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Shared Virtual Memory

Programming model

1. Expose shared resources
   - Allocate and access shared virtual memory (SVM)
   - Address / pointer is valid on host and coprocessor
2. Offload computation
   - Implicit / sparse data transfers (byte or page granularity)
   - Seamlessly share complex data structures

How it works

• MMU page protection faults used to synchronize memory

Use it via

• MYO C API (“Mine Yours Ours”)
• Intel® Cilk Plus™ (C and C++)
Shared Virtual Memory and GDB*

Enhanced GDB* distinguishes between invalid page faults and page faults used for Shared Virtual Memory.

Example: GDB* without SVM-awareness
• Use of SVM triggers segmentation violation
  (gdb) run
  Program received signal SIGSEGV,
  Segmentation fault.
  0x0000000000401c90 in foobar()

Example: enhanced GDB* allows transparent debugging
• Awareness for segmentation violations used by SVM
  (gdb) run
  Program exited normally
• Display shared variables similar to regular variables
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Eclipse Integration

Eclipse* IDE integration

- Seamless debugging of host and coprocessor
- Simultaneous view of host and coprocessor threads
- Supports offload language extensions (auto-attach to offload process)
- Supports multiple coprocessor cards
- Supports C/C++ and Fortran

Simultaneous and seamless thread debugging.
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Support for multiple debug models
• Native / remote target debugging
• Upcoming GUI integration

Aware of extended programming models
• Explicit offload model and SVM model

GDB* for Intel® Xeon Phi™ Coprocessor

Debug your offloaded / native code with GDB*
Questions?
Thank You
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Notice revision #20110804