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Intel(R) Array Building Blocks Code Samples

Overview

To help jumpstart your application development, we provide code samples that illustrate the use of Intel® Array Building Blocks in various workloads including those often used for financial services, graphics, image processing, medical imaging and more. The sample applications provide the most direct way to determine:

- Whether the software is working on your system
- How you can use the different language constructs (for example, operators, functions, facilities and so on)
- How to write code and create an application

Installation

The code samples are contained in the installation package and by default are installed to

- Windows* directory **C:\Program Files\Intel\arbb\<version>\samples**
- Linux* directory **/opt/intel/arbb/<version>/samples**

where <version> is the version of the product being installed.

Building and Running the Samples

On Windows*, open one of the Microsoft* Visual Studio* solution (.sln) files located in the samples folder. For examples, if you use Visual Studio 2005, double-click the file C:\Program Files\Intel\arbb\<version>\samples\samples-vs05.sln.

1. Select a configuration (the default setting is Debug - Win32 configuration)
2. From the **Build** menu, select **Build Solution** to build the entire solution, which consists of individual projects for each sample. Use the **Solution Explorer** to view projects grouped in folders by category.
3. In the **Solution Explorer**, right-click the name of the sample you are interested in and choose the **Set as StartUp Project** option from the context menu.
4. Click the **Run** button to run the selected sample.

On Linux*, use one of the following shell scripts, located in the folder /opt/intel/arbb/<version>/tools, to build and run the samples:

- build_run-icc.sh - automatically build and run the sample applications using Intel® C++ Compiler
- build_run-gcc.sh - automatically build and run the sample applications using GCC*

Known Issues

- The problem size for some samples (for example, graphics/raytracing1) is too small to get meaningful performance measurement. Users need to manually set a big enough problem size to be able to see a reasonable speedup.

Detailed Description

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|--------------------------|--|---|---|
| Category: finance | | | |
| binominal-tree | Numerical lattice for pricing European options. | Stream of option pricing evaluations with high arithmetic intensity (exp , sqrt) | (1) A map to parallelize over multiple options. Uses a series of _for loops for each time step and calls replace() on elements of local (temporary) containers as well as containers for output of the option prices. |
| black-scholes | Analytical method for pricing European options. Optionally evaluates or approximates polynomials. | Data-parallel random number generation using scan . Option stream with arithmetic intensity (ln , exp , sqrt). | (1) Uses the call operator to initiate an Intel ArBB function whose outer loop parallelizes over options. Illustrates the use of select to choose between two terms during polynomial evaluation. |
| monte-carlo | Stochastic method for computing financial options using the Black-Scholes formula given randomly varying prices. Can optionally generate the sequence of random numbers using a multiplicative congruential generator (MCG). | Data-parallel random number generation using scan . Option stream with arithmetic intensity (exp). 1D and 2D accumulation (reductions). | (1) Uses the call operator to initiate an Intel ArBB function whose outer loop parallelizes over options. Generates a normally distributed random sequence using a transformation of a uniform random sequence. Uses a nested _for loop over prices to perform 1D vector arithmetic, and uses add_reduce and replace to accumulate a result. (2) Uses reshape and repeat_copy to perform an equivalent 2D implementation. Illustrates the use of add_reduce for accumulation. |

| Sample <small>*Trademarks</small> | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| poisson-solver | Monte-Carlo method to solve Poisson functions (MCP solver). Uses a sequence of random numbers from a linear congruential generator (LCG). | Data-parallel random number generation using scan . Kernel with nested loops and high arithmetic intensity (sin , cos). Minimum distance computation using a series of thresholds in the inner loop. Unbalanced load where the number of iterations depends on random input. | (1) Uses the call operator to generate a large vector of scalar random numbers. Followed by a map over points illustrating nest _for and _while loops for a random walk. The inner loop is a series of _if statements to compute a minimum distance. (2) Equivalent implementation using map to perform scalar arithmetic. |
| randomlib | <p>Code that can be in-lined to generate a normally distributed random sequence using the following algorithms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linear Congruential Generator (LCG) • Multiplicative Congruential Generator (MCG) • Combined multiple recursive generator with two components of order 3 (MRG) • Generalized feedback shift register generator (R250) <p>Mersenne twister (MT)</p> | <p>Data-parallel random number generation using scan.</p> <p>Scan collectives, bitwise operations</p> | <p>(MCG) Uses the call operator to invoke native code stubs from within an Intel ArBB function. The actual native implementation can be switched at link time.</p> <p>(General) Use of mul_scan to generate indices. Illustrates the use of rotate and select on seeds. Illustrates the use of a bitwise & operation (a mask) to simulate a vector modulus operation.</p> |
| Category: graphics | | | |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|-------------|---|--|--|
| raytracing1 | <p>A kernel used to create a realistic visualization of a scene when tracing rays from a camera through an image plane to a light source. For each pixel in a 2D array, the kernel determines the closest ray-triangle intersection and evaluates the pixel shade using a lighting calculation.</p> <p>This implementation is brute-force and does not use an accelerator: every ray is compared to every triangle.</p> | <p>For each triangle in the scene, compute the intersection and distance to triangle. Compute the minimum distance and shade the triangle closest to the camera.</p> <p>A simplified lighting calculation is given by a proportional sum of diffuse, specular and ambient light.</p> <p>The ray tracing algorithm is parameterized over 1-component or 2-component inputs and outputs.</p> | <p>(1) Uses the call operator over a pixel array. Within the call body _for loop over the height of the pixel array is performed. For each row, a map over 1D lines of pixels is performed. Illustrates the use of index to generate an arithmetic sequence and replace_row to populate rows of the 2D outputs. Uses at to extract a one-component array from an N-component array.</p> <p>(2) An equivalent map over a 2D pixel array is performed. Illustrates the use of index to generate a 2D sequence.</p> <p>Note: The bulk of the implementation differs only in the use of scalars versus 2-tuples for positions and directions. Therefore ray tracing is parameterized over different data types.</p> <p>(3) A variation on (2) using 3-component tuples and large vectors of 3-component tuples instead of separate variables (i.e. RGB and XYZ). Illustrates the use of get and set for components of a tuple.</p> |
| raytracing2 | <p>A variation on raytracing1 where ray-triangle intersection is limited to triangles in grid cells that intersect with rays. In other words, a uniform spatial partition is used for acceleration.</p> | <p>A variation on raytracing1 where the triangles are indexed by a uniform grid accelerator to limit the number of triangle-ray tests that are required.. For each cell in a 3D grid, an initial test is performed to determine if the ray intersects the cell. Ray-triangle intersection is performed only when rays intersect grid cells.</p> | <p>(1-3) See (1), (2) and (3) for raytracing1.</p> <p>Note</p> <p>Uses _break to perform an early exit from a _for loop or a _while loop.</p> |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|----------------------------|--|--|---|
| Category: image processing | | | |
| convolve | Convolution of a 2D image with a discrete Gaussian function. | <p>A local gather over a fixed neighborhood around each pixel of a 2D image.</p> <p>1D convolution along X and Y axis of a pre-computed 2D stencil of coefficients.</p> <p>Clamps output to 255 to prevent saturation of the 8-bit unsigned image data.</p> <p>Optionally runs with convolution stencils of 5x5 or 9x9 pixels.</p> | <p>(1) Uses the call operator to implement separable convolution using large vector math. Calls shift_row to perform vector arithmetic on neighbors. Optionally performs an averaging filter.</p> <p>(2) A variation on (1) with manual unrolling rather than _for loops to implement separable convolution. Only works with a 5x5 pixel convolution stencil.</p> <p>(3) A map operation using nested _for loops to perform convolution. Calls num_rows on the 2D stencil to operate on square kernels of a given size.</p> <p>(4) This tuned version casts the unsigned image data to single-precision float. Next, a _for loop is performed over 64-pixel wide strips of the image. For each block, nested _for loops are used to unroll the convolution. Uses section and replace to operate on a 64-pixel wide strip of the image. This is followed by a similar loop to process the portion of the image that does not fit into strips of 64 pixels.</p> |
| gauss-convolve | Convolution of a 2D image with a discrete Gaussian function. | Similar to convolve. Uses different stencil sizes and does not assume odd stencil sizes. | <p>(1) Two _for loops to perform separable convolution using large vector math. Uses shift_row and shift_col for the 1D convolution along X and Y axis.</p> <p>(2) Equivalent implementation using map to perform scalar arithmetic. Illustrates in-lining of multiple C routines (one for each axis) into single Intel ArBB function.</p> |
| | | | |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|-------------------|---|---|--|
| sobel | An edge detection filter for a 2D image that uses the gradient (rate of change) of image intensities. | A gather over a fixed neighborhood around each pixel of a 2D image. Separately computes the gradient along the X and Y axes. This variation on a Sobel filter outputs the largest of the two gradients (with clamping to avoid saturation of 8-bpp image data). | (1) Uses call to invoke an Intel ArBB function that in turn inline separate functions to compute the gradient in X and Y using large vector arithmetic. Calls shift to perform vector arithmetic on neighbors. (2) Equivalent implementation uses map to perform scalar arithmetic |
| Category: medical | | | |
| 3D-dilate | A morphological operator for dilation applied to 3D grayscale images. | Loops over a neighborhood defined by a 3D binary mask (structuring element). For each neighbor corresponding to a non-zero mask entry, the image is updated with the largest difference between the neighbor and a height field matrix. Features are dilated when voxels neighboring the structuring element are incorporated (assigned similar intensities). The height matrix provides intensities for non-flat structuring elements. | (1) Three nested _for loops are used to iterate through the mask. A create makes a local buffer to store maximums. Calls shift to perform vector arithmetic on neighbors. Uses num_cols , num_rows and num_pages to operate on a mask of arbitrary size. |
| 3D-Erode | A morphological operator for erosion applied to 3D grayscale images. | Similar to 3D-dilate, except that the smallest difference is output. | Similar to 3D-dilate. Uses min_reduce . |
| 3D-gauss-convolve | Convolution of a 3D image with a discrete Gaussian function. | Similar to gauss-convolve, except that a 3D convolution stencil is applied to 3D image data. | Similar to gauss-convolve. Uses shift_page in addition to shift_row and shift_col to handle the Z axis. |
| back_projection | A technique for image reconstruction used with inputs from computed axial | A spatially-coherent gather along projections (rays) through each pixel of a 2D | (1) Uses the call operator to parallelize over pixels in the 2D output image. Uses a _for loop to |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| | tomography (CAT) scans. | <p>image.</p> <p>Applies the inverse Radon transform to reconstruct a 2D image given a set of projections through that image. Uses 1D interpolation to update the output image with the contribution from the nearest projections.</p> <p>Note</p> <p>A simple scan geometry is assumed (radically symmetric 1D orthographic projections rather than a helical scan).</p> <p>In addition, it is assumed that sharpening of sets of input projections (sinograms) has already been performed.</p> | <p>the call body to iterate through projection angles. Uses a table lookup to compute the sin and c of each projection angle. Calls fl and ceiling on large vectors prior to interpolation. Uses the += operator to integrate contributions.</p> <p>(2) A variation on (1) that uses reshape to create a 2D product of angles and projections rather than a packed 1D vector. Within the call body, the indexing is modified to perform a 2D gather using a two-component index.</p> |
| Category: misc | | | |
| mandelbrot | Fractal data set generation. | Iteratively applies a quadratic polynomial map over complex numbers and computes its escape time to compute a fractal set. | <p>(1) Uses a _for loop in a map operator to iteratively refine the output. Uses the complex number type (using std::complex over Intel Architecture floating-point types) to perform complex multiplication and addition. Calls abs to compute the complex norm, and uses _break to exit early when the hard-coded bounds are exceeded.</p> <p>(2) An alternative implementation using a _for loop in a call operator. Creates a large vector that is located in the Intel Architecture Basic Block (ArBB) function, complex numbers, and 2D. Performs a fixed number of iterations, and stops updating the output when the fractal bounds are exceeded.</p> |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|--------------|---|--|---|
| | | | been exceeded (this performs more work than the version (1) using an early exit). |
| spec-samples | <p>Calling code that details the behavior of various Intel ArBB operations on dense and nested containers. The operations are divided into three categories:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collectives used for reductions and scans. • Facilities for building and querying the structure of nested data containers. • Operations on dense and nested containers, permutation operations on elements or nested segments of containers. | <p>(1) Full and partial collective operations are performed. The partial collectives reduce the dimensionality of the input set rather than returning a single value. Collective operation is illustrated using dense and nested containers.</p> <p>(2) Illustrates the reshaping of dense containers as nested containers, flattening of nested containers, and split/unsplit/cat operations. Also shows how to extract sizes of dense containers and nested segments.</p> <p>(...2) Illustrates the creation and initialization of large vectors and index sets. Also shows how to section large vectors and update sections of large vectors.</p> <p>(3) Permutes data using swizzle, pack, shift, rotate, sort and shuffle operations. Many of these operations have inverses, such as pack/unpack.</p> | <p>(1) The calling code, inputs and outputs are detailed for full/partial reductions using add_reduce, as well as exclusive and inclusive scans (add_scan and add_iscan).</p> <p>(2) Uses reshape_nested_lengths to generate nested vectors from dense vectors based on segment descriptors. Couples this operation with a type cast using reshape_cast. Calls split, unsplit and cat with inputs and/or outputs that are nested containers.</p> <p>(...2) Calls value, lengths, flags and offsets to extract information about nested containers.</p> <p>(...2) Calls create for large vectors and illustrates the construction of index sets. Uses section and replace to operate on pieces of large vectors.</p> <p>(3) Performs swizzle, mask, pack/unpack and scatter operations on large vectors using large vectors to specify the output indices.</p> <p>(...3) Calls shift, shift_sticky and rotate with options to permute dense and nested containers both left and right. Note that full segments of nested containers can be permuted.</p> <p>(...3) Calls sort to perform direct and indirect sorts on dense containers.</p> <p>(...3) Calls shuffle/unshuffle to perform strided interleave/de-interleave of dense containers.</p> <p>(...3) Shows how to use repeat and</p> |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|
| | | | repeat_row variants to replicate data in dense containers. |
| Category: seismic | | | |
| 3dstencil | Convolution used in reverse time migration (RTM). | Convolution using a 7x7x7 cross-shaped kernel. | (1) Uses the map operator to perform scalar arithmetic. Uses relative indices to gather values neighbors. |
| convolution | 1D and 2D convolution for a seismic image. | Separable 2D convolution using a cross-shaped kernel. | <p>(X) Uses the call operator to implement 1D convolution on the x-axis between a seismic trace and a large array of weights. Calls shift to access neighbors within a _for loop to perform convolution with an arbitrarily sized array of weights. Uses create to generate a large vector output of any specified size.</p> <p>(Y) An equivalent operation on the Y axis performed on half of the input data set.</p> <p>(2D) Uses the call operator to perform a 2D convolution with a cross-shaped stencil of fixed size. Uses shift_sticky to perform vector arithmetic with neighbors using a zero-flux assumption for out-of-bounds accesses (clamped to the nearest boundary value). Uses a stride of 2 on the x-axis when gathering neighbors.</p> |
| kirchhoff | Generic Kirchhoff migration assuming constant velocity of seismic waves through a sub-surface. | Accumulates the contributions of each seismic trace to a sub-surface reconstruction. Uses a constant velocity model where the time from source to receiver is proportional to the distance between the source and receiver. Uses the equation of a circle to | (1) Uses the call operator to implement migration with large vector arithmetic. Uses create to allocate a large vector output. Constructs sets of indices<> with the user-specified resolution. Uses a _for loop to parallelize over circle centers. Uses a select statement to perform a boundary check. |

| Sample | Description | Algorithm | Implementation |
|--------|-------------|---|--|
| | | determine the possible reflection points. Uses correlation between multiple source-receiver pairs to identify the location of the reflecting sub-surface. | (2) A 2D variation on (1) where output and index sets are 2D X-/Y-coordinates. Uses repeat_col and repeat_row to generate the 2D index sets. Uses create to initialize a 2D large vector containing two-component tuples used to perform a gather. Specifically, the 2-tuples are used to index the trace data to determine the appropriate contribution for the output reconstruction. |

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