

Offload Exercises: Option B
(based on code examples used in presentation)

Contents of README in offload_demos.tar:

```
offload_demos.tar -- Introduction to Xeon Phi Explicit Offload
*****
```

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Revision History

04 Oct 2013 Removed references to alloc_if and free_if in
 off06stack. These two keywords apparently have
 no effect on stack-based arrays.

Preparation

-- Log into Stampede

-- From an appropriate directory (e.g. \$WORK), copy and extract
the files by executing:

```
tar xvf ~train00/offload_demos.tar
```

-- Enter the directory containing the files:

```
cd offload_demos
```

-- Start a 1-node srun or idev session; e.g.

```
srun --pty -t 01:00:00 -n 16 -p development /bin/bash -l
```

...or...

```
idev
```

Explicit Offload

Run experiments and exercises as desired from the off* source code
files used in the tutorial. The list below includes suggestions
and possibilities.

All C files should compile with "icc -openmp off0xxxxx.c",
where off0xxxxx.c represents the name of the file.
The resulting executable will have the name a.out.

All Fortran files should compile with "ifort -openmp off0xxxxx.f90",
where off0xxxxx.f90 represents the name of the file.
The resulting executable will have the name a.out.

Suggested experiments/exercises:

off00host through off04proc

Exercise: modify off00host to offload a single line of code, a block of code, an OpenMP region, or a procedure that you write. See off01 through off04 respectively for appropriate ways to do so.

Exercise: export OFFLOAD_REPORT=1, then 2, then 3, and observe the results on your offloaded code(s). Experiment as well with the compiler flag "-opt-report-phase=offload".

Exercise: remove all declspec/attribute decorations, then compile with "-offload-attribute-target=mic" and observe the results.

off05global

Exercise: experiment with decorated and undecorated variables of various types (global, static, automatic) and observe the effect on compilation/execution. Observe as well the effect on the output results generated by OFFLOAD_REPORT.

Exercise: remove all declspec/attribute decorations, then compile with "-offload-attribute-target=mic" and observe the results.

off06stack

Exercise: experiment with appropriate and inappropriate choices of in, out, in/out, and nocopy and observe the results.

Exercise: experiment with MIC_STACKSIZE and the size of the arrays. For example, increase array size until the code exceeds stack limits, then modify the stack limits to fix the problem. Try to predict in advance the array size that will cause problems. How does the code behave when you exceed stack limits?

Exercise: in the C code, define "const int N=100000", then replace the hard-wired literal "100000" with N. Use icc to compile the program as C code, then use icpc to compile the program as C++ code (icpc interprets the .c suffix as a C++ source file). Expect a difference in behavior.

off07heap

Exercise: experiment with the size of the arrays. How large a heap are you able to offload? Attempt to predict in advance the problem size at which you might begin to expect trouble. How does the code behave if you attempt to use too much memory?

Exercise: export OFFLOAD_REPORT=1, then 2, then 3, and observe the results on your offloaded code(s). Experiment as well with the compiler flag "-opt-report-phase=offload". How do the reports for heap data differ from those for stack data? How do reported times vary with problem size? What do you think the reported times are measuring?

off08asynch

Exercise: experiment with signal and wait settings to generate conditions under which the asynchronous offload does and does not finish before the code prints the results.

Exercise: experiment with offload vs offload_wait; compare the functionality.

off09transfer

Exercise: experiment with signal and wait settings to generate conditions under which the code does and does not execute properly. Conduct similar experiments with in/in/inout/nocopy as well as alloc_if/alloc_free.

Exercise: given invalid offload conditions (for example, no MIC allocation before data is needed), compile the code with "-no-offload" and observe its behavior.

MKL Automatic Offload

Run experiments and exercises on MKL Automatic Offload using the Intel demonstration codes used in the tutorial. The list below includes suggestions and possibilities.

To compile the C demo: `icc -openmp -mkl ao_intel.c`
The resulting executable will have the name `a.out`.

To compile the C demo: `icc -openmp -mkl ao_intel.f`
The resulting executable will have the name `a.out`.

Remember to set appropriate environment variables:

```
export MKL_MIC_ENABLE=1
export OMP_NUM_THREADS=16
export MIC_OMP_NUM_THREADS=240
export OFFLOAD_REPORT=2
```

Suggested experiments/exercises:

Exercise: experiment with the values of the environment variables (e.g. thread counts, AO enabled/disabled) and compare the results.

Exercise: experiment with problem size and observe the results.
At what threshold(s) does MKL begin to use the MIC?
At what threshold(s) is it faster to use Automatic Offload?

Exercise: experiment with work division (see
http://software.intel.com/sites/products/documentation/doclib/mkl_sa/11/mkl_userguide_lnx/GUID-3DC4FC7D-A1E4-423D-9C0C-06AB265FFA86.htm). What settings are optimal?

Experiment with two MICs in the normal-2mic queue. How much better can you do? With what size problems?