C++ as a service — rapid software development and dynamic interoperability with Python and beyond

Interactive C++: cling and clang-repl

Vassil Vassilev

03.11.2022
Status. Cling

- Continuing to rebase cling on top of llvm13, fixing Windows.
- Added initial version of readthedocs-based documentation
More progress on parsing statements on the global scope: D127284

Started a clang-repl based service for Jupyter called xeus-clang-repl

The goal is to provide better stability and robustness which can later cling can reuse.
We can execute basic cppyy workflows

Working on simplifying CallFunc and moving it in libInterOp: PR10850
Status. Clad

- Released v0.1 and integrated in ROOT and the xeus-cling binder
Working on preparing blog posts for our summer internships
Upstreaming Patches

✧ Spreadsheet tracking the progress here.
✧ Total amount of upstreamed cling patches 26 out of 52 upstreamable.
CaaS Open Projects

- Open projects are tracked in our open projects page.
Next Meetings

- Monthly Meeting — 8th Dec, 1700 CET/0800 PDT
  - Tentative talk by Sunho Kim on clang-repl and orcv2 jit-link infrastructure

If you want to share your knowledge/experience with interactive C++ we can include presentations at an upcoming next meeting
GSoC 2022
Contributors

Surya Somayyajula
IRIS-HEP Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA
Improve Cling’s packaging system: Cling Packaging Tool
(May 2022-Sep 2022)

Manish Kausik H
GSoC22, Computer Science and Engineering (Dual Degree), Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar
Add Initial Integration of Clad with Enzyme
(May 2022-Sep 2022)

Matheus Izvekov
GSoC22, Computer Science
Preserve type sugar for member access on template specializations
(May 2022-SepNov 2022)
People

Sunho Kim
GSoC22, De Anza College, Cupertino, USA
Write JITLink support for a new format/architecture (ELF/AARCH64)
(May 2022-Sep 2022)

Jun Zhang
GSoC22, Anhui Normal University, WuHu, China
Optimize ROOT use of modules for large codebases
(May 2022-Sep 2022)

Anubhab Ghosh
GSoC22, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Kalyani, India
Shared Memory Based JITLink Memory Manager
(May 2022-Sep 2022)
Surya Somayyajula

IRIS-HEP Fellow, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Improve Cling’s packaging system: Cling Packaging Tool (May 2022-Sep 2022). Slides: [here](#).

### Project Objectives

- Improvements to be made
  - Fixing platform issues
    - This mostly entails fixing builds with LLVM on Linux and MacOS
  - Delink Packaging creation
  - Fixing Windows builds
  - Rewriting the CPT itself
    - A full rewrite of the CPT, fixing old features as well as adding new features and getting rid of non-functional options
  - Rewriting documentation
    - Adding new documentation for rewrite and fixes, as well as rewriting old documentation for overriding variables
  - Fixing miscellaneous issues
    - Fixing specific software dependency issues

### Rewriting the CPT

- Using a different program execution starting point
  - I added a new global block separator from all the program functions
- Rewriting the argument parser
  - I added a new option to only build Cling and not package it, as users want this option
  - I added some dependent arguments so that errors would be caught before any building is done
  - I also removed some arguments for consistency
- I added a feature to specify the number of CPU cores to use when building Cling
- Reduced global variable mutation
  - Implemented parameter passing style for a couple of global variables where possible, as most of the global variables are deeply embedded in the CPT
- Made the CPT more flake8 compliant, although almost all of the flake8 errors are due to the lines being longer than 79 characters
Manish Kausik H


Implementation Ideas

2. Reverse Mode Differentiation Code Generation
   - `DiffCollector::VisitCallExpr` must set a variable in the `DiffRequest` Object, that states whether the user wants to use enzyme or not.
   - `ReverseModeVisitor::Derive` must create a new branch for Enzyme `DiffRequests`, with a constant template code.
   - Must link the Code generated by `ReverseModeVisitor::Derive` with the `CladFunction` class (Need to explore this).
   - How can `DiffCollector::VisitCallExpr` recognise the request for use of enzyme based on a template parameter? (Need to explore this).

Integrating Enzyme Reverse Mode with Clad

1. Identifying a request for using Enzyme with Clad (PR #460)

2. Integrating Enzyme as a static library in Clad (PR #466)

3. Generating code for Enzyme Reverse mode with clad (PR #486)

4. Verifying Enzyme generated derivatives with clad(PR #488)

```cpp
clad::gradient(f) //Normal Calling convention
clad::gradient<clad::opts::use_enzyme>(f) //Calling Convention for using Enzyme within Clad
```
Preserve type sugar for member access on template specializations (May 2022-Sep-Nov 2022). Slides: here and here.

In simplest terms, with an example, we want this to work:

```cpp
template<class T> struct foo { using type = T; }

struct Baz {};

using Bar [[gnu::aligned(64)]] = Baz;

using type = typename foo<Bar>::type;

// Clang as it stands will fail below assert
// as the foo template will only be instantiated
// with the structural part of the argument,
// which the Bar alias is not.
// So it only sees Baz, the aligned attribute is never seen.
static_assert(alignof(type) == 64);
```

Accomplishments


- We have positive feedback, people want to see this implemented.
- We got one extra volunteer for reviewing.
- We got feedback that this work might influence debug info.
- We linked to the WIP patch in phabricator.

However, the patch is too big and we must work on splitting it up.
Write JITLink support for a new format/architecture (ELF/AARCH64).

Issues of Old JIT Linker

- Some horrors

My project

- Problem: lack of platform/architecture support in JITLink to make it a viable replacement for old JIT infrastructures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Platform</th>
<th>Linux (ELF)</th>
<th>Mac (MachO)</th>
<th>Windows (COFF)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARM64</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X86_64</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>O</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RISCV</td>
<td>O</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Anubhab Ghosh

Shared Memory Based JITLink Memory Manager.
Slides: [here](#). Final report.

The plan

- A MemoryMapper interface with implementations based on
  - Shared memory
    - When both executor and controller process share same physical memory
  - Regular memory allocation APIs
    - When the resultant code is executed in the same process
    - Useful for unit tests
  - EPC
    - Required when the executor and controller process run on different physical memory
    - Resultant code is transferred to the executor process over the EPC channel
- A JITLinkMemoryManager implementation that can use any MemoryMapper
  - It will allocate large chunks of memory using MemoryMapper and divide into smaller chunks
  - Better support for small code model by keeping everything close in memory

Design and Implementation

- `src/::MemoryMapper`: Interface. This is an interface to perform memory allocation, deallocation, setting memory protections etc. that handles most platform-specific operations. This abstraction allows us to decouple the transport for generated code from heap management making it simple for clients to use different transport mechanisms. ([D127491](#))
  - `src/::InProcessMemoryMapper`: This implementation is used when running code in the same process where the JIT is running and uses system memory API. ([D127491])
  - `src/::SharedMemoryMapper`: This implementation is used when transferring code to a different executor process and uses POSIX or Win32 shared memory APIs. ([D128644](#))
- `src/::JITLinkMemoryManager`: This class implements the `::jittlk::JITLinkMemoryManager` interface and handles all allocations within a slab. ([D133332](#))
- Memory coalescing to join two consecutive free ranges and reuse them. ([D131831](#))
- llvm-jitlink tool integration:
  - `::JITLinkMemoryManager` with an `::InProcessMemoryMapper` is used by default when executing the code in the same process as the JIT. ([D1282316](#))
  - `::JITLinkMemoryManager` with a `::SharedMemoryMapper` can be optionally used when `--use-shared-memory` is passed. ([D1328500](#))
Thank you!