

# ARM<sup>®</sup> Compiler toolchain v4.1 for μVision

## Migration and Compatibility



# ARM Compiler toolchain v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

## Migration and Compatibility

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### Release Information

The following changes have been made to this book.

#### Change History

| Date      | Issue | Confidentiality  | Change                                                   |
|-----------|-------|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| June 2011 | A     | Non-Confidential | Release for ARM Compiler toolchain v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision |

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# Contents

## ARM Compiler toolchain v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision Migration and Compatibility

### Chapter 1 Conventions and feedback

|                  |                                                                                                               |
|------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chapter 2</b> | <b>Migrating from RVCT v4.0 for <math>\mu</math>Vision to ARM Compiler v4.1 for <math>\mu</math>Vision</b>    |
| 2.1              | General changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision 2-2                 |
| 2.2              | Compiler changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision 2-3                |
| 2.3              | Linker changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision ... 2-4              |
| 2.4              | Assembler changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision 2-7               |
| 2.5              | C and C++ library changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision ..... 2-9 |
| 2.6              | fromelf changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision .. 2-10             |

|                  |                                                                                                    |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Chapter 3</b> | <b>Migrating from RVCT v3.1 for <math>\mu</math>Vision to RVCT v4.0 for <math>\mu</math>Vision</b> |
| 3.1              | General changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision ..... 3-2        |
| 3.2              | Changes to symbol visibility between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision 3-3 |
| 3.3              | Compiler changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision ..... 3-5       |
| 3.4              | Linker changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision ..... 3-6         |
| 3.5              | Assembler changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision 3-11           |
| 3.6              | fromelf changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision ..... 3-12       |
| 3.7              | C and C++ library changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision 3-13   |

# Chapter 1

## Conventions and feedback

The following describes the typographical conventions and how to give feedback:

### Typographical conventions

The following typographical conventions are used:

`monospace` Denotes text that can be entered at the keyboard, such as commands, file and program names, and source code.

`monospace` Denotes a permitted abbreviation for a command or option. The underlined text can be entered instead of the full command or option name.

*monospace* *italic*

Denotes arguments to commands and functions where the argument is to be replaced by a specific value.

**`monospace`** **bold**

Denotes language keywords when used outside example code.

*italic* Highlights important notes, introduces special terminology, denotes internal cross-references, and citations.

**bold** Highlights interface elements, such as menu names. Also used for emphasis in descriptive lists, where appropriate, and for ARM<sup>®</sup> processor signal names.

### Feedback on this product

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

- your name and company

- the serial number of the product
- details of the release you are using
- details of the platform you are using, such as the hardware platform, operating system type and version
- a small standalone sample of code that reproduces the problem
- a clear explanation of what you expected to happen, and what actually happened
- the commands you used, including any command-line options
- sample output illustrating the problem
- the version string of the tools, including the version number and build numbers.

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If you have comments on content then send an e-mail to [errata@arm.com](mailto:errata@arm.com). Give:

- the title
- the number, ARM DUI 0593A
- if viewing online, the topic names to which your comments apply
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- a concise explanation of your comments.

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### Other information

- ARM Product Manuals, [http://www.keil.com/support/man\\_arm.htm](http://www.keil.com/support/man_arm.htm)
- Keil Support Knowledgebase, <http://www.keil.com/support/knowledgebase.asp>
- Keil Product Support, <http://www.keil.com/support/>
- ARM Glossary, <http://infocenter.arm.com/help/topic/com.arm.doc.aeg0014-/index.html>.

## Chapter 2

# Migrating from RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision to ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The following topics describe the changes that affect migration and compatibility between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision:

- *General changes between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 2-2*
- *Compiler changes between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 2-3*
- *Linker changes between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 2-4*
- *Assembler changes between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 2-7*
- *C and C++ library changes between RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 2-9.*

## 2.1 General changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The convention for naming environment variables, such as those for setting default header and library directories, has changed. These are now prefixed with ARMCC rather than RVCT. For example, ARMCC41INC rather than RVCT40INC.

### 2.1.1 See also

#### Reference

*Introducing the ARM<sup>®</sup> Compiler toolchain:*

- [Toolchain environment variables on page 2-12.](#)

## 2.2 Compiler changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes to the compiler have been made:

Sign rules on enumerators have changed in line with convention. The enumerator container is now unsigned unless a negative constant is defined.

-O3 no longer implies --multifile. The --multifile option has always been available as a separate option and it is recommended you put this into your builds.

The compiler faults use of the at attribute when it is used on declarations with incomplete non-array types. For example, if foo is not declared, the following causes an error:

```
struct foo a __attribute__((at(0x16000)));
```

### 2.2.1 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 2-2.](#)

#### Reference

*Compiler Reference:*

- [--multifile, --no\\_multifile on page 3-67](#)
- [-Onum on page 3-71.](#)
- [\\_\\_attribute\\_\\_\(\(at\(address\)\)\) variable attribute on page 5-40.](#)



## 2.3 Linker changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes to the linker have been made:

### ARM/Thumb synonyms removed

Support for the deprecated feature ARM/Thumb Synonyms has been removed in 4.1. The ARM/Thumb synonyms feature permits an ARM Global Symbol Definition of symbol *S* and a Thumb Global Symbol Definition of *S* to coexist. All branches from ARM state are directed at the ARM Definition, all branches from Thumb state are directed at the Thumb Definition.

In 4.0 armlink gives a deprecated feature warning L6455E when it detects ARM/Thumb Synonyms.

In 4.1 armlink gives an error message L6822E when it detects ARM/Thumb Synonyms.

To recreate the behavior of synonyms rename both the ARM and Thumb definitions and relink. For each undefined symbol you have to point it at the ARM or the Thumb synonym.

### String merging enhancements

The linker can merge strings where the address is generated by MOVT and MOVW instructions.

### Placing and sorting input sections

Additional command-line options are available to control the placement and the sort order of input sections when using the .ANY module selector:

- `--any_contingency`
- `--any_placement=algorithm`
- `--any_sort_order=order`.

The `--info=any` option is provided to show details of the sorting and placement of .ANY sections.

### Using a tiebreaker when sorting input sections with equal properties

In RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and earlier, the sorting algorithm used by the linker is based on the order that the linker creates sections in its section data structure.

In ARM Compiler v4.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and later, an additional sorting algorithm is available based on the order that sections appear on the linker command-line.

You select the algorithm using the `--tiebreaker` command-line option. For backwards compatibility, the section create order is the default.

The `--section_index_display=cmdline` option is provided to show the sections in the memory map output in the same order they appear on the command-line.

### Controlling veneer sharing across execution regions

The `--[no_]crosser_veneershare` command-line option is available to enable and disable veneer sharing across execution regions.

### Linker-defined symbols

The linker now supports the following linker-defined symbols:

Load\$\$*region\_name*\$\$ZI\$\$BaseLoad\$\$*region\_name*\$\$ZI\$\$LimitLoad\$\$*region\_name*\$\$ZI\$\$Length

### Additional command-line options supported

The following command-line options have been added:

- `--emit_non_debug_relocs`
- `--[no_]load_addr_map_info`
- `--[no_]strict_flags`
- `--[no_]strict_symbols`
- `--[no_]strict_visibility`
- `--veneer_inject_type`
- `--veneer_pool_size`.

### Changes to command-line options

The following changes have been made to existing command-line options:

- the `any` and `veneerpools` topics have been added to `--info`
- the `cmdline` type has been added to `--section_index_display`
- the `Alignment`, `BreadthFirstCallTree` and `LexicalState` algorithms have been added to `--sort`

### Changes to scatter files

The following changes have been made to scatter-loading:

- `+offset` can be used in a conditional operator
- execution address built-in functions can now be used for the `max_size` of a region.

## 2.3.1 See also

### Concepts

*Introducing the ARM Compiler toolchain:*

- [About the ARM Compiler toolchain on page 2-3.](#)
- [General changes between RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 2-2.](#)

*Using the Linker:*

- [Load\\$\\$ execution region symbols on page 7-7](#)
- [Placing unassigned sections with the .ANY module selector on page 8-23.](#)

*Linker Reference:*

- [Load region attributes on page 4-7](#)
- [Execution region attributes on page 4-11](#)
- [Considerations when using a relative address +offset for load regions on page 4-16](#)
- [Considerations when using a relative address +offset for execution regions on page 4-17.](#)

### Reference

*Linker Reference:*

- [--any\\_contingency on page 2-5](#)
- [--any\\_placement=algorithm on page 2-6](#)
- [--any\\_sort\\_order=order on page 2-8](#)
- [--crosser\\_veneershare, --no\\_crosser\\_veneershare on page 2-28](#)
- [--emit\\_non\\_debug\\_relocs on page 2-40](#)
- [--info=topic\[,topic,...\] on page 2-59](#)
- [--load\\_addr\\_map\\_info, --no\\_load\\_addr\\_map\\_info on page 2-79](#)

- [--section\\_index\\_display=type](#) on page 2-111
- [--sort=algorithm](#) on page 2-116
- [--strict\\_flags, --no\\_strict\\_flags](#) on page 2-122
- [--strict\\_symbols, --no\\_strict\\_symbols](#) on page 2-125
- [--strict\\_visibility, --no\\_strict\\_visibility](#) on page 2-126
- [--tiebreaker=option](#) on page 2-133
- [--veneer\\_inject\\_type=type](#) on page 2-139
- [--veneer\\_pool\\_size=size](#) on page 2-140.

## 2.4 Assembler changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes to the assembler have been made:

### Change to the way the assembler reads and processes files

Older assemblers sometimes permitted the source file being assembled to vary between the two passes of the assembler. In the following example, the symbol `num` is defined in the second pass because the symbol `foo` is not defined in the first pass.

```

        AREA x, CODE
        [ :DEF: foo
num     EQU 42
        ]
foo     DCD num
        END

```

The way the assembler reads and processes the file has now changed, and is stricter. You must rewrite code such as this to ensure that the path through the file is the same in both passes.

The following code shows another example where the assembler faults:

```

        AREA FOO, CODE
        IF :DEF: VAR
        ELSE
VAR     EQU 0
        EDNIF
        END

```

The resulting error is:

Error: A1903E : Line not seen in first pass; cannot be assembled.

To avoid this error, you must rewrite this code as:

```

        AREA FOO, CODE
        IF :LNOT: :DEF: VARVAR EQU 0
        EDNIF
        END

```

### Change to messages output by the assembler

Generally, any messages referring to a position on the source line now has a caret character pointing to the offending part of the source line, for example:

"foo.s", line 3 (column 19): Warning: A1865W: '#' not seen before constant expression

```

    3 00000000          ADD r0,r1,1
                                   ^

```

### Changes to diagnostic messages

Various instructions in ARM (using SP) were deprecated when 32-bit Thumb instructions were introduced. These instructions are no longer diagnosed as deprecated unless assembling for a CPU that has 32-bit Thumb instructions. To enable the warnings on earlier CPUs, you can use the option `--diag_warning=1745,1786,1788,1789,1892`.

### Obsolete command-line option

The `-0` command-line option is obsolete. Use `-o` instead.

## 2.4.1 See also

### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 2-2.](#)

### Reference

*Assembler Reference:*

- [--diag\\_warning=tag{, tag}](#) on page 2-11
- [-o filename](#) on page 2-19.

*Using the Assembler:*

- [How the assembler works](#) on page 2-4
- [2 pass assembler diagnostics](#) on page 7-20.

## 2.5 C and C++ library changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

The libraries now use more Thumb2 code on targets that support Thumb2. This is expected to result in reduced code size without affecting performance. The linker option `--no_thumb2_library` falls back to the old-style libraries if necessary.

Math function returns in some corner cases now conform to POSIX/C99 requirements. You can enable older behavior with:

```
#pragma import __use_rvct_matherr
```

You can enable the newer behavior with:

```
#pragma import __use_c99_matherr.
```

The symbol `__use_accurate_range_reduction` is retained for backward compatibility, but no longer has any effect.

The C99 complex number functions in the previous hardware floating point version of the library only had the *hardfp* linkage functions and not the *softfp* linkage functions. The new library has both the *hardfp* linkage and *softfp* linkage functions. This means that existing object code that was built to use hardware floating point might not function correctly when calling complex functions from the library. The linker issues a warning in this case. You must recompile all the code that might use the affected functions and that was built to use hardware floating point. You must relink them with the new library.

The new implementation of `alloca()` allocates memory on the stack and not on the heap. This does not cause compatibility problems with software that assumes the old heap-based implementation of `alloca()`. However, such software might contain operations that are no longer required, such as implementing `__user_perthread_libspace` for the `alloca` state that is no longer used.

### 2.5.1 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 2-2.](#)

*Using ARM® C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support:*

- [Chapter 2 The ARM C and C++ libraries.](#)
- [How the ARM C library fulfills ISO C specification requirements on page 2-107.](#)
- [Library heap usage requirements of the ARM C and C++ libraries on page 2-8](#)
- [Use of the `\_\_user\_libspace` static data area by the C libraries on page 2-21](#)
- [Building an application without the C library on page 2-41.](#)

#### Reference

*ARM® C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support Reference:*

- [Chapter 2 The C and C++ libraries.](#)

*Compiler Reference:*

- [--apcs=qualifer...qualifier on page 3-7](#)
- [--fpu=name on page 3-44.](#)

## 2.6 fromelf changes between RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision and ARM Compiler v4.1 for $\mu$ Vision

fromelf can now process all files, or a subset of files, in an archive.

### 2.6.1 See also

#### Reference

*Using the fromelf Image Converter:*

- [input\\_file](#) on page 4-37.

## Chapter 3

# Migrating from RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision to RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following topics describe the changes that affect migration and compatibility between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision:

- *General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-2*
- *Changes to symbol visibility between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-3*
- *Compiler changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-5*
- *Linker changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-6*
- *Assembler changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-11*
- *fromelf changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-12*
- *C and C++ library changes between RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision on page 3-13.*



## 3.1 General changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes affect multiple tools:

### 3.1.1 Restrictions on `--fpu`

`--fpu=VFPv2` or `--fpu=VFPv3` are only accepted if CPU architecture is greater than or equal to ARMv5TE. This affects all tools that accept `--fpu`.

---

**Note**

---

The assembler assembles VFP instructions when you use the `--unsafe` option, so do not use `--fpu` when using `--unsafe`. If you use `--fpu` with `--unsafe`, the assembler downgrades the reported architecture error to a warning.

---

### 3.1.2 Remove support for v5TE<sub>XP</sub> and derivatives, and all ARMv5 architectures without T

The following `--cpu` choices are obsolete and have been removed:

- 5
- 5E
- 5ExP
- 5EJ
- 5EWMMX2
- 5EWMMX
- 5TE<sub>x</sub>
- ARM9E-S-rev0
- ARM946E-S-rev0
- ARM966E-S-rev0.

### 3.1.3 See also

#### Reference

*Compiler Reference:*

- [--cpu=name](#) on page 3-20
- [--fpu=name](#) on page 3-44.

*Linker Reference:*

- [--cpu=name](#) on page 2-27
- [--fpu=name](#) on page 2-57.

*Assembler Reference:*

- [--cpu=name](#) on page 2-8
- [--fpu=name](#) on page 2-13
- [--unsafe](#) on page 2-23.

## 3.2 Changes to symbol visibility between RVCT v3.1 for µVision and RVCT v4.0 for µVision

The following changes to symbol visibility have been made:

### 3.2.1 Change to ELF visibility used to represent `__declspec(dllexport)`

When using the `--hide_all` compiler command-line option, which is the default, the ELF visibility used to represent `__declspec(dllexport)` in RVCT v3.1 for µVision and earlier was `STV_DEFAULT`. In RVCT v4.0 for µVision it is `STV_PROTECTED`. Symbols that are `STV_PROTECTED` can be referred to by other DLLs but cannot be preempted at load-time.

When using the `--no_hide_all` command-line option, the visibility of imported and exported symbols is still `STV_DEFAULT` as it was in RVCT v3.1 for µVision.

### 3.2.2 `__attribute(visibility(...))`

The GNU-style `__attribute(visibility(...))` has been added and is available even without specifying the `--gnu` compiler command-line option. Using it overrides any implicit visibility. For example, the following results in `STV_DEFAULT` visibility instead of `STV_HIDDEN`:

```
__declspec(visibility("default")) int x = 42;
```

### 3.2.3 RVCT v3.1 for µVision symbol visibility summary

The following tables summarize the visibility rules in RVCT v3.1 for µVision:

**Table 3-1 RVCT v3.1 for µVision symbol visibility summary**

| Code                                                                                                                                                             | <code>--hide_all</code> (default) | <code>--no_hide_all</code> | <code>--dllexport_all</code> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <code>extern int x;</code><br><code>extern int g(void);</code>                                                                                                   | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>           | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>   | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>      |
| <code>extern int y = 42;</code><br><code>extern int f() { return g() + x; }</code>                                                                               | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>           | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>   | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>     |
| <code>__declspec(dllimport) extern int imx;</code><br><code>__declspec(dllimport) extern int img(void);</code>                                                   | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>          | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>   | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>     |
| <code>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exy = 42;</code><br><code>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exf() {</code><br><code>return img() + imx; }</code>           | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>          | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>   | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>     |
| <code>/* exporting undefs (unusual?) */</code><br><code>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exz;</code><br><code>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exh(void);</code> | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>           | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>    | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>      |

**Table 3-2 RVCT v3.1 for µVision symbol visibility summary for references to run-time functions**

| Code                                                                                                                                                   | <code>--no_dllimport_runtime</code><br><code>--hide_all</code> (default) | <code>--no_hide_all</code> | <code>--dllexport_all</code> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| <code>/* references to runtime functions, for</code><br><code>example __aeabi_fm1 */</code><br><code>float fn(float a, float b) { return a*b; }</code> | <code>STV_HIDDEN</code>                                                  | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>   | <code>STV_DEFAULT</code>     |

### 3.2.4 RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision symbol visibility summary

The following tables summarize the visibility rules in RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision:

**Table 3-3 RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision symbol visibility summary**

| Code                                                                                                                      | --hide_all<br>(default) | --no_hide_all | --dllexport_all |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| extern int x;<br>extern int g(void);                                                                                      | STV_HIDDEN              | STV_DEFAULT   | STV_HIDDEN      |
| extern int y = 42;<br>extern int f() { return g() + x; }                                                                  | STV_HIDDEN              | STV_DEFAULT   | STV_PROTECTED   |
| __declspec(dllimport) extern int imx;<br>__declspec(dllimport) extern int img(void);                                      | STV_DEFAULT             | STV_DEFAULT   | STV_DEFAULT     |
| __declspec(dllexport) extern int exy = 42;<br>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exf() {<br>return img() + imx; }           | STV_PROTECTED           | STV_PROTECTED | STV_PROTECTED   |
| /* exporting undefs (unusual?) */<br>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exz;<br>__declspec(dllexport) extern int exh(void); | STV_PROTECTED           | STV_PROTECTED | STV_PROTECTED   |

**Table 3-4 RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision symbol visibility summary for references to run-time functions**

| Code                                                                                                             | --no_dllimport_runtime<br>--hide_all (default) | --no_hide_all | --dllexport_all |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| /* references to runtime functions, for<br>example __aeabi_fmml */<br>float fn(float a, float b) { return a*b; } | STV_HIDDEN                                     | STV_DEFAULT   | STV_DEFAULT     |

### 3.2.5 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)

#### Reference

Compiler Reference:

- [--default\\_definition\\_visibility=visibility on page 3-24](#)
- [--hide\\_all, --no\\_hide\\_all on page 3-49.](#)

### 3.3 Compiler changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following compiler changes have been made:

#### 3.3.1 Single compiler executable

The executables `tcc`, `armcpp` and `tcpp` are no longer delivered.

To compile for Thumb, use the `--thumb` command-line option.

To compile for C++, use the `--cpp` command-line option.

#### ———— **Note** ————

The compiler automatically selects C++ for files with the `.cpp` extension, as before.

#### 3.3.2 VAST Changes

VAST has been upgraded through two versions (VAST 11 for 4.0 Alpha and 4.0 Alpha2 and later). Apart from the following issue, you do not have to make any changes to your v3.1 builds to use the new VAST.

RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision reassociated saturating ALU operations. This meant programs like the following could produce different results with `--vectorize` and `--no_vectorize`:

```
int g_448464(short *a, short *b, int n)
{
    int i; short s = 0;
    for (i = 0; i < n; i++) s = L_mac(s, a[i], b[i]);
    return s;
}
```

In RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision, you might see a performance degradation because of this issue.

The `--reassociate_saturation` and `--no_reassociate_saturation` command-line options have been added to permit reassociation to occur.

#### 3.3.3 See also

##### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)

##### Reference

*Compiler Reference:*

- [--cpp on page 3-20](#)
- [--reassociate\\_saturation, --no\\_reassociate\\_saturation on page 3-80](#)
- [--thumb on page 3-90](#)

### 3.4 Linker changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following linker changes have been made:

#### 3.4.1 Placing ARM library helper functions with scatter files

In RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision and earlier, the helper functions reside in libraries provided with the ARM compiler. Therefore, it was possible to use `armlib` and `cpplib` in a scatter file to inform the linker where to place these helper functions in memory.

In RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision and later, the helper functions are generated by the compiler in the resulting object files. They are no longer in the standard C libraries, so it is no longer possible to use `armlib` and `cpplib` in a scatter file. Instead, place the helper functions using `*.*` (`i._ARM_*`) in your scatter file.

#### 3.4.2 Linker steering files and symbol visibility

In RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision the visibility of a symbol was overridden by the steering file or `.directive` commands `IMPORT` and `EXPORT`. When this occurred the linker issued a warning message, for example:

Warning: L6780W: STV\_HIDDEN visibility removed from symbol `hidden_symbol` through `EXPORT`.

In RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision the steering file mechanism respects the visibility of the symbol, so an `IMPORT` or `EXPORT` of a `STV_HIDDEN` symbol is ignored. You can restore the v3.1 behavior with the `--override_visibility` command-line option.

#### 3.4.3 Linker-defined symbols

In the majority of cases region related symbols behave identically to v3.1.

##### Section-relative symbols

The execution region Base and Limit symbols are now section-relative. There is no sensible section for a `$$Length` symbol so this remains absolute.

This means that the linker-defined symbol is assigned to the most appropriate section in the execution region. The following example shows this:

ExecRegion ER

```
RO Section 1 ; Image$$ER$$Base and Image$$ER$$RO$$Base, val 0
RO Section 2 ; Image$$ER$$RO$$Limit, val Limit(RO Section 2)
```

```
RW Section 1 ; Image$$ER$$RW$$Base, val 0
RW Section 2 ; Image$$ER$$Limit and Image$$ER$$RW$$Limit,
               val Limit(RW Section 2)
```

```
ZI Section 1 ; Image$$ER$$ZI$$Base, val 0
ZI Section 2 ; Image$$ER$$ZI$$Limit, val Limit(ZI Section 2)
```

In each case the value of the `...$$Length` symbol is the value of the `...$$Limit` symbol minus the `...$$Base` symbol.

If there is no appropriate section that exists in the execution region then the linker defines a zero-sized section of the appropriate type to hold the symbols.

##### Impact of the change

The change to section-relative symbols removes several special cases from the linker implementation, that might improve reliability.

## Alignment

The ...`Limit` symbols are no longer guaranteed to be four-byte aligned because the limit of the section it is defined in might not be aligned to a four-byte boundary.

This might affect you if you have code that accidentally relies on the symbol values being aligned. If you require an aligned `Limit` or `Length` then you must align the symbol value yourself.

For example, the following legacy initialization code might fail if `Image$$Region_Name$$Length` is not word aligned:

```

LDR R1, |Load$$region_name$$Base|
LDR R0, |Image$$region_name$$Base|
LDR R4, |Image$$region_name$$Length|

ADD R4, R4, R0
copy_rw_data
LDRNE R3, [R1], #4
STRNE R3, [R0], #4
CMP R0, R4
BNE copy_rw_data

```

Writing your own initialization code is not recommended, because system initialization is more complex than in earlier toolchain releases. ARM recommends that you use the `__main` code provided with the ARM Compiler toolchain.

## Delayed Relocations

The linker has introduced an extra address assignment and relocation pass after RW compression. This permits more information about load addresses to be used in linker-defined symbols.

Be aware that:

- `Load$$region_name$$Base` is the address of `region_name` prior to C-library initialization
- `Load$$region_name$$Limit` is the limit of `region_name` prior to C-library initialization
- `Image$$region_name$$Base` is the address of `region_name` after C-library initialization
- `Image$$region_name$$Limit` is the limit of `region_name` after C-library initialization.

Load Region Symbols have the following properties:

- They are ABSOLUTE because section-relative symbols can only have Execution addresses.
- They take into account RW compression
- They do not include ZI because it does not exist prior to C-library initialization.

In addition to `Load$$$$Base`, the linker now supports the following linker-defined symbols:

```

Load$$region_name$$BaseLoad$$region_name$$LimitLoad$$region_name
$$LengthLoad$$region_name$$R0$$BaseLoad$$region_name$$R0$$LimitL
oad$$region_name$$R0$$LengthLoad$$region_name$$RW$$BaseLoad$$reg
ion_name$$RW$$LimitLoad$$region_name$$RW$$Length

```

## Limits of Delayed Relocation

All relocations from RW compressed execution regions must be performed prior to compression because the linker cannot resolve a delayed relocation on compressed data.

If the linker detects a relocation from a RW-compressed region REGION to a linker-defined symbol that depends on RW compression then the linker disables compression for REGION.

### Load Region Symbols

RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision now permits linker-defined symbols for load regions. They follow the same principle as the Load\$\$ symbols for execution regions. Because a load region might contain many execution regions it is not always possible to define the \$\$RO and \$\$RW components. Therefore, load region symbols only describe the region as a whole.

```
Load$$LR$$Load_Region_Name$$Base ; Base address of <Load Region Name>
Load$$LR$$Load_Region_Name$$Limit ; Load Address of last byte of content
                                   ; in Load
region.Load$$LR$$Load_Region_Name$$Length ; Limit - Base
```

### Image-related symbols

The RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision linker implements these in the same way as the execution region-related symbols.

They are defined only when scatter files are not used.

```
Image$$RO$$Base ; Equivalent to Image$$ER_RO$$BaseImage$$RO$$Limit ;
Equivalent to Image$$ER_RO$$LimitImage$$RW$$Base ; Equivalent to
Image$$ER_RW$$BaseImage$$RW$$Limit ; Equivalent to
Image$$ER_RW$$LimitImage$$ZI$$Base ; Equivalent to
Image$$ER_ZI$$BaseImage$$ZI$$Limit ; Equivalent to Image$$ER_ZI$$Limit
```

### Interaction with ZEROPAD

An execution region with the ZEROPAD keyword writes all ZI data into the file:

- Image\$\$ symbols define execution addresses post initialization.  
In this case, it does not matter that the zero bytes are in the file or generated. So for Image\$\$ symbols, ZEROPAD does not affect the values of the linker-defined symbols.
- Load\$\$ symbols define load addresses pre initialization.  
In this case, any zero bytes written to the file are visible. Therefore, the Limit and Length take into account the zero bytes written into the file.

## 3.4.4 Build attributes

The RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision linker fully supports reading and writing of the ABI Build Attributes section. The linker can now check more properties such as wchar\_t and enum size. This might result in the linker diagnosing errors in old objects that might have inconsistencies in the Build Attributes. Most of the Build Attributes messages can be downgraded to permit armlink to continue.

The --cpu option now checks the FPU attributes if the CPU chosen has a built-in FPU. For example, --cpu=Cortex-R4F implies --fpu=vfpv3\_d16. In RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision the --cpu option only checked the build attributes of the chosen CPU.

The error message L6463E: Input Objects contain *archtype* instructions but could not find valid target for *archtype* architecture based on object attributes. Suggest using --cpu option to select a specific cpu. is given in one of two situations:

- the ELF file contains instructions from architecture *archtype* yet the Build Attributes claim that *archtype* is not supported
- the Build Attributes are inconsistent enough that the linker cannot map them to an existing CPU.

If setting the `--cpu` option still fails, the option `--force_explicit_attr` causes the linker to retry the CPU mapping using Build Attributes constructed from `--cpu=archtype`. This might help if the Error is being given solely because of inconsistent Build Attributes.

### 3.4.5 C library initialization

A change to the linker when dealing with C library initialization code causes specially named sections in the linker map file created with the `--map` command-line option. You can ignore these specially named sections.

### 3.4.6 RW compression

Some error handling code is run later so that information from RW compression can be used. In almost all cases, this means more customer programs are able to link. There is one case where RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision has removed a special case so that it could diagnose more RW compression errors.

Multiple in-place execution regions with RW compression are no longer a special case. It used to be possible to write:

```
LR1 0x0
{
    ER1 +0 { file1.o(+RW) }
    ER2 +0 { file2.o(+RW) }
}
```

This is no longer possible under v4.0 and the linker gives an error message that ER1 decompresses over ER2. This change has been made to permit the linker to diagnose:

```
LR1 0x0
{
    ER1 +0 { file1.o(+RW) }
    ER2 +0 { file2.o(+R0) } ; NOTE R0 not RW
}
```

This fails at runtime on RVCT v3.1 for  $\mu$ Vision.

### 3.4.7 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)

*Using the Linker:*

- [Optimization with RW data compression on page 5-12](#)
- [Accessing linker-defined symbols on page 7-4](#)
- [Region-related symbols on page 7-5](#)
- [Image\\$\\$ execution region symbols on page 7-6](#)
- [Load\\$\\$ execution region symbols on page 7-7](#)
- [Importing linker-defined symbols in C and C++ on page 7-12](#)
- [Section-related symbols on page 7-14](#)
- [Example of placing ARM library helper functions on page 8-49.](#)

*Using ARM C and C++ Libraries and Floating-Point Support:*

- [Initialization of the execution environment and execution of the application on page 2-55.](#)



## Reference

*Linker Reference:*

- [--cpu=name](#) on page 2-27
- [--force\\_explicit\\_attr](#) on page 2-54
- [--fpu=name](#) on page 2-57
- [--map, --no\\_map](#) on page 2-83
- [--override\\_visibility](#) on page 2-90
- [EXPORT](#) on page 3-2
- [IMPORT](#) on page 3-4
- [Execution region attributes](#) on page 4-11.

### 3.5 Assembler changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes to the assembler have been made:

- The `-0` command-line option is deprecated. `-0` is a synonym for `-o` to output to a named file. This has been deprecated to avoid user confusion with the `armcc` option with the same name.
- The `-D` command-line option is obsolete. Use `--depend` instead.
- `LDM r0!, {r0-r4}` no longer ignores writeback. Previously in Thumb, `LDM r0!, {r0-r4}` assembled with a warning to the 16-bit LDM instruction and no writeback was performed. Because the syntax requests writeback, and this encoding is only available in Thumb-2, it produces an error. To get the 16-bit Thumb instruction you must remove the writeback.
- The logical operator `|` is deprecated because it can cause problems with substitution of variables in source. The assembler warns on the first use of `|` as a logical operator. Use the `:OR:` operator instead.

#### 3.5.1 See also

##### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)

##### Reference

*Using the Assembler:*

- [Addition, subtraction, and logical operators on page 8-26.](#)

*Assembler Reference:*

- [--depend=dependfile on page 2-8](#)
- [-o filename on page 2-19.](#)

## 3.6 fromelf changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

Use of single letters as parameters to the `--text` option, either with a `/` or `=` as a separator is obsolete. The syntax `--text/cd` or `--text=cd` are no longer accepted. You have to specify `-cd`.

### 3.6.1 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)

#### Reference

- [--text on page 4-49.](#)

## 3.7 C and C++ library changes between RVCT v3.1 for $\mu$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for $\mu$ Vision

The following changes to the libraries have been made:

### 3.7.1 Support for non-standard C library math functions

Non-standard C library math functions are no longer supplied in `math.h`. They are still provided in the library itself. You can still request the header file from ARM if needed. Contact your supplier.

### 3.7.2 Remove `__ENABLE_LEGACY_MATHLIB`

In RVCT v2.2 changes were made to the behavior of some mathlib functions to bring them in-line with C99. If you relied on the old non-C99 behavior, you could revert the behavior by defining the following at compile time:

```
#define __ENABLE_LEGACY_MATHLIB
```

This has been removed in RVCT v4.0 for  $\mu$ Vision.

### 3.7.3 See also

#### Concepts

- [General changes between RVCT v3.1 for  \$\mu\$ Vision and RVCT v4.0 for  \$\mu\$ Vision on page 3-2.](#)