z/OS Automatic Restart Manager

Introduction

ARMWRAP Program

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Preface

This Redpaper provides an introduction to the function of the MVS Automatic Restart Manager (ARM), for those not already familiar with this system component. It discusses how to set up an ARM policy, using an actual policy as an example.

It also provides information about how to use the ARMWRAP program to extend support for ARM to programs that have not been coded to include this support.

The team that wrote this Redpaper

This Redpaper was produced by a team of specialists from around the world working at the International Technical Support Organization, Poughkeepsie Center.

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Notice

This publication is intended to help Systems Programmers to implement and exploit the MVS Automatic Restart Manager and the supporting ARMWRAP program. The information in this publication is not intended as the specification of any programming interfaces that are provided by z/OS. See the PUBLICATIONS section of the IBM Programming Announcement for z/OS for more information about what publications are considered to be product documentation.

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Summary of changes

This section describes the technical changes made in this edition of the paper and in previous editions. This edition may also include minor corrections and editorial changes that are not identified.

Summary of Changes
for z/OS Automatic Restart Manager
as created or updated on January 28, 2002.


This revision reflects the addition, deletion, or modification of new and changed information described below.

New information

►

►

Changed information

►

►
Chapter 1. ARMWRAP - The ARM JCL Wrapper

As originally delivered with MVS/ESA V5.2, any program that wished to exploit ARM had to be modified to use the ARM API (IXCARM). They also had to be in system mode (system key or in supervisor state) when doing so. As a result, programs that wished to use ARM required code changes. However, it could be difficult to get these changes made to every application that you wish to use ARM. In addition, many of the tasks that you would like to use ARM are bought-in products to which you do not have the source. Also, installations generally prefer that their application programs do not run authorized, but this was a requirement in order to exploit ARM.

To resolve this problem, IBM changed ARM so that most ARM calls can be made by unauthorized programs. Also, a program called ARMWRAP was developed that provides the ability to exploit ARM without having to make changes to the application code. The support that allows ARM APIs to be invoked by unauthorized users under SAF control was added by APAR OW32480. This support is included in the base at OS/390 V2R9 and above.

There are five functions that can be specified on the IXCARM macro, namely:

- **REGISTER**: ARM is made aware of the presence of the calling program, and will automatically restart that program should there be a failure.
- **WAITPRED**: ARM will delay the initialization of this program until all predecessor programs have completed initialization.
- **READY**: ARM is to mark this program as READY. Any other ARM-controlled programs that are waiting to use the service of this program can now be allowed to initialize.
- **DEREGISTER**: This program has completed successfully and should no longer be controlled by ARM.
- **ASSOCIATE**: Requests that this program be associated with another ARM-registered element for takeover or restart processing.

Of these five functions, all except the ASSOCIATE function can be used via ARMWRAP.
The ARMWRAP program issues the ARM APIs on behalf of the application. You control when the application invokes the ARM APIs based on where you place the JCL steps that execute ARMWRAP. ARMWRAP executes unauthorized, that is, it is a Key 8 problem program. In order to have your application exploit ARM via the ARMWRAP program, you need to set up the security environment for ARMWRAP and change the JCL for the job or started task to invoke the ARMWRAP program.

If you prefer that the application is not marked as READY to ARM until a particular message is issued, you can use the ARMREADY MPF exit that is supplied as part of the ARMWRAP package. The ARMREADY MPF exit will issue the IXCARM macro with the REQUEST=READY parameter. By issuing the READY request after the application issues an “initialization complete” type of message, the restart of other elements (that is, other applications that exploit ARM) in the same restart group will be appropriately synchronized with your application. Example 1-2 on page 4 and Example 1-3 on page 5 provide scenarios of the use of the MPF exit. You can use the ARMREADY as provided (that is, no customization is required) unless you need to interrogate the contents of the message.

Using the ARMWRAP program rather than changing the code to issue the ARM APIs may be sufficient for your application. However, there may still be situations where you need to modify an application to fully support ARM. The ability of the application to multi-thread and the performance benefits of issuing the IXCARM WAITPRED and IXCARM READY calls precisely when needed may be a compelling or required reason to change source code. Also, if you need to exploit IXCARM macro parameters that cannot be specified as parameters to the ARMWRAP program, you will need to change the application program source code. Even if you do decide to modify the application to call ARM directly, the ARMWRAP program can still be used to test an application’s exploitation of ARM before making those changes.

As for all ARM exploitations, ARM couple data sets are required and an ARM policy must be activated. See MVS Setting Up A Sysplex, SA22-7625, for more information.

### 1.1 Modifying the application JCL

At a minimum, you need to add the JCL to execute ARMWRAP to register the application with ARM before the step that executes the application, and add JCL to execute ARMWRAP to deregister the application with ARM after the step that executes the application.

The format of the ARMWRAP JCL statement is:

```assembly
//nnnnnnnn EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,PARM=(
  REQUEST = REGISTER
  TERMTYPE = ALLTERM | ELEMTERM
  ELEMENT = name (up to 16 characters)
  ELEMENTTYPE = DEFAULT | name (up to 8 characters)
  READYBYMSG = Y|N
  REQUEST = WAITPRED
  REQUEST = DEREGISTER )
```

When using ARMWRAP, the first call for a given program must be a REQUEST=REGISTER. After all, if ARM is not aware of an element, it cannot do any management on behalf of that element. If you do not specify READYBMSG=N on the REQUEST=REGISTER, ARMWRAP will only issue an IXCARM REQUEST=REGISTER—the default is READYBMSG=Y, meaning that ARMWRAP assumes that programs will issue an “initialization complete” type of message. If you do specify READYBMSG=N, ARMWRAP will issue the IXCARM REQUEST=REGISTER call, followed immediately by an IXCARM REQUEST=READY. If you specify READYBMSG=Y (or let it default), the IXCARM REQUEST=READY will be issued.
by the ARMREADY MPF exit later on, when the application issues the “initialization complete” message. REQUEST, TERMSTYPE, ELEMENT, and ELEMTYPE are IXCARM macro parameters. See MVS Programming: Sysplex Services Reference, SA22-7618, for more information on these parameters.

The following IXCARM parameters are not supported by ARMWRAP:

- EVENTEXIT
  - Use an ARM Element Restart Installation Exit if needed.
- ANSAREA
- REQUEST=ASSOCIATE
- STARTTXT
  - Use the RESTART_METHOD statement in the ARM policy if needed.
- RESTART_TIMEOUT
  - Use the RESTART_TIMEOUT statement in the ARM policy if needed.
- ELEMBIND

1.1.1 Example 1- Application with no dependencies

Example 1 works well for an application that is in a restart group without other elements or is in a restart group with other elements where there are no dependencies by those elements on the application that you want to restart, that is, your application has a level number in the restart group that is equal to or higher than the highest level number of all other elements in the restart group. Note that higher level elements are dependent on lower level elements in the same restart group and there can be more than one element with the same level number in a restart group.

In this example, once ARMWRAP runs, MYAPPL will be restarted if it fails, or if the system it is running on fails, assuming the active ARM policy does not prevent the restart. ARMWRAP will issue the IXCARM macro with the REGISTER parameter to register the element MYAPPLELEMENT with ARM immediately followed by the IXCARM macro with the READY parameter to tell ARM that MYAPPL is ready to provide services to other applications in the restart group. After MYAPPL completes execution, ARMWRAP is executed again to issue the IXCARM macro with the DEREGISTER parameter to notify the system that restarts are no longer required for the application. If you forget this step, ARM will restart MYPROC as soon as MYAPPL terminates.

Example 1-1   Sample ARMWRAP JCL for application with no dependencies

```
//MYPROC PROC ...
//* Register element 'MYAPPLELEMENT' element type 'APPLTYPE' with ARM
//* Requires access to SAF FACILITY IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT
//ARMREG EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
  // PARM=('REQUEST=REGISTER,READYBYMSG=N',
  //       'TERMTYPE=ALLTERM,ELEMENT=MYAPPLELEMENT,',
  //       'ELEMTYPE=APPLTYPE')
//MYAPPL EXEC PGM= MYAPPL,PARM=(&MYPARM1,&MYPARM2)
//* For normal termination, deregister from ARM
// ARMREG EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
  // PARM=('REQUEST=DEREGISTER')
//SYSABEND DD SYSOUT=*  
```
1.1.2 Example 2 - Application with dependencies on other elements

When a system failure occurs, ARM restarts all the elements in the restart group in parallel and synchronizes initialization and service dependencies for you. If the application MYAPPL is an element of a restart group and the services of one or more elements in the restart group must be available for MYAPPL to initialize, then use the ARMWRAP program with the WAITPRED parameter to coordinate element restarts within the group. When ARMWRAP specifies the WAITPRED parameter, ARM synchronizes initialization so that other elements in the restart group that have a lower level number are in the ARM ready state before MYAPPL executes. This step is not required if MYAPPL uses the services of one or more elements in the restart group during its normal processing, that is, after it has initialized, because ARM coordinates all elements within the restart group through the READY parameter of the IXCARM macro.

Because the IXCARM REQUEST=WAITPRED cannot be issued after the IXCARM REQUEST=READY call, in this scenario you must use READYBYMSG=Y on the REQUEST=REGISTER call to stop that step from issuing the READY call. Because the REQUEST=REGISTER will not issue the IXCARM REQUEST=READY, you must set up an MPF exit to issue the IXCARM macro with the REQUEST=READY parameter and MYAPPL must issue an initialization or start up message for the MPF exit to get control. “Example 3 - Application that is a prerequisite for other elements” on page 4 contains more information about the MPF exit.

Example 1-2 Sample ARMWRAP JCL for application with dependencies

```
//MYPROC PROC ...
//* Register element 'MYAPPLELEMENT' element type 'APPLTYPE' with ARM
//* Requires access to SAF FACILITY IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT
//ARMREG EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
//      PARM=('REQUEST=REGISTER,
//              READYBYMSG=Y',
//              'TERMTYPE=ALLTERM,ELEMENT=MYAPPLELEMENT',
//              'ELEMTYPE=APPLTYPE') /*
//* On a restart, wait for any predecessors in the ARM restart group
//ARMPRED EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
//       PARM=('REQUEST=WAITPRED') /*
//* When MYAPPL issues msg MYAPP101, the MPF exit issues IXCARM READY
//MYAPPL EXEC PGM= MYAPPL,PARM=(&MYPARM1,&MYPARM2) /*
//* For normal termination, deregister from ARM
//ARMDREG EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
//       PARM=('REQUEST=DEREGISTER')
//SYSABEND DD SYSOUT=* ________________________________
```

1.1.3 Example 3 - Application that is a prerequisite for other elements

When a system failure occurs, ARM restarts all the elements in the restart group in parallel and synchronizes initialization and service dependencies for you. If the application MYAPPL is an element of a restart group and the services of MYAPPL must be available for other elements in the restart group to initialize, then MYAPPL needs to transition to the ARM READY state after it completes initialization. The trigger to get to the ARM READY state is via the ARMREADY MPF exit that gets control when MYAPPL issues an “initialization complete” type of message. For example, if MYAPPL initializes and then issues message ‘MYAPP101 INITIALIZATION COMPLETE’, the ARMREADY MPF exit that you set up to get control when the message is issued will issue the IXCARM macro with the READY parameter. The MPF exit executes authorized in the message issuer's address space under the unit of work that issued the message. The IXCARM macro with the READY parameter must be issued from
the registering address space. Because the IXCARM REQUEST=READY call does not contain the ELEMENT or ELEMTYPE, you only need to modify the MPF exit if you need to interrogate the message text for the message id, otherwise, you can link and use it as is. The additional material associated with this document contains an unloaded PDS that contains an SMP Usermod for the ARMREADY exit, as well as the Assembler source for the exit should you wish to modify it.

ARM will synchronize initialization so that other elements in the restart group that have a higher level number than MYAPPL are moved to the ARM-ready state only after the ARMREADY MPF exit for MYAPPL executes. This step is not required if MYAPPL services are used by one or more elements in the restart group during its normal processing. The coordination of elements within the group during normal processing is controlled by the READY parameter of the IXCARM macro.

Example 1-3  Sample ARMWRAP JCL for application that is a pre-req for other elements

```
//MYPROC PROC ...
//* Register element 'MYAPPLELEMENT'  element type 'APPLTYPE' with ARM
//*  Requires access to FACILITY IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT
//ARMREG   EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
//         PARM=('REQUEST=REGISTER,READYBYMSG=Y',
//                       'TERMTYPE=ALLTERM,ELEMENT=MYAPPLELEMENT,',
//                       'ELEMTYPE=APPLTYPE')
/*
/*  When MYAPPL issues msg MYAPP101, the MPF exit issues IXCARM READY
//MYAPPL    EXEC PGM= MYAPPL,PARM=(&MYPARM1,&MYPARM2)
/*
/* For normal termination, deregister from ARM
// ARMDREG   EXEC PGM=ARMWRAP,
//         PARM=('REQUEST=DEREGISTER')
//SYSABEND   DD SYSOUT=*  
```

MPFLSTxx entry for message MYAPP101.......
MYAPP101,SUP(NO),USEREXIT(ARMREADY)

1.2 Setting up the security definitions

Since ARMWRAP runs unauthorized, you need to do the following to set up the necessary security:

- Define the resource 'IXCARM.element_type.element' in the FACILITY class
  - In the MYPROC example we have been using, the resource to be defined is IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT.
  - If the ELEMENTTYPE parameter is not specified on the ARMWRAP execute statement, then use the string 'DEFAULT'.
- Authorize jobs and started tasks with UPDATE access to this resource.
  - In the example we have been using, MYPROC needs to have UPDATE access to the resource.

Example 1-4 on page 5 contains a REXX exec that will issue all the RACF commands to define the required profile and accesses. Note that this example assumes that the started task name is MYPROC and that it has not been previously defined to RACF. The example defines a new userid called WRAPPER and associates that with the MYPROC started task.

Example 1-4  Sample REXX exec to set up security definitions
REXX Example
/* Activate the FACILITY and STARTED classes */
'SETR CLASSACT(FACILITY STARTED)'

/* Add user "WRAPPER" with a logon proc SPF130, ACCTNUM, and SIZE */
'AU (WRAPPER) TSO(PROC(SPF130) ACCTNUM(nnnnnnnnnn) SIZE(20000))'

/* Define PROC "MYPROC" to user "WRAPPER" */
'RDEFINE STARTED MYPROC.*  STDATA(USER(WRAPPER) GROUP(SYS1) TRACE(YES))

/* Define resource IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT with a universal access of NONE */
'RDEF FACILITY IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT UACC(NONE)'

/* Permit resource "IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT" to user "WRAPPER" with update access */
'PERMIT  IXCARM.APPLTYPE.MYAPPLELEMENT CLASS(FACILITY) ID(WRAPPER) ACC(UPDATE)'

/* refresh in-storage classes */
'SETR RACLIST(FACILITY STARTED) REFRESH'

1.3 ARMWRAP Messages and Codes

The following syntax error messages may be issued by ARMWRAP:

ARMWRAP WRAPPER SYNTACTICAL ERROR -
Duplicate REQUEST specified
Duplicate TERMTYPE specified
Duplicate ELEMENT specified
Duplicate ELEMTYPE specified
Duplicate READYBMSG specified
TERMTYPE is either ELEMTERM or ALLTERM
REQUEST is either WAITPRED or (DE)REGISTER
ELEMTYPE must be <= 16 characters
ELEMENT must be <= 8 characters

The following functional error messages may be issued by ARMWRAP:

ARMWRAP IXCARM RC = xxxx  RSN = xxxx

RC = xxxx, refer to the IXCARM macro
RSN = xxxx, refer to the IXCARM macro
Additional material

This Redpaper refers to additional material that can be downloaded from the Internet as described below.

Locating the Web material

The Web material associated with this Redpaper is available in softcopy on the Internet from the IBM Redbooks Web server. Point your Web browser to:

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ibm.com/redbooks

Select the Additional materials and open the directory that corresponds with the Redpaper form number, REDP0173.

Using the Web material

The additional Web material that accompanies this Redpaper includes the following files:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>File name</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ARMWRAP.zip</td>
<td>PDS in IECOPY UNLOAD format containing usermods to install the ARMWRAP and ARMREADY programs, and the Assembler source for the ARMREADY MPF exit.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

System requirements for downloading the Web material

The following system configuration is recommended:

- **Hard disk space:** 1MB minimum
- **Operating System:** Any
How to use the Web material

Create a subdirectory (folder) on your workstation, and unzip the contents of the Web material zip file into this folder. Then send the resulting file, in Binary format, to an LRECL 80, FB data set on z/OS. A TSO RECEIVE INDSN(hlq.filename) should then be issued to create the PDS.
Related publications

The publications listed in this section are considered particularly suitable for a more detailed discussion of the topics covered in this Redpaper.

IBM Redbooks

For information on ordering these publications, see “How to get IBM Redbooks” on page 9.

- OS/390 Parallel Sysplex Configuration Volume 1: Overview, SG24-5637

Other resources

These publications are also relevant as further information sources:

- z/OS MVS Programming: Sysplex Services Guide, SA22-7617
- z/OS Setting up a Sysplex, SA22-7625

Referenced Web sites

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- Description1
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