COMPILATION STAGES

Compilation process devided into four parts:

- 1) Preprocessor
- 2) Translator
- 3) Assembler
- 4) Linker

Preprocessor

- Preprocessor is first stage in compilation process.
- In this stage we will get pure c file or extended c file from our source file.
- Preprocessor tasks are:
- 1) Include hesder file
- 2) Remove comments
- 3) Replace macros
- 4) Do conditional compilation

Preprocessor

• Command to compile program upto preprocessor stage:

cc -E filename.c -o filename.i

To check the result of the preprocessor stage:

vi filename.i

Translator

- Translator is second stage in compilation process.
- In this stage preprocessed code is translated to assembly instructions.
- Translator tasks are:
- 1) Generate assembly code
- 2) Checking for syntactical error

Translator

• Command to compile program upto Translator stage:

cc -S filename.i -o filename.s

To check the result of the preprocessor stage:

vi filename.s

Assembler

- Assembler is third stage in compilation process.
- In this stage assembly program get converted into machine understandable code.
- Command to compile program upto Translator stage:

cc -c filename.s -o filename.o

To check the result of the preprocessor stage:

vi filename.o

Disassemble

- The contents of this file (vi filename.o) are in binary formate(machine understandable).
- To make this file user understandable we need to disassemble it.
- Command to disassemble file:

objdemp -D filename.o

Linker

- Linker is fourthand last stage in compilation process.
- In this stage it generates executable code.
- Linker tasks are:
- 1) Linking with library
- 2) Searching function definition.
- Command to compile program upto Translator stage: cc filename.o

 Single command to compile source code upto translator stage:

cc -S filename.c

 Single command to compile source code upto assembly stage:

cc -c filename.c