COMP20003
Algorithms and Data Structures
Header Files and Makefiles

Nir Lipovetzky
Department of Computing and Information Systems
University of Melbourne
Semester 2

Multifile programs

- Multifile programs allow you to reuse code
- For example:
  - Functions associated with a dictionary can be used over and over in different programs
  - Can change underlying data structure for the same program, *e.g.* change from a list dictionary to a BST

Header files

- Header files allow:
  - write a function prototype or definition once
  - then use it in different files
- For example:

```
#define TRUE 1
#define FALSE 0
```

- or

```
int comp(char *, char *);
```


Header files

- To avoid retyping (and likely errors!), put the definitions in a header file, *e.g.*

`header.h`

- And in your program file(s) include the header:

```
#include "header.h"
```

Including header files

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include "header.h"

int main()
{
   /* code in here can use
    definitions and prototypes in
    header*/
}
```


Compiling multifile programs

- `gcc –o dict1 dict1.c bst1.c`
  - Prone to typing errors
  - Recompiles everything from the ground up
- Makefiles
  - Simplify the compilation command:
    - `make dict1`
  - Checks which files have been changed, and only recompile them

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```


Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

target

target

target

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

dependencies

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

instructions

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

instructions

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
     gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
     gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
     gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

instructions

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
    gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
    gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
    gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

instructions

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
    gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
    gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
    gcc -c -Wall dict1.c
```

instructions

tabs

Makefile

```
dict1: dict1.o bst1.o
    gcc -o dict1 dict.o bst1.o

bst1.o: bst1.c bst1.h
    gcc -c -Wall bst1.c

dict1.o: dict1.c dict.h
    gcc -c -Wall dict1.c

# comments start with hash
```


More on .o files, linkers, etc.

- http://www.lurklurk.org/linkers/linkers.html

David Drysdale, “Beginner’s Guide to Linkers”

Header files

- Contains
  - function declarations
  - macro definitions
  - shared among several source files

Another example: `list.h`

```
#ifndef LISTH
#define LISTH
…
typedef struct node{
    data_t  data;
    node_t* next;
} node_t;
     …
int search_sorted( list_t* list, data_t value );
     …
#endif
```