

Software Systems

Day 9 - Build Systems, Structs

Demoscene

Today's Topic: Helpful Project Tips

- As everyone gets their projects off the ground, there are a few tips and tricks that will be useful in planning and executing your project.
- We'll talk about how to structure projects in terms of files and directories.
- We'll talk about CMake and how to use it to simplify compilation.
- We'll talk about structs and how to use them in your projects.

C File Structure: Sources and Headers

- C code typically comes in a .c (source) file or .h (header) file.

- You only ever include header files:

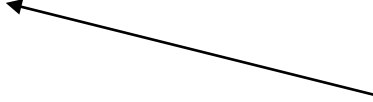
```
#include "foo.h"
```

Looks in the **current directory**

A horizontal arrow points from the text box to the string "foo.h" in the #include statement above.

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

Looks in **system libraries**
(/usr/include)

A diagonal arrow points from the text box to the angle-bracketed header "<stdio.h>" in the #include statement above.

```
int main(void) {  
    return 0;  
}
```

- You can include .c files, but it's not recommended.

C File Structure: Sources and Headers

- Typically, the declaration is in a .h file:
`double div(int dividend, int divisor);`
- And the implementation/definition is in a .c file:
`double div(int dividend, int divisor) {
 return 1.0 * dividend / (1.0 * divisor);
}`
- The compiler only needs to know the parameter/return types of a function to generate machine code, so you only need to include a .h file.

C File Structure: Sources and Headers

- The source/header separation means you also don't have to recompile if all that changes is the implementation.
- The interface of a function (name, return type, parameters) changes much less frequently than the implementation (code body) does.

C File Structure: Sources and Headers

- Exercise:
 - In the course repo, under the folder for today's class session, you will find a directory called `header-exercise`.
 - Place the appropriate code in `main.c` to get the code to compile properly.
 - Use CMake to compile your code and make sure that it works.
 - Once compiled, in the build directory, you can use `./src/main` to run the program.

C File Structure: Include Guards

- Functions can only be declared once in C, so this won't work:
`int multiply(int x, int y);`
`char* multiply(int x, char* y);`
`// -> Error: multiply already defined`
- Even if the types are exactly the same, it won't work:
`int multiply(int x, int y);`
`int multiply(int x, int y);`
`// -> Error: multiply already defined`

C File Structure: Include Guards

- This applies to `#includes` as well.
- So this won't work:
 - `foo.h`:
`#include "bar.h"`
 - `main.c`:
`#include "foo.h"`
`#include "bar.h"`
- Counting on `foo.h` to include `bar.h` isn't good practice, either.

C File Structure: Include Guards

- Include guards prevent the preprocessor from including the same file twice.
- foo.h:

```
#ifndef FOO_H_
#define FOO_H_
// Header contents go here.
#endif // FOO_H_
```
- Or, on *most* modern compilers, you can replace all of that with:

```
#pragma once
```

C File Structure: Include Guards

- Exercise:
 - In the course repo, under the folder for today's class session, you will find a directory called `include-guard-exercise`.
 - Place the appropriate code in the files to get the code to compile properly.
 - Use CMake to compile your code and make sure that it works.
 - Once compiled, in the build directory, you can use `./src/main` to run the program.

Build Systems: CMake

- If your code is split across files, you could do this in gcc:
`gcc -o main main.c square.c square.h powmod.c powmod.h`
- To avoid unnecessary recompilations:
`gcc -o main.o -c main.c square.h powmod.h`
`gcc -o square.o -c square.c square.h`
`gcc -o powmod.o -c powmod.c powmod.h square.h`
`gcc -o main main.o square.o powmod.o`
- Or you can use Makefiles to only rebuild what's necessary, but maintaining Makefiles can be tough.

Build Systems: CMake

- CMake can be difficult, but takes away a lot of the underlying complexity.
- Essentially, CMake generates a Makefile for you, based on a higher-level configuration.
- The typical workflow separates source and build directories to make cleaning up easy.
 - This means you have a `src/` directory and a `build/` directory.
 - You may also have a `test/` directory for unit tests (see assignments on how to set these up).

Build Systems: CMake

- CMake's configuration files are called CMakeLists.txt and found in every directory of your project containing code.
- Minimal example:
 - Root directory:

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.22)
project(MyProject VERSION 1.0 LANGUAGES C)
add_subdirectory(src)
```
 - src/ directory:

```
add_executable(main main.c)
```

Build Systems: CMake

- An executable has a main method, while a library does not:
`add_executable(foo foo.c)`
`add_library(bar bar.c bar.h)`
- When you compile files separately, they need to be linked together so their implementations are available.
- In CMake, link libraries like this:
`target_link_libraries(foo PRIVATE bar)`
- The different words indicate whether you use the library in the implementation only (PRIVATE), in the header only (INTERFACE), or both (PUBLIC).

Structs

- Use structs to combine multiple types:

```
typedef struct {  
    int real;  
    int imaginary;  
} complex;
```
- Typically, arrange from largest type to smallest.