

# Cross-Compiling the Dependencies

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## Base Image

Before building the dependencies, I created a base image with Ubuntu and the necessary tools installed.

```
1 FROM ubuntu:latest as base-ubuntu
2
3 # Install some tools and compilers + clean up
4 RUN apt-get update && \
5     apt-get install -y sudo git wget \
6         gcc g++ cmake make autoconf automake \
7         gperf diffutils bzip2 xz-utils \
8         flex gawk help2man libncurses-dev patch bison \
9         python-dev gnupg2 texinfo unzip libtool-bin \
10        autogen libtool m4 gettext pkg-config && \
11        apt-get clean autoclean && \
12        apt-get autoremove -y && \
13        rm -rf /var/lib/apt/lists/*
14
15 # Add a user called `develop`, and add him to the sudo group
16 RUN useradd -m develop && \
17     echo "develop:develop" | chpasswd && \
18     adduser develop sudo
19
20 USER develop
21 WORKDIR /home/develop
```

## Compiling the Dependencies for a 64-bit Raspberry Pi 3B+

### Preparing the Sysroot and Staging Area

Because we don't have access to the actual root directory of the Raspberry Pi, the toolchain uses a so-called sysroot to install the files to. It contains the necessary libraries, such as glibc and the C++ standard library. It's also the folder where the configure scripts of other libraries will look for the necessary libraries and headers.

The sysroot of the toolchain is read-only, to keep it clean for future projects.

We'll make a copy of the sysroot for this build, and make it writable. We'll use it as the sysroot for all compilations, and we'll also install all files to this folder.

Apart from the sysroot, we also need a folder containing the files we want to install to the Pi. It doesn't contain the system libraries, because the Pi already has these installed.

Having both a sysroot and a staging area means we have to install every library twice, once in each of the two folders.

```
1 FROM base-ubuntu:v1 as python
2
3 # Copy the toolchain from the previous Docker image
4 COPY --from=aarch64-toolchain:v1 \
5     /home/develop/x-tools/aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu \
6     /home/develop/x-tools/aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu
7 # Set the path to the toolchain executables
8 ENV TOOLCHAIN_PATH=/home/develop/x-tools/aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu
9 ENV PATH=${PATH}:${TOOLCHAIN_PATH}/bin
10
11 # Create a sysroot and staging area for the RPi
12 WORKDIR /home/develop
13 ENV RPI3_SYSROOT=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot
14 ENV RPI3_STAGING=/home/develop/RPi3-staging
15 RUN mkdir RPi3-sysroot && \
16     cp -rp $TOOLCHAIN_PATH/aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu/sysroot/* ~/RPi3-sysroot/ && \
17     chmod -R u+w /home/develop/RPi3-sysroot
```

### Building the Python Dependencies

For most packages, the build procedure is very simple:

1. Download
2. Extract
3. Create a build directory
4. Run the `configure` script with the right options
5. `make`
6. `make install`

To cross-compile the libraries, we have to specify the right compiler (the one we built in the previous step), and we have to tell the compiler to use our copy of the sysroot instead of the toolchain's sysroot, using GCC's `--sysroot` option.

Software that isn't managed by the system's package manager should be installed to `/usr/local`, so we specify that path as the installation prefix.

Finally, we'll install everything in the sysroot and in the staging area.

In the first section, we'll build most packages for both the build machine (the Docker container) and for the host machine (the Raspberry Pi), because we need to build Python for both machines in order to cross-compile the OpenCV and NumPy modules later on.

```

19 # Zlib Download
20 WORKDIR /home/develop
21 RUN wget https://downloads.sourceforge.net/project/libpng/zlib/1.2.11/zlib-1.2.11.tar.gz && \
22     tar xzf zlib-1.2.11.tar.gz && rm zlib-1.2.11.tar.gz
23
24 # Zlib build
25 RUN mkdir zlib-1.2.11/build
26 WORKDIR /home/develop/zlib-1.2.11/build
27 RUN ./configure && \
28     make -j$((nproc) * 2))
29 USER root
30 RUN make install
31 USER develop
32 RUN cd && rm -rf zlib-1.2.11/build
33
34 # Use the pkg-config folder inside of the RPi's root filesystem
35 ENV PKG_CONFIG_LIBDIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib \
36     PKG_CONFIG_PATH=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib/pkgconfig \
37     PKG_CONFIG_SYSROOT_DIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot
38
39 # Zlib ARM
40 WORKDIR /home/develop
41 RUN mkdir zlib-1.2.11/build-arm
42 WORKDIR /home/develop/zlib-1.2.11/build-arm
43 RUN CFLAGS="--sysroot=${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
44     LDFLAGS="--sysroot=${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
45     CC="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-gcc" \
46     LD="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-ld" \
47     ./configure \
48     --prefix="/usr/local" && \
49     make -j$((nproc) * 2)) && \
50     make install DESTDIR="${RPI3_SYSROOT}" && \
51     make install DESTDIR="${RPI3_STAGING}" && \
52     cd && rm -rf zlib-1.2.11
53
54 # OpenSSL Download
55 WORKDIR /home/develop
56 RUN wget https://github.com/openssl/openssl/archive/OpenSSL_1_1_1c.tar.gz && \
57     tar xzf OpenSSL_1_1_1c.tar.gz
58
59 # Use the build system's pkg-config folders
60 ENV PKG_CONFIG_LIBDIR="" \
61     PKG_CONFIG_PATH="" \
62     PKG_CONFIG_SYSROOT_DIR=""
63
64 # OpenSSL build
65 WORKDIR /home/develop/openssl-OpenSSL_1_1_1c
66 RUN ./config --prefix="/usr/local" && \
67     make -j$((nproc) * 2))
68 USER root
69 RUN make install_sw && \
70     make distclean && \
71     cd && rm -rf openssl-OpenSSL_1_1_1c
72 USER develop
73
74 # Use the pkg-config folder inside of the RPi's root filesystem
75 ENV PKG_CONFIG_LIBDIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib \
76     PKG_CONFIG_PATH=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib/pkgconfig \
77     PKG_CONFIG_SYSROOT_DIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot
78
79 # OpenSSL ARM
80 WORKDIR /home/develop
81 RUN tar xzf OpenSSL_1_1_1c.tar.gz && rm OpenSSL_1_1_1c.tar.gz
82 WORKDIR /home/develop/openssl-OpenSSL_1_1_1c
83 RUN ./Configure \
84     --prefix="/usr/local" \
85     --cross-compile-prefix="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-" \
86     CFLAGS="--sysroot=${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
87     CPPFLAGS="--sysroot=${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
88     LDFLAGS="--sysroot=${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
89     linux-aarch64 && \
90     make -j$((nproc) * 2)) && \
91     make install_sw DESTDIR="${RPI3_SYSROOT}" && \
92     make install_sw DESTDIR="${RPI3_STAGING}" && \
93     cd && rm -rf openssl-OpenSSL_1_1_1c
94
95 # FFI Download
96 WORKDIR /home/develop
97 RUN wget -O libffi-3.2.1.tar.gz https://codeload.github.com/libffi/libffi/tar.gz/v3.2.1 && \
98     tar xzf libffi-3.2.1.tar.gz && rm libffi-3.2.1.tar.gz
99
100 # Use the build system's pkg-config folders
101 ENV PKG_CONFIG_LIBDIR="" \
102     PKG_CONFIG_PATH="" \
103     PKG_CONFIG_SYSROOT_DIR=""
104
105 # FFI build
106 WORKDIR /home/develop/libffi-3.2.1
107 RUN ./autogen.sh && \
108     mkdir build
109 WORKDIR /home/develop/libffi-3.2.1/build
110 RUN ./configure CFLAGS="-O2" CXXFLAGS="-O2" && \
111     make -j$((nproc) * 2))
112 USER root
113 RUN make install
114 USER develop
115 RUN cd && rm -rf libffi-3.2.1/build
116
117 # Use the pkg-config folder inside of the RPi's root filesystem
118 ENV PKG_CONFIG_LIBDIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib \
119     PKG_CONFIG_PATH=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot/usr/local/lib/pkgconfig \
120     PKG_CONFIG_SYSROOT_DIR=/home/develop/RPi3-sysroot

```

```
121
122 # FFI ARM
123 WORKDIR /home/develop/libffi-3.2.1
124 RUN mkdir build-arm
125 WORKDIR /home/develop/libffi-3.2.1/build-arm
126 RUN ./configure \
127     --host="aarch64-linux-gnu" \
128     --prefix="/usr/local" \
129     CFLAGS="-O2" CXXFLAGS="-O2" \
130     --with-sysroot="${RPI3_SYSROOT}" \
131     CC="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-gcc" \
132     CXX="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-g++" \
133     LD="aarch64-rpi3-linux-gnu-ld" && \
134     make -j$(( $(nproc) * 2 )) && \
135     make install DESTDIR="${RPI3_SYSROOT}" && \
136     make install DESTDIR="${RPI3_STAGING}" && \
137     cd && rm -rf libffi-3.2.1
```

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## Compiling the Dependencies for a 32-bit Raspberry Pi 3B+

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