

## UNIX and C Programming (COMP1000)

### Lecture 2: Environments

---

Updated: 29<sup>th</sup> July, 2015

Department of Computing  
Curtin University

Copyright © 2015, Curtin University  
CRICOS Provide Code: 00301J

### Textbook Reading (Hanly and Koffman)

For more information, see the weekly reading list on Blackboard.

- ▶ **Chapter 12: Programming in the Large**  
Unfortunately, some examples in this chapter use structs. We won't discuss structs until lecture 6, so ignore them for now.

### Outline

Header Files

Compiling

The Preprocessor

Linking

Access

The Shell

Make

### Multi-file C Programs

- ▶ Source files should not get too long.
  - ▶ Giant .c files are difficult to work with.
- ▶ So, most C programs are split into multiple files.
- ▶ Separate .c files can be used to group related functions.
  - ▶ And they *should* be related!
  - ▶ Files containing unrelated functions are also difficult to work with.
- ▶ One .c file should contain the `main()` function.

## Calling Functions in Different .c Files

- ▶ Each .c file is compiled separately.
- ▶ But you'll need to make function calls *between files*.

calc.c

```
double square(double n) {
    return n * n;
} /* Not visible from main.c! */
```

main.c

```
int main(void) {
    double result, input = 5;
    result = square(input);
    ...
} /* Compiler doesn't know what "square" means. */
```

- ▶ How do we fix this?



5/66

## External Declarations

- ▶ We need a declaration:

calc.c

```
double square(double n) {
    return n * n;
}
```

main.c

```
double square(double n); /* Declaration */

int main(void) {
    double result, input = 5;
    result = square(input);
    ...
} /* Compiler is happy with this. */
```



6/66

## But then things get messy...

calc.c

```
double square(double n) { return n * n; }
double cube(double n) { return n * n * n; }
```

main.c

```
double square(double n); /* Declarations */
double cube(double n);
...
result = square(5) + cube(5);
```

aardvark.c

```
double square(double n); /* Repeated from above */
double cube(double n);
...
printf("%lf %lf\n", square(x), cube(y));
```



7/66

## Don't Repeat Yourself (the DRY principle)

- ▶ We could end up repeating the same declarations many times.
  - ▶ Say calc.c has 5 functions, and 10 other files use those functions.
  - ▶ That's 50 declarations.
- ▶ This is a very bad idea.
  - ▶ Copying and pasting is easy, but...
  - ▶ *Changing* those declarations is time consuming and prone to mistakes.
- ▶ So, we put all the declarations for calc.c in a "header file".
- ▶ When a file needs to use a function from calc.c, we write:

```
#include "calc.h" /* Note: .h not .c */
```

- ▶ This takes the declarations in the header file calc.h and puts them *right here*.



8/66

## Header File — Example

calc.c

```
double square(double n) { return n * n; }
double cube(double n)   { return n * n * n; }
```

calc.h (header file)

```
double square(double n); /* Declarations */
double cube(double n);
```

main.c

```
#include "calc.h" /* Include header file */
...
result = square(5) + cube(5);
```

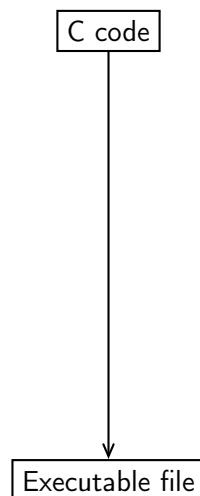
(Put `#include "calc.h"` in all files using `square()` or `cube()`.)

## Header Files — Summary

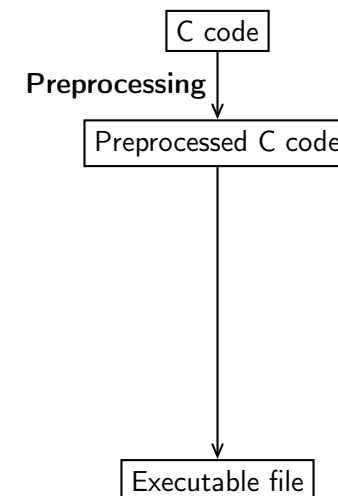
In a multi-file C program:

- ▶ Each .c file has a corresponding .h (header) file.
  - ▶ (Except perhaps for the .c file containing main.)
- ▶ A header file declares the functions in its .c file.
- ▶ To call those functions from a *different* .c file, that .c file must `#include` the right header file.
- ▶ Each .c file also `#includes` its own header file.
  - ▶ e.g. `calc.c` would also have `#include "calc.h"`.
  - ▶ Not strictly necessary *for now*.
  - ▶ Will become necessary later on, when we declare *types*.

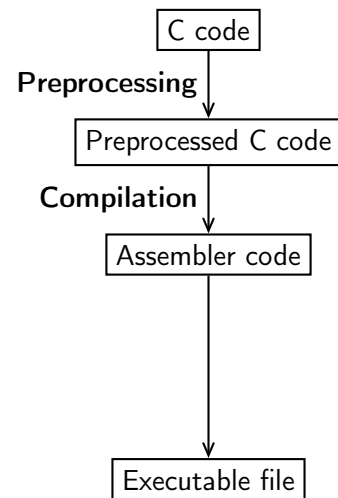
## The Compilation Process



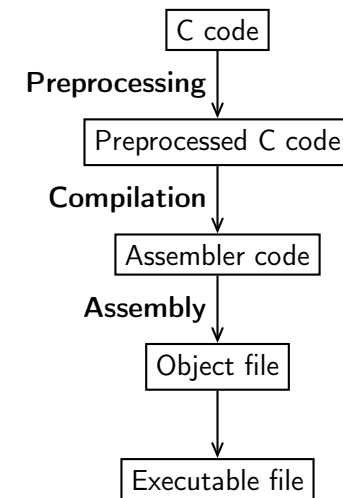
## The Compilation Process



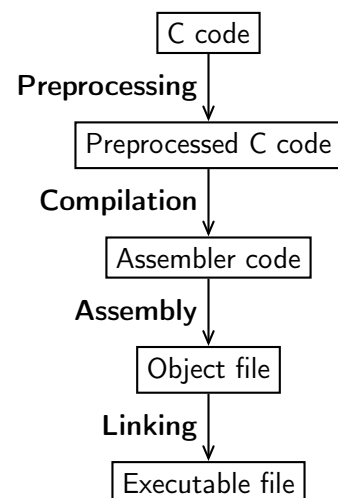
## The Compilation Process



## The Compilation Process

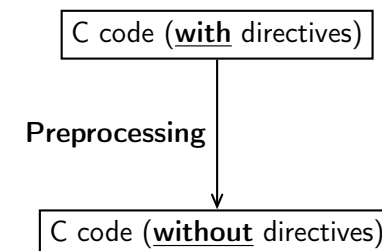


## The Compilation Process



## The Preprocessor

- ▶ A “macro-language”, separate from the real C language itself.
- ▶ Consists of “directives”, each starting with #, embedded in C code.
- ▶ (No semicolons required, unlike C itself.)



## The #include Directive

- ▶ Inserts the contents of a file into the source code.
- ▶ In practice, used to access functions defined in other files.
  - ▶ (Similar to `import` in Java.)
- ▶ Always place these at the top of your code.
- ▶ Only `#include .h` (header) files, never `.c` files.

### Examples

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

```
#include "myfunctions.h"
```

- ▶ Use `<...>` for standard header files (in pre-defined directories).
- ▶ Use `"..."` for your own header files, in the current directory.

## The #define Directive

- ▶ Assigns a name to a constant value.
- ▶ Everywhere that name occurs, the preprocessor replaces it with the given value.
- ▶ Used to create constants and “macros”.
- ▶ Sometimes useful to place in a header file.

### Examples

```
#define PI 3.141592654
```

```
#define OUTPUT_STRING "Hello World!"
```

- ▶ There is no equals sign!
- ▶ `PI` and `OUTPUT_STRING` are *not* variables!

## #define — True and False

- ▶ C89 has no “boolean” data type (though C99 does).
- ▶ Use `int` instead.
- ▶ Create constants representing “true” and “false”.

### Common definition

```
#define FALSE 0
#define TRUE  !FALSE
```

(Why might you want to put this in a header file?)

## #define — Macros

- ▶ Small snippets of code with parameters (but not functions).
- ▶ Works by substitution.

### Example (before preprocessing)

```
#define SQUARE(x) ((x) * (x))

int squareSum(int a, int b) {
    return SQUARE(a + b);
}
```

### Result (after preprocessing)

```
int squareSum(int a, int b) {
    return ((a + b) * (a + b));
}
```

## #define — Macro Bracketing

- ▶ Place brackets around macro parameters.
- ▶ Place brackets around the entire macro definition.

Bad example (valid but dangerous)

```
#define SQUARE(x) x * x
```

Good example

```
#define SQUARE(x) ((x) * (x))
```

## The #ifdef and #endif directives

A segment of code is only compiled if a given name has been `#defined` ("conditional compilation").

Example

```
#define DEBUG 1
...
int i, sum = 0;
for(i = 0; i < 100; i++) {
    sum += i;
    #ifdef DEBUG
    printf("%d ", sum);
    #endif
}
```

Without the first line, the preprocessor edits out the `printf()`.

## More Conditional Compilation

- ▶ Preprocessor names can be defined on the compiler command-line as well:
 

```
[user@pc]$ gcc main.c -o program -D DEBUG=1
```
- ▶ `#ifndef` checks that a given name *has not* been defined.
- ▶ `#else` is available for convenience.
- ▶ `#if` and `#elif` are slightly more flexible versions.
- ▶ These all work like an if-else statement, but at *compile time* (not run time).

## Avoiding Multiple Inclusion

- ▶ With the `#include` directive, some files may be included multiple times.
- ▶ This may cause problems in some situations.
- ▶ Can be avoided using conditional compilation.

Example (where “...” is the normal header file contents)

```
#ifndef FILENAME_H
#define FILENAME_H
...
#endif
```

Only the first inclusion will count, because `FILENAME_H` will be defined from then on.

## Assembly Language

- ▶ “Compiling” translates source code into “assembly language”.
- ▶ This is a simple language, but extremely verbose and barely human readable.
- ▶ Different brands of CPU often require different assembly languages.
- ▶ An “assembler” (e.g. the one inside gcc) translates assembly code into machine code.

```
addNumbers:
    pushl %ebp
    movl  %esp, %ebp
    movl  12(%ebp), %eax
    movl  8(%ebp), %edx
    leal  (%edx,%eax), %eax
    popl  %ebp
    ret
```

- ▶ This is a function that adds two integers!
- ▶ Each line is one instruction.

## Machine Code

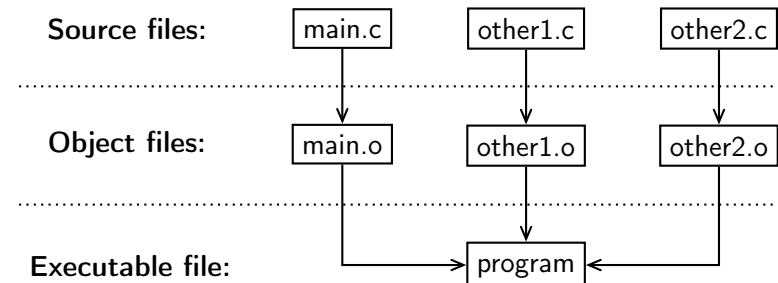
- ▶ The machine-code form of a program is the code that *actually runs*.
- ▶ Machine code is a compacted form of assembly language.
- ▶ Each instruction takes only a few bytes (many only 1 byte).
- ▶ There are no names, spacing or syntactical constructs.
- ▶ None of it makes sense when simply printed on the screen.
- ▶ Much of it cannot be printed at all, because it doesn't match any printable characters.
- ▶ That is, it is *not* human-readable!

## Object Files

- ▶ Preprocessing, compiling and assembly are just sequential steps:
  - ▶ One input and one output each.
  - ▶ Together, all three are often called “compiling”.
- ▶ The last output is an object (.o) file for each .c file.
  - ▶ (This has *nothing* to do with object orientation!)
- ▶ .o files contain compiled code, but they are not executable.
- ▶ They contain functions and function calls that have not yet been “linked” to each other.

## Linking

- ▶ Takes one *or multiple* .o files and produces a single executable.
- ▶ Determines how to physically arrange functions in memory.
- ▶ Connects function calls to the actual functions, by translating their names to their memory locations.
- ▶ This makes function calls possible (especially *between* files)!



## Linking with gcc

- ▶ To compile a single .c file into an object (.o) file *without* linking:

```
[user@pc]$ gcc -c filename.c
```

- ▶ To link multiple .o files into an executable file:

```
[user@pc]$ gcc obj1.o obj2.o ... -o executable
```

- ▶ For example:

```
[user@pc]$ gcc -c main.c -Wall -pedantic -ansi
```

```
[user@pc]$ gcc -c other1.c -Wall -pedantic -ansi
```

```
[user@pc]$ gcc -c other2.c -Wall -pedantic -ansi
```

```
[user@pc]$ gcc main.o other1.o other2.o -o prog
```

## Libraries

- ▶ Often you'll need to link to an external library.
- ▶ Sometimes you'll need more than just the #include directive.

### Example

Under Linux, if you use the math library, you need to:

- ▶ place "#include <math.h>" at the top of your code, **and**
- ▶ when linking, use the "-lm" switch (lowercase L, not 1).

```
[user@pc]$ gcc -lm main.o calc.o -o mathyprogram
```

### Linker switches

The "-lm" switch is specific to the math library. For other libraries, see the manpage.

## Storage class specifiers

- ▶ These keywords can form part of a declaration: auto, register, typedef, extern and static. e.g.

```
static double x = 3.0;
```

- ▶ They are *not* part of the datatype, but indicate *where* a variable is stored.
  - ▶ auto is the default for "local" variables (and is almost never explicitly written).
  - ▶ register tries to store variables in CPU registers.
  - ▶ typedef causes the declaration to create a new datatype, rather than a variable. (This is discussed in lectures 3 and 6).
  - ▶ static and extern are discussed on the next few slides.

## Local variables

- ▶ A "local" variable is the kind you already know.
- ▶ Created inside functions.
- ▶ Only accessible from within that same function.
- ▶ Can also be restricted to one pair of braces in a function.

### Example

```
void theFunction(void) {
    int x = 0; /* Only exists in theFunction. */
    ...
    if(...) {
        int y = 5; /* Only exists in the 'if'. */
        ....
    }
}
```



## Global variables (evil!)

- ▶ Created *outside* functions — stand-alone.
- ▶ Accessible from *all* functions.
- ▶ Possibly accessible across different source files.
- ▶ Creates a mess! (High coupling.)
- ▶ **Avoid** global variables. Instead, use parameters to pass data between functions! (This discussion is merely FYI.)

### Example

```
#include <stdio.h>

int globalVar = 42;    /* Never do this! */

void printGV(void) {
    printf("%d", globalVar); /* prints 42 */
}
```

29/66

## The extern storage class

- ▶ `extern` can be used on both function and variable *declarations*.
- ▶ It means that the *definition* occurs somewhere else.
- ▶ For functions, this is true anyway, so `extern` is redundant.
- ▶ Consider these equivalent declarations:

```
float theFunction(int x, int y);
```

```
extern float theFunction(int x, int y);
```

The `extern` form often appears in header files, but only as a reminder.

- ▶ For variables, `extern` allows you to access global variables across files. This is both complicated and dangerous, so we won't waste our time on it!

30/66

## The static storage class

- ▶ `static` can also be used on function and variable declarations.
- ▶ Two distinct meanings, depending on where it occurs:

1. `static` makes a function (or global variable) *inaccessible* from outside this file.

```
static void privateFunc(int x, int y) { ... }
```

- ▶ Good practice for functions that don't need to be accessed elsewhere.
- ▶ Vaguely similar to the "private" keyword in OO languages (like C++ or Java), but don't confuse .c files with classes!

2. `static` makes a local variable *persistant* throughout the program's runtime.

31/66

## Static local variables

- ▶ Ordinary local variables disappear when a function ends.
- ▶ `static` local variables *don't* disappear.
- ▶ They keep their values between function calls.
- ▶ Initialised only once, when the function is first called.

### Example

```
void count(void) {
    static int counter = 0;
    counter++;
    printf("%d\n", counter);
}
```

`counter` increases each time `count()` is called, and never resets until the program ends.

32/66

## The Terminal vs. the Shell

### The Terminal

- ▶ The window where input and output occurs.
- ▶ Takes a program's output and displays it.
- ▶ Gives a program its input from the keyboard.

### The Shell

- ▶ A program that runs *other* programs within the terminal.
- ▶ Interprets and executes your commands.
- ▶ Temporarily gives control of the terminal to another program, when you run it.

## Shells

- ▶ Many different shells are available:
  - ▶ `sh` (Bourne shell) and `bash` (Bourne Again shell);
  - ▶ `csh` (C shell) and `tcsh`;
  - ▶ `ksh` (Korn shell);
  - ▶ `zsh` (Z shell);
  - ▶ `ash` (Almquist shell);
  - ▶ `cmd.exe` (the Windows command prompt);
  - ▶ And others.
- ▶ These all do essentially the same thing, in different ways.
- ▶ `bash` is the most popular on Linux and OS X.

## UNIX/Shell Commands (1)

- ▶ We've talked a lot about how to run `gcc`, but let's step back.
- ▶ `gcc` is one command among many.
- ▶ You should be familiar with a few other commands as well:
  - ▶ `ls` — list files;
  - ▶ `cd` — change directory;
  - ▶ `pwd` — show the present working directory;
  - ▶ `cat` — concatenate and output files (or just one file);
  - ▶ `cp` — copy files;
  - ▶ `mv` — move files;
  - ▶ `rm` — remove (delete) files;
  - ▶ `mkdir` — make directory;
  - ▶ `rmdir` — remove directory;
  - ▶ `echo` — print a message;
  - ▶ Etc.

## UNIX/Shell Commands (2)

- ▶ The shell provides you with a “prompt”:

```
[user@pc]$
```

As you know, this is where you enter commands. (The prompt itself also contains useful information, if you look closely.)

- ▶ Use `man` (“manual”) to get help on a given command:

```
[user@pc]$ man cat
```

(Note: `man` can also be used with standard C functions.)

- ▶ Alternatively, most commands let you do this:

```
[user@pc]$ cat --help
```

## Executing Commands

When you type in a command:

1. The shell performs various “expansions” and “substitutions”:
  - ▶ The symbols \*, ?, ~ and [...] are “expanded”.
  - ▶ Variables are replaced with their values (discussed shortly).
  - ▶ Many other things...
2. Your input is broken up into words, separated by whitespace. Usually:
  - ▶ The first word is the command name.
  - ▶ The other words are the parameters.

(Note: this is only a simplistic overview.)

## Command Arguments

- ▶ Command “arguments” (or “parameters”) are strings of text, supplied to a command or program. (A kind of user input.)
  - ▶ The user is free to enter any number of arguments.
  - ▶ Lecture 4 will discuss how to use them in C programs.
- ▶ Arguments starting with a dash (“-”) are called “switches”, “options” or “flags”.
- ▶ Switches alter the behaviour of a command.
- ▶ Some switches take their own argument (e.g. “-o” for gcc).

```

      command name      ordinary argument
      [user@pc]$ gcc    -Wall    prog.c    -o    prog
                      switch      switch with argument
  
```

## The Command Name

The command name itself might be:

- ▶ An “builtin” command — a feature of the shell itself:

```
[user@pc]$ source file.sh
```

- ▶ A filename containing a “/” — an executable file to run:

```
[user@pc]$ ./program apple banana caroot
```

- ▶ An executable file in the “search path”:

```
[user@pc]$ ls -l Desktop
```

- ▶ The shell searches a list of directories for the file “ls”.
  - ▶ The directories to search are specified by a variable called PATH (typically containing /bin and /usr/bin).
- ▶ Standard UNIX commands may be *either* builtins *or* files in the search path.

## Asynchronous Commands

- ▶ To run a command “in the background”, end it with “&”
- ▶ Particularly useful for commands/programs that open GUI windows:

```
[user@pc]$ gedit somefile.txt &
```

Here, you can still use the shell while gedit is running.

- ▶ Backgrounded programs can still output to the terminal, even while you’re typing a command
- ▶ This can lead to confusion (just be aware of it!)

## Shell Variables

- ▶ In the shell, all variables are strings.
- ▶ No declarations needed.
- ▶ They are created and assigned like this:

```
varname="Some text"
```

- ▶ No spaces except inside quotes! Really.
- ▶ They are accessed using a \$ sign:

```
echo The string is $varname
```

- ▶ The shell will replace "\$varname" with "SomeText".
- ▶ echo will then display "The string is SomeText".
- ▶ Use {...} around the variable name if necessary:

```
echo ${varname}y stuff
```

This will print out "SomeTexty stuff".

## Environment Variables

- ▶ Every program has an "environment", consisting of "environment variables" containing system settings.
- ▶ These are inherited when the program starts.
- ▶ They can be accessed just like normal shell variables:

```
echo $ENVVAR
```

- ▶ Where ENVVAR is just an example, not a real variable.
- ▶ The uppercase is conventional for environment variables.
- ▶ To modify them in bash, use the export builtin command:

```
ENVVAR="new value"
export ENVVAR
```

OR equivalently:

```
export ENVVAR="new value"
```

## Common Environment Variables

- ▶ PATH — a list of directories to search for commands.
- ▶ CLASSPATH — a list of directories to search for Java classes.
- ▶ LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH — a list of directories to search for native shared libraries.
- ▶ USER — your username.
- ▶ HOSTNAME — the name of the computer.
- ▶ HOME — your home directory.
- ▶ PWD — the current directory.
- ▶ SHELL — the current shell (e.g. /bin/bash).
- ▶ TERM — the type of terminal being used.
- ▶ Many more (often application-specific).

(Note: CLASSPATH is Java-specific, and doesn't really have anything to do with UNIX.)

## PATH-like Variables

- ▶ PATH, CLASSPATH and LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH all contain a *list* of directories.
- ▶ Directories are separated by ":".
- ▶ PATH *might* be defined like this:

```
export PATH=/bin:/usr/bin:/opt/bin
```

- ▶ We can *append* or *prepend* directories like this:

```
export PATH=${PATH}:/usr/local/bin
```

```
export PATH=/usr/local/bin:${PATH}
```

Here, PATH is set to a new string, which contains the old string.

## Pathname Expansion

- ▶ A word containing \*, ? or [...] will undergo “pathname expansion”.
- ▶ The shell will treat the word as a *pattern*, where:
  - ▶ ? stands for any single character.
  - ▶ \* stands for any sequence of characters (including zero).
  - ▶ [...] stands for a single character from the given set.  
For example, [abcm-z] stands for “a”, “b”, “c” or any character from “m” to “z”.
  - ▶ [^...] stands for a single character *not* from the given set.
- ▶ The shell replaces the pattern with a list of matching files.
- ▶ However, files starting with “.” are ignored (unless the pattern itself starts with “.”)
- ▶ If no files match, the pattern is left unchanged.

## Tilde (“~”) Expansion

- ▶ The symbol ~ is replaced with your home directory.
- ▶ For example:
 

```
ls ~/Desktop
```

  - ▶ ~ becomes /home/username.
  - ▶ The actual command line is “ls /home/username/Desktop”.
- ▶ You can also get to *other people’s* home directories.
- ▶ Put their username after the ~:
 

```
ls ~joe
```

  - ▶ This lists the files in joe’s home directory, if joe exists.
  - ▶ You will rarely have permission to do this.

## Expansion — Examples

Pattern	Expands to...
*	all files (not starting with “.”) in the current directory.
?	all one-letter files.
*.c	all files ending in “.c”.
abc*.o	all files starting with “abc” and ending with “.o”.
[A-Z]*	all files starting with an uppercase letter.
.*	all files starting with “.” (not matched by any of the above patterns).
.[^.]*	all files starting with one “.” only.
*/*	all files in subdirectories of the current directory.
~/def/*	all files in def, in your home directory.

## Quoting (1)

- ▶ Backslashes and quotes prevent certain shell actions.
- ▶ This is useful when:
  - ▶ We want a normal “\*”, “&”, etc. character.
  - ▶ We want to have whitespace *inside* a word.
- ▶ Any single character preceded by a backslash is taken literally
 

```
echo Some special characters: \&, \*, \\", \"
```
- ▶ Everything in single quotes (‘...’) is taken literally:
 

```
echo '${PATH} ==' ${PATH}
```
- ▶ Double quotes (“...”) allow variable substitutions and backslashes only:
 

```
gedit "strange *\"file${var}.txt"
```

If var contains “X”, gedit will open “strange \*fileX.txt”.

## Quoting (2)

- ▶ Quotes are often used when assigning variables:

```
varname="Some Text Containing Whitespace"
```

(Without the quotes, the whitespace would make this illegal.)

- ▶ Quotes are also used when dealing with strange filenames.

## Aliases

- ▶ Aliases allow you to create shortcuts for commands, or to redefine commands.
- ▶ Compared to shell variables:
  - ▶ Aliases also have a name, replaced by a textual value.
  - ▶ Aliases only apply to the first word in a command, and there are no \$ signs.
- ▶ You define an alias like this:

```
alias name='command param1 param2 ...'
```

- ▶ Aliases are commonly used to specify default parameters:

```
alias rm='rm -i'
```

- ▶ After this, typing “rm” will actually invoke “rm -i”.
- ▶ -i causes rm to ask you before deleting a file!

## Settings Files

- ▶ bash reads several files containing lists of shell commands.
- ▶ When you log in, bash reads:
  1. /etc/profile — a system-wide configuration file.
  2. ~/.profile (or ~/.bash\_profile, or ~/.bash\_login) — a user-specific configuration file.

These set up environment variables — PATH, CLASSPATH, etc.

- ▶ When you open a new terminal (*after* you log in):
  - ▶ bash reads ~/.bashrc only.
  - ▶ This is where you can put alias definitions! (Or any other shell-specific settings.)
- ▶ When you log *out*:
  - ▶ bash reads ~/.bash\_logout.

## Make

- ▶ Compiling large programs can take a long time.
- ▶ When a small change is made, you don't need to recompile the whole program.
- ▶ Recompile an object file when:
  - ▶ The original .c file changes.
  - ▶ Any of the included .h files change.
- ▶ The “make” tool helps automate this, and generally makes compiling easier.

## Makefiles

- ▶ A “makefile” tells “Make” *what* to create, *when*, and *how*.
- ▶ Contains a series of “rules”.
- ▶ Each rule consists of:
  - Target** – the file to create/update.
  - Prerequisites** – the file(s) needed to make it.
  - Recipe** – the command(s) to make it, indented with a single TAB character (not with spaces).

```
targetfile : prerequisite1 prerequisite2 ...
    command1
    command2
    ...
```

- ▶ A makefile has several rules, one after another.
- ▶ Makefiles can also have comments (documentation) starting with #.

## What Make Does

- ▶ To run make:

```
[user@pc]$ make
```

- ▶ Make looks for a file called “Makefile” (exactly), and reads it.
- ▶ Make looks at the first rule, by default.
  - ▶ This is usually fine, but you *can* specify a different target:

```
[user@pc]$ make anothertarget
```

- ▶ Make asks these questions:
  - ▶ Does the target file exist?
  - ▶ Is the target newer than all its prerequisites?
- ▶ If so, the target is “up-to-date”, and nothing happens.
- ▶ If not, make will run the command(s) to (re)create it.
  - ▶ Make just *assumes* the commands will create the target file.
  - ▶ *You* must provide the correct commands.

## What About the Other Rules?

- ▶ A prerequisite in one rule might be a target in another (with its own prerequisites).

```
endfile : middlefile1 middlefile2 ...
    commandA

middlefile1 : startfile1 startfile2
    commandB
...
```

- ▶ If so, make runs the other rule as well.
  - ▶ Does the secondary target (“middlefile1” above) exist?
  - ▶ Is the secondary target newer than its own prerequisites?
- ▶ Typically, most makefile rules are connected in this way.
  - ▶ Make will create middlefile1 and endfile, in that order.
  - ▶ Once created, make will update them as needed.

## Makefiles and C

- ▶ Make is very powerful, but we’ll focus on a limited subset of it.
- ▶ To create a makefile for a C application, we’ll have:
  - ▶ One rule (the first rule) to create the executable.
  - ▶ One rule to create *each* object file.
- ▶ The executable’s prerequisites are the object (.o) files.
- ▶ Each .o file’s prerequisites are:
  - ▶ A single .c file with the same name;
  - ▶ Any .h files *#included* by the .c file;
  - ▶ Any other .h files *#included* by those .h files, and so on.
- ▶ Why are all the .h files included in the prerequisites?
  - ▶ If .h files change, we would like Make to recompile the .c file.
  - ▶ The contents of the .h files (particularly macros and constants) will affect the compiled result.
- ▶ No rules to create .c or .h files.
  - ▶ These files are created by the programmer!

## Makefile Example

- ▶ Say our C application has these files:

main.c – contains the main function.  
 aardvark.c – contains aardvark-related functions.  
 aardvark.h – contains aardvark-related declarations.  
 narwal.c – contains narwal-related functions.  
 narwal.h – contains narwal-related declarations.

- ▶ main.c and aardvark.c both contain this line:

```
#include "aardvark.h"
```

- ▶ main.c and narwal.c both contain this line:

```
#include "narwal.h"
```

## Makefile Example – Rule for the Executable

- ▶ First, we write a rule for making the executable:

```
program : main.o aardvark.o narwal.o
    gcc main.o aardvark.o narwal.o -o program
```

- ▶ We make “program”, given main.o, aardvark.o and narwal.o.
  - ▶ This is the linking step.
  - ▶ At first, these .o files don't exist, but we'll create them too in other makefile rules.
- ▶ Make will run the gcc command if:
  - ▶ program does not exist, or
  - ▶ program is older than any of the .o files.

## Makefile Example – Rules for the Object Files (1)

- ▶ Next, we write a rule for each .o file.

1. Create main.o, based on main.c and both .h files.
2. Create aardvark.o, based on aardvark.c/.h.
3. Create narwal.o, based on narwal.c/.h.

- ▶ For example:

```
main.o : main.c aardvark.h narwal.h
    gcc -c main.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic
```

- ▶ This is the compiling step (“-c” for compile only; don't link).
- ▶ Make will run this command if:
  - ▶ main.o does not exist, or
  - ▶ main.o is older than main.c or either .h file.
- ▶ Notice that the .h files are *not* part of the command.
  - ▶ gcc knows about the .h files, because the .c file tells it.

## Makefile Example – Rules for the Object Files (2)

- ▶ The final two rules, for completeness.

```
aardvark.o : aardvark.c aardvark.h
    gcc -c aardvark.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic
```

```
narwal.o : narwal.c narwal.h
    gcc -c narwal.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic
```

- ▶ aardvark.o *does not* depend on narwal.h (and vice versa).
  - ▶ They only #include one .h file each.



## Makefile Example – Put Together

- ▶ A makefile is a *single* file, so let's see it altogether:

```
program : main.o aardvark.o narwal.o
    gcc main.o aardvark.o narwal.o -o program

main.o : main.c aardvark.h narwal.h
    gcc -c main.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic

aardvark.o : aardvark.c aardvark.h
    gcc -c aardvark.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic

narwal.o : narwal.c narwal.h
    gcc -c narwal.c -Wall -ansi -pedantic
```

- ▶ Typing “make” will run each of these commands, *if needed*.
- ▶ However, we're not quite finished yet!

## Cleaning Up

- ▶ Makefile rules can do anything, not just compile or link.
- ▶ Traditionally there's also a “clean” rule to remove all generated files (object and executable files).

### Common definition

```
clean:
    rm -f program main.o aardvark.o narwal.o
```

- ▶ To execute this rule, run:

```
[user@pc]$ make clean
```

- ▶ This is a bit of a hack. It works because the file “clean” is never actually created (hopefully).

## Make Variables

- ▶ Makefiles have their own variables (a bit like shell variables).
- ▶ Why?
  - ▶ To avoid repetition.
  - ▶ To allow easy configuration changes.

### Example

```
CFLAGS = -Wall -pedantic -ansi
...
main.o : main.c aardvark.h narwal.h
    gcc -c main.c $(CFLAGS)
...
```

- ▶ We'd do the same for the other two .o rules.
- ▶ So, we can modify them in one place.

## Traditional Make Variables

- ▶ You should use at least the following variables (for the purposes of this unit):
  - CFLAGS**: Flags for the C compiler, used for each .o file rule.
  - OBJ**: A list of .o files, used in the executable rule and the clean rule.
- ▶ Others to consider:
  - EXEC**: The executable filename, used in the executable and clean rules.
  - CC**: The C compiler command. Mostly this is just gcc, but in principle, on other platforms, it can change.

## A Better Example Makefile

```
CC = gcc
CFLAGS = -Wall -pedantic -ansi
OBJ = main.o aardvark.o narwal.o
EXEC = program

$(EXEC) : $(OBJ)
    $(CC) $(OBJ) -o $(EXEC)

main.o : main.c aardvark.h narwal.h
    $(CC) -c main.c $(CFLAGS)

... # Similar rules for aardvark.o and narwal.o.

clean:
    rm -f $(EXEC) $(OBJ)
```



65/66

## Coming Up

- ▶ Next week's lecture will introduce you to pointers!
- ▶ Make sure you do the tutorial exercises — you will use header files and Makefiles throughout the rest of the unit.



66/66