



**COLORADO**SCHOOLOF**MINES**



## TOPIC 5: COMPILATION

g++ ; -o, -c, -l (dash i), -L, -l (dash l), -Wall, -g



# g++

- ▶ g++ compiles C++ source code into executables

```
UNIX> g++ Hello_World.cpp
```

- ▶ By default, the executable is named “a.out”

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

Hello World!

- ▶ What does “./” do?

# g++ -o

- ▶ -o command line option names the executable

```
UNIX> g++ Hello_World.cpp -o Hello_World
```

```
UNIX> ./Hello_World
```

Hello World!

- ▶ Be very careful with using -o!
- ▶ What's wrong with the following command?

```
UNIX> g++ Hello_World.cpp -o Hello_World.cpp
```

## g++ -c

- ▶ -c command line option compiles the source code into and an *object file* (.o file)
- ▶ Object files can then be *linked* to form an executable

```
UNIX> g++ -c Main.cpp
```

```
UNIX> g++ -c file2.cpp
```

```
UNIX> g++ Main.o file2.o
```

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

# g++ -c continued

► For example, given:

- Main.cpp : contains main() that calls function1()
- Function1.cpp : implements function1()
- Appropriate header file (i.e., both files contain #include “header.h”, which defines function1() prototype )

```
UNIX> g++ -c Main.cpp
```

```
UNIX> g++ -c Function1.cpp
```

```
UNIX> g++ Main.o Function1.o
```

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

Function 1 called!

# g++ -I (dash i)

- ▶ -I (dash i) option tells the compiler where to find an external header (.h) file

UNIX> g++ file.cpp -I/path/to/header/file

- ▶ Note

- The lack of whitespace between -I and the path
- The header file name is NOT included in the path
- The path can be absolute or relative

## g++ -I (dash i) continued

► For example, given:

- Main.cpp : contains main() and #include “header.h”
- header.h : located in directory /example/path

```
UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -I/example/path
```

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

Program ran successfully

```
UNIX>
```

# g++ -L , -l (dash lowercase L)

- ▶ A library is a static (or dynamic) collection of object files
  - Libraries have .a extension
- ▶ -L option tells the compiler where to find an external library
- ▶ -l (dash lowercase L) tells the compiler the name of the library

UNIX> g++ file.cpp -L/path/to/library/file -lName\_of\_library

- ▶ Note
  - The lack of whitespace between -L and the path; -l and library name
  - The library file name is NOT included in the path for -L
  - The path for -L can be absolute or relative
  - The library name (for -l) does not contain .a or “lib”



# g++ -L continued

► For example, given:

- Main.cpp : contains main() and uses functionality from library libFoo.a
- libFoo.a : A library file containing functions used in main, located in /Path/To/Library

UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -L/Path/To/Library -lFoo

# `g++ -I -L -l` (dash i, dash L, dash lowercase L)

- ▶ We usually combine `-I`, `-L`, and `-l`
- ▶ For example, given:
  - `Main.cpp` : contains `main()`, `#include "header.h"`, and function `f1()`
  - `header.h` : located in `/path/headers`; contains prototype for `f1()`
  - `libFooBar.a` : located in `/path/libs`; contains `f1()` implementation

```
UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -I/path/headers -L/path/libs  
-lFooBar
```

- ▶ Why would developers do this?

# g++ -Wall

- ▶ -Wall option tells the compiler to show warnings

```
UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -Wall
```

```
Main.cpp: WARNING: unused variable x
```

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

Program is running just as before!

```
UNIX>
```

# g++ -g

- ▶ -g option allows for debugging tools like gdb

```
UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -g
```

```
UNIX> ./a.out
```

Runs the same as before

- ▶ is g++ -g Main.cpp ok?
- ▶ Command line debuggers (e.g., gdb) are beyond the scope of this course!

# Combining it all

```
UNIX> g++ Main.cpp -I/path/to/headers -L/path/  
to/libs -lLibName -o Main -g -Wall
```

WARNING: (some Warning message)

```
UNIX> ./Main
```

Whoa!

```
UNIX>
```

# Assignment 5

- ▶ [http://eecs.mines.edu/Courses/csci274/Assignments/5\\_compilation.html](http://eecs.mines.edu/Courses/csci274/Assignments/5_compilation.html)
- ▶ Practice compiling programs using various command line options

# The truth of XKCD

