C - Standards

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1 Introduction

N/A

1.1 Purpose

N/A

1.2 Document Conventions

N/A

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N/A

1.4 Definitions

N/A

1.5 Project Scope

N/A

1.6 Technical Challenges

N/A

1.7 References

N/A

2 Overall Description

N/A

2.1 Project Features

N/A

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Policy Requirements

Software Quality Attributes

5.4

N/A

5.5

N/A

5.5.1 Availability

N/A

5.5.2 Correctness

N/A

5.5.3 Maintainability

N/A

5.5.4 Reusability

N/A

5.5.5 Portability

N/A

5.6 Process Requirements

N/A

5.6.1 Code Style Guide

To enforce a clean, consistent codebase, I have created a style guide that mimics SDL, but also maintains its own identity. The chosen style guide comes from days of going back and forth between implementations to find the best one.

- 1. Structs should be declared with type_t, identical to Linux kernel C code. A typedef should also not be used. I understand that typedefs are used all throughout the code right now, but that will change later with updates. This implies that all structs should be declared with the struct keyword (e.g. struct foo_t f;). When listing variables inside a struct, do primitives first, then SDL components, then structs from C-Standards, with each category separated by a new line.
- 2. **Comments** should use the multi-line style /* */, even on single lines. Additionally, all .c files should start with a file header comment with a description, the license, and who edited it. If you need an example, check out any file in the standards source. All functions in the source file should have javadocesque comments, with the purpose of the function listed, parameters with the <code>Oparam</code> tag, and a <code>Oparam</code> tag, even if they are both void. The only time

- single-line comments are allowed are on the last line of a header file with the closing header-guard endif, and within the file header comments.
- 3. **Braces** are a controversial topic in most style guides. I prefer the Kernighan and Ritchie version, otherwise known as Egyptian style, but with a twist. Instead of omitting braces in one-line if/loop conditions, they must always exist and start on the same line as the declaration of your condition/loop/function. In essence, if a brace is used, put it on the same line.
- 4. **Spacing** is another topic where I tend to go astray from common programming projects. When using parenthesis, there must exist a space on the inside of the opening and closing parenthesis, the only exception being if there are no parameters in the function call. For instance: extern void foo(int32_t x, int32_t y) is correct, and if we need to call foo, use foo(4, 5). However, if there is a function extern void bar(void), we call it using bar(). Brackets [] do not follow this convention. Tabs follow a strict convention of two spaces per tab. Not four, not eight, but two.
- 5. **Header files** do not have to have the same file header comment that source files do, nor is it necessary that they have javadoc comments. Also, make sure all header files have header guards #ifndef HNAME_H followed by #define HNAME_H. After all code, put #endif // HNAME_H.
- 6. Functions in header files should always have the extern keyword, even though it is explicit in C. Functions in the source file should have one line dedicated to the access modifiers/return types, then on the next line, the function name with the appropriate parameters. If the function has no parameters, it must be declared as void. Any function declared inside a standard source folder should have a preceding Stds_ prefix (yes, I know that's redundant). This is to distinguish it from other library code and those inside test files and SDL. Plus, it makes our library stand out!
- 7. When using **types**, try to always stick to length-specifying types found in stddef.h. For instance, int32_t, and others. Do not declare a #define TRUE 1 or the equivalent for false; this is not C89! Use bool from stdbool.h. It's included for a reason!
- 8. Magic numbers are generally a no-no. If you have to have a magic number for whatever reason, declare it as a preprocessor definition or a static definition. In testing (e.g. in tests/), this is allowed. Magic numbers do *not* include 0, divides by 2, multiplies by 2, bit shifts by 1, or powers of 2 that generally give meaning to something like a color (e.g. 0xff, x >> 24, x >> 16, x >> 8). In summary, if a number doesn't make sense out of context, define it or make it

- static. Otherwise, it's probably okay.
- 9. **Never** force a push to GitHub. This will immediately get you removed from the project. Contact me if you have questions about a push, or make a pull request.
- 10. When using **dynamic memory** (pointers), if you malloc, always accompany it with a free, or the respective Stds/SDL clean/destroy function! In addition, immediately after a call to malloc/calloc/realloc, check the pointer to see if it is NULL to prevent a null pointer from existing. I had a nasty memory leak in text.c a few weeks ago because I forgot to free two SDL_Surface and SDL_Texture pointers that were being created every tick of the game! Thus, memory was chewed through like it was nothing.
- 5.6.2 Development Process
- 5.6.3 Time Constraints
- 5.6.4 Cost & Delivery Date