



GNU Make

Code



Compiler

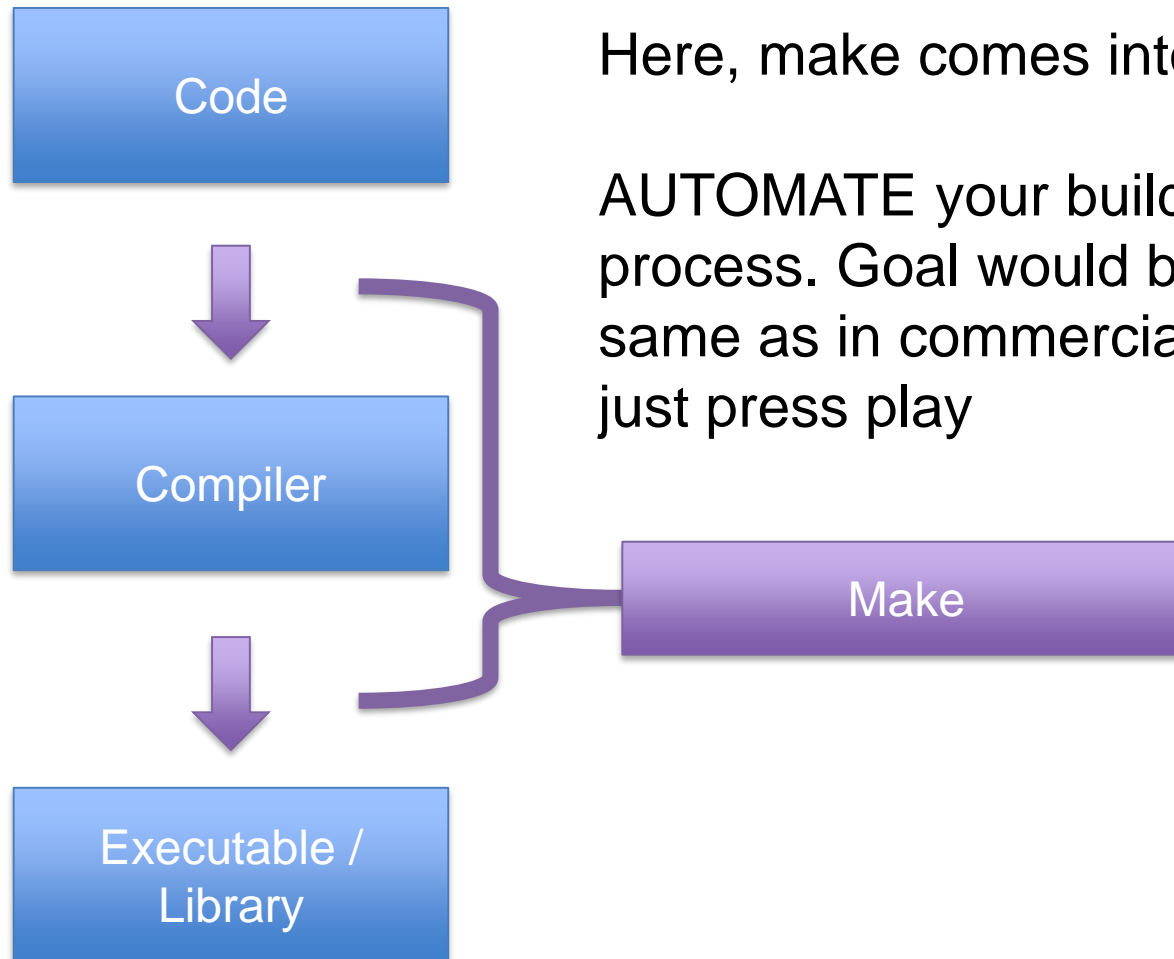


Executable /
Library

So you have written some code –
and what now?

We know how to compile stuff –
just do it for every file, right?

We know how to link stuff – just
do it for every file, right?



Here, make comes into play

AUTOMATE your building process. Goal would be the same as in commercial IDE – just press play

- ▶ primarily designed for software development
- ▶ potentially useful for anything else – if timeline constraints and inter-file dependencies are central point of interest
- ▶ due to it's ability of following different goals it's a flexible, yet powerful tool for boosting your everyday chores...compiling, linking, (la-)texing, cleaning up
- ▶ targets are -usually- achieved faster and overall process is less error-prone (compared to shell-scripts or execution by hand)

GNU make - execution

make (or gmake)

- scans current PWD for a file named “makefile” or “Makefile”
- creates dependencies tree of projects' files and executes script-like commands associated with target

syntax: make [options] [target]

- d debug
- f file use file as makefile
- j [N] parallel mode
- I dir search dir for included files
- p print data base

makefile – general remarks

- is a script and is *interpreted* during runtime
- is *not* read in a linear manner
- can be designed recursively (make calling make calling make...)
- is *naturally* capable of building in parallel
- is parsed several times
 - resolve all include files and generate them if not existing
 - get list of all targets and dependencies
 - build the project by executing shell-script snippets for each target starting at first possible target to be built



make uses script files named “makefile”

header

default-target : dependency

<TAB> <script to create/update target>

target : dependency

<TAB> <...>

targets are *filenames* by default



recursive definition

```
bar = text-to-vanish
foo = $(bar)
bar = hello world!
all:
    echo $(foo)
```

➡ "hello world!"

```
foo = hello
foo = $(foo) world!

all:
    echo $(foo)
```

➡ infinite loop
(results in an error)

simply expanded definition

```
bar = hello world!
foo := $(bar)
bar = text-to-vanish
all:
    echo $(foo)
```

➡ "hello world!"

```
foo = hello
foo := $(foo) world!

all:
    echo $(foo)
```

➡ "hello world!"



special variables

`$@` name of target

`$%` in case target is part of a library: target name w.o. library-part
(otherwise `$%` is empty)

`$<` name of first dependency

`$?` space separated list of all dependencies newer than target

`$^` space separated list of all dependencies w.o. duplicates

`$+` space separated list of all dependencies with duplicates

`$*` base name of target (w.o. suffix)

adding a “D” results in directory-only part of the name

adding a “F” results in filename-only part of the name

```
all : ../include/main.h ../src/main.cpp ../include/math.h
    @echo $(^F)
```

“main.h main.cpp math.h”