

Building projects with CMake

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CMake is a portable build system that is becoming a *de facto* standard for C++ package management.
Also usable with C and Fortran.



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Using a cmake-based library



- You have downloaded a library
- It contains a file `CMakeLists.txt`
- \Rightarrow you need to install it with CMake.
- ... and then figure out how to use it in your code.



- Use CMake for the the configure stage, then make:

```
cmake -D CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=/home/yourname/packages  
      /home/your/software/package ## source location  
make  
make install
```

or

- do everything with CMake:

```
cmake ## arguments  
cmake --build ## stuff  
cmake --install ## stuff
```

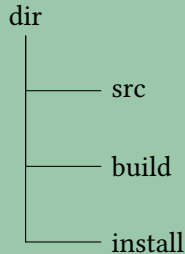
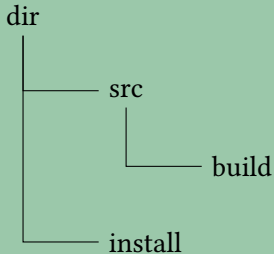
We focus on the first option; the second one is portable to non-Unix environments.



Your install directory (as specified to CMake) now contains executables, libraries, headers etc.

You can add these to `$PATH`, compiler options, `$LD_LIBRARY_PATH`.
But see later ...





- In-source build: pretty common
- Out-of-source build: cleaner because never touches the source tree
- Some people skip the install step, and use everything from the build directory.



- Work from a build directory
- Specify prefix and location of CMakeLists.txt

```
1  ls some_package_1.0.0 # we are outside the source
2  ls some_package_1.0.0/CMakeLists.txt # source contains cmake file
3  mkdir builddir && cd builddir # goto build location
4  cmake -D CMAKE_INSTALL_PREFIX=../installdir \
5  ../some_package_1.0.0
6  make # make all tmp data in build loc
7  make install # move final products to install loc
```



Using packages through pkgconfig



You have just installed a CMake-based library.
Now you need it in your own code, or in another library.
How easy can we make that?



You want to install a application/package
... which needs 2 or 3 other packages.

```
gcc -o myprogram myprogram.c \  
-I/users/my/package1/include \  
-L/users/my/package1/lib \  
-I/users/my/package2/include/packaage \  
-L/users/my/package2/lib64
```

or:

```
cmake \  
-D PACKAGE1_INC=/users/my/package1/include \  
-D PACKAGE1_LIB=/users/my/package1/lib \  
-D PACKAGE2_INC=/users/my/package2/include/packaage \  
-D PACKAGE2_LIB=/users/my/package2/lib64 \  
../newpackage
```

Can this be made simpler?



- Many packages come with a `package.pc` file
- Add that location to `PKG_CONFIG_PATH`
- The package is now found by other CMake-based packages.
- You can also use that for your own compilation:

```
gcc -o myprogram myprogram.c \  
    $( pkg-config --cflags package1 ) \  
    $( pkg-config --libs package1 )
```

- In a makefile:

```
CFLAGS = -g -O2 $( shell pkg-config --cflags package1 )
```



Use Eigen in a CMake installation:

```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( eigentest )
3
4  find_package( PkgConfig REQUIRED )
5  pkg_check_modules( EIGEN REQUIRED eigen3 )
6
7  add_executable( eigentest eigentest.cxx )
8  target_include_directories(
9      eigentest PUBLIC
10      ${EIGEN_INCLUDE_DIRS})
```

Note: header-only so no library, otherwise PACKAGE_LIBRARY_DIRS and PACKAGE_LIBRARIES defined.



Somewhere in the installation is a `.pc` file:

```
find $TACC_EIGEN_DIR -name \*.pc  
${TACC_EIGEN_DIR}/share/pkgconfig/eigen3.pc
```

That location is on the `PKG_CONFIG_PATH`.



Make your CMake configuration



You have a code that you want to distribute in source form for easy installation.

You decide to use CMake for portability.

To do: write the `CMakeLists.txt` file.



```
cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )  
project( myproject VERSION 1.0 )
```

- Which cmake version is needed for this file?
(CMake has undergone quite some evolution!)
- Give a name to your project.



- Declare a target: something that needs to be built, and specify what is needed for it

```
add_executable( myprogram program.cxx )
```

Use of macros:

```
add_executable( ${PROJECT_NAME} program.cxx )
```

- Do things with the target, for instance state where it is to be installed:

```
install( TARGETS myprogram DESTINATION . )
```



Build an executable from a single source file:

```
cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )  
project( singleprogram VERSION 1.0 )  
  
add_executable( program program.cxx )  
install( TARGETS program DESTINATION . )
```



First a library that goes into the executable:

```
add_library( auxlib aux.cxx aux.h )  
target_link_libraries( program PRIVATE auxlib )
```



Full configuration for an executable that uses a library:

```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( cmakeprogram VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  add_executable( program program.cxx )
5  add_library( auxlib
6              aux.cxx aux.h )
7  target_link_libraries( program PRIVATE auxlib )
8  install( TARGETS program DESTINATION . )
```



To have the library released too, use **PUBLIC**.
Add the library target to the **install** command.



```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( cmakeprogram VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  add_executable( program program.cxx )
5  add_library( auxlib
6              aux.cxx aux.h )
7  target_link_libraries( program PUBLIC auxlib )
8  install( TARGETS program auxlib DESTINATION . )
```



Static vs shared libraries. In the configuration file:

```
add_library( auxlib STATIC aux.cxx aux.h )  
# or  
add_library( auxlib SHARED aux.cxx aux.h )
```

or by adding a runtime flag

```
cmake -D BUILD_SHARED_LIBS=TRUE
```

Related: the `-fPIC` compile option is set by
`CMAKE_POSITION_INDEPENDENT_CODE`.



- Use `LD_LIBRARY_PATH`, or
- use `rpath`.

(Apple note: forced to use second option)

```
set_target_properties(  
    ${PROGRAM_NAME} PROPERTIES  
    BUILD_RPATH    "${CATCH2_LIBRARY_DIRS}";${  
    FMTLIB_LIBRARY_DIRS}"  
    INSTALL_RPATH "${CATCH2_LIBRARY_DIRS}";${  
    FMTLIB_LIBRARY_DIRS}"  
)
```



More stuff



Some packages come with `FindWhatever.cmake` or similar files.
Pity that there is not just one standard.
These define some macros, but you need to read the docs to see which.
Pity that there is not just one standard.
Some examples follow.



```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( ${PROJECT_NAME} VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  find_package( MPI )
5
6  add_executable( ${PROJECT_NAME} ${PROJECT_NAME}.c )
7  target_include_directories(
8      ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC
9      ${MPI_C_INCLUDE_DIRS} ${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR} )
10 target_link_libraries(
11     ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC
12     ${MPI_C_LIBRARIES} )
13
14 install( TARGETS ${PROJECT_NAME} DESTINATION . )
```



```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( ${PROJECT_NAME} VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  enable_language(Fortran)
5
6  find_package( MPI )
7
8  if( MPI_Fortran_HAVE_F08_MODULE )
9  else()
10     message( FATAL_ERROR "No f08 module for this MPI" )
11 endif()
12
13 add_executable( ${PROJECT_NAME} ${PROJECT_NAME}.F90 )
14 target_include_directories(
15     ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC
16     ${MPI_Fortran_INCLUDE_DIRS} ${CMAKE_CURRENT_SOURCE_DIR}
17 )
18 target_link_directories(
19     ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC
20     ${MPI_LIBRARY_DIRS} )
21 target_link_libraries(
22     ${PROJECT_NAME} PUBLIC
```



```
1  cmake_minimum_required( VERSION 3.12 )
2  project( ompprogram VERSION 1.0 )
3
4  find_package(OpenMP)
5  if(OpenMP_CXX_FOUND)
6  else()
7      message( FATAL_ERROR "Could not find OpenMP" )
8  endif()
9
10 add_executable( program program.cxx )
11 target_link_libraries( program
12     PUBLIC OpenMP::OpenMP_CXX)
13
14 install( TARGETS program DESTINATION . )
```



CMake creates makefiles;
makefiles ensure minimal required compilation

```
cmake          ## make the makefiles  
make           ## compile your project  
emacs onefile.c ## edit  
make          ## minimal recompile
```

Only if you add (include) files do you rerun CMake.

