

# Quick notes

❖ Check Piazza

❖ Reminders:

- Assign6 is due friday 20th Nov
- Assign7 due 29th Nov
- Weekly quiz

❖ Assignment 10 (this only applies to students enrolled in Lab 1)

- **Email me your topic**
- Create presentation (<10 min, semi-strict) + brief summary (<200 words)
  - Must present to class (email me if you're in a different timezone)
  - You can pre-record (e.g. youtube)
  - Starting next week!
- If very few volunteers, order is random- I'll email you around at least 6 days before you present (Going to send out an email today)

# Feedback / Office Hours / Other

## ❖ Tameez Latib

- [tameezlatib@gmail.com](mailto:tameezlatib@gmail.com), please add “CS35L” to the subject line
- Office Hours: Monday **4pm-6pm** (or by appointment)
- Feedback: <https://forms.gle/6kcJ2aJtzAzFMhHQ7> (anonymous google form)

## ❖ If you guys are stressed out:

- CAPS (<https://www.counseling.ucla.edu/>)
  - Free with UC ship

## ❖ Something cool, store a game (snake executable) on a QR code

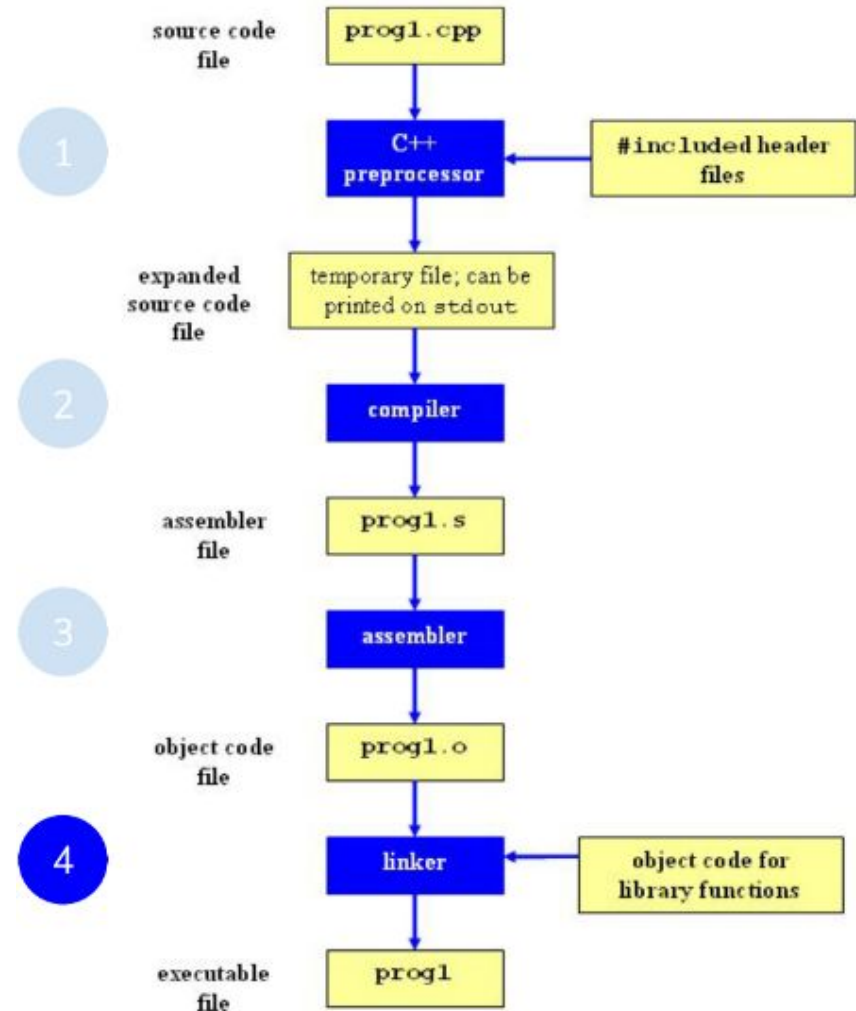
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ExwqNreocpg>
- (Somewhat relevant, compiling/linking, CR+LF, etc. Also example of week 10 presentation)

## ❖ Week 7...



# Linking

- ❖ Recall: code is compiled in 4 steps
- ❖ Link step / linker responsible for modular code
- ❖ Takes multiple object code files and creates executable
- ❖ “Symbol resolution + relocation”
  - Symbol = variable / function
  - Resolution = reference to definition
  - Relocation = move to diff memory address



# Linking

## ❖ Why?

- Modularity (use code from other modules/people/etc)
- Time efficiency (don't re-compile everything)
- Space efficiency (don't use everything)

## ❖ How?

- “Symbol resolution + relocation”
- First, each variable/function has an associated ‘symbol’, associate symbols with meaning (e.g.  $x = 5$ , symbol is  $x$ , meaning is 5)
- Relocate memory addresses so that everything fits in one executable
  - In object code, start at memory address 0, so if we have two files both at memory 0, there is a problem

# Symbol resolution

- ❖ For each symbol, we have an entry in symbol table (generated by assembler)
- ❖ Example from wikipedia
- ❖ Include name + location (and maybe other stuff)
- ❖ For linking, only need global symbols
  - Global variables + functions
- ❖ If I call “bar”:
  - Linker checks symbol table,
  - finds bar, checks type, returns mem location

## Example [\[edit\]](#)

Consider the following program written in C:

```
// Declare an external function
extern double bar(double x);

// Define a public function
double foo(int count)
{
    double sum = 0.0;

    // Sum all the values bar(1) to bar(count)
    for (int i = 1; i <= count; i++)
        sum += bar((double) i);
    return sum;
}
```

A C compiler that parses this code will contain at least the following symbol table entries:

Symbol name	Type	Scope
bar	function, double	extern
x	double	function parameter
foo	function, double	global
count	int	function parameter
sum	double	block local
i	int	for-loop statement

# Relocation

- ❖ Assign each symbol to unique memory address
  - Object file1 has “bar” at relative position 1, and object file2 has “foo” at relative position 1
  - Relocation step makes sure that position x refers to a unique function/variable
  - Can later be relocated at run-time too

- ❖ Example, again from wikipedia

- Left column is machine code, right code is assembly
- B is original object code, note starting address 1
- C is linked object code, note starting address 120
- D is program loaded at runtime, note starting address 300

- ❖ Here, “1 61” = 125, and “4 49” = 305

1: + 0 0 0 0 0 5: + 0 0 0 2 48 13: + 0 5 0 0 39	SUBR EQU * ... some code ... ST ENTA 0 maybe ... more code ... B JMP ST
120: + 0 0 0 0 0 125: + 0 0 0 2 48 133: + 1 61 0 0 39	SUBR EQU * ... some code ... ST ENTA 0 maybe ... more code ... C JMP ST
300: + 0 0 0 0 0 305: + 0 0 0 2 48 313: + 4 49 0 0 39	SUBR EQU * ... some code ... ST ENTA 0 maybe ... more code ... D JMP ST

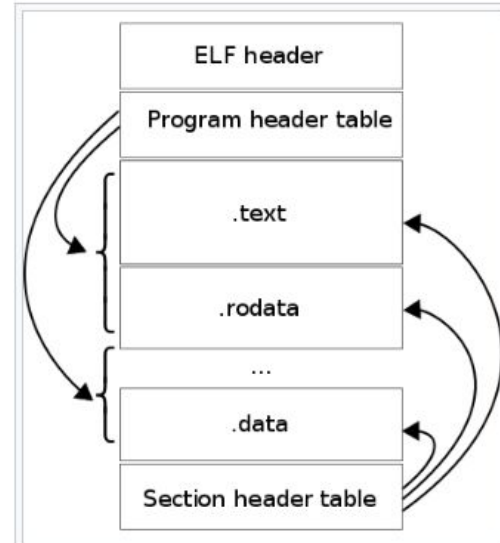
# Object file

## ❖ Three types;

- Relocatable (e.g. .o)
  - Binary code, that can be combined with other relocatable files to create an executable
  - Generated by compilers/assemblers
- Executable (e.g. .out)
  - Binary code that can be copied into memory and executed
  - Generated by linkers
- Shared object (e.g. .so)
  - Special version of relocatable object file that can be loaded into memory and linked dynamically at load time or run time.
  - Generated by compilers/assemblers

# ELF (Executable and Linkable Format)

- ❖ Format of .o (relocatable object files)
- ❖ Try: `readelf --symbols file.o` vs `readelf --symbols a.out`
- ❖ Try: `readelf -l a.out`
- ❖ Section: info necessary for linking
- ❖ Segment: info necessary for runtime



An ELF file has two views: the program header shows the *segments* used at run time, whereas the section header lists the set of *sections* of the binary.



# Static Linking

- ❖ Static library (e.g. .a) = collection of object code (e.g. .o)
- ❖ Roughly copy paste what is necessary from static library into your code
- ❖ Linker takes care of this, as last step (Only once!)
- ❖ To use:
  - `gcc -static main.c -L/path/to/libraryDir -llibrary`
  - Big L with library directory, small l with library name
  - `gcc -static main.c -L. -lmyLibrary`

# Static Linking

- ❖ Create `lib_foo.c` and `lib_foo.h` (source code)
- ❖ `gcc -c lib_foo.c -o lib_foo.o` (create object code)
- ❖ `ar rcs lib_foo.a lib_foo.o` (create static library)
- ❖ `gcc -c main.c -o main.o` (create main object code)
- ❖ `gcc -static -o main main.o -L. -l_foo` (create main executable using static lib)
- ❖ Note `-l_foo`, remove “lib” and “.a” from `lib_foo.a`

# Dynamic Linking

- ❖ Shared library (.so) file
- ❖ At compile time, copy library references (not actual code)
- ❖ At run time, load library + run code (so here linking is at run time)
- ❖ Use gcc with the -fPIC and -shared flags
  - fPIC = position independent code
- ❖ export LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH=path/to/lib:\$LD\_LIBRARY\_PATH
- ❖ Example:  
<https://medium.com/@Cu7ious/how-to-use-dynamic-libraries-in-c-46a0f9b98270>

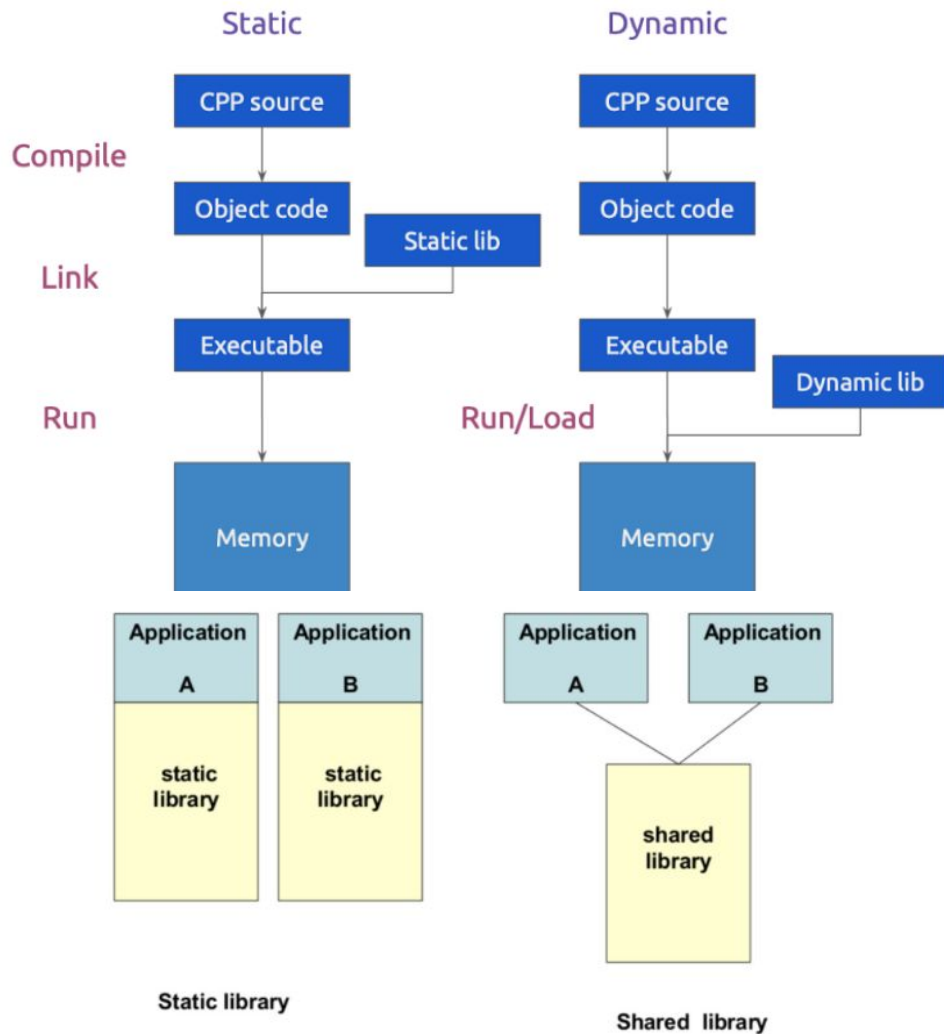
# Static vs dynamic linking

## ❖ Static

- bigger files,
- less runtime issues,
- recompile if lib changes

## ❖ Dynamic

- smaller files,
- no recompile if lib changes,
- slower runtime



Questions??