Using build2, C++ Build Toolchain

Boris Kolpackov

Code Synthesis

v1.3, September 2016



What is "better"?

Philosophy

Engineering Tool

Uniform Build Interface

```
$ b config.cxx=g++-5 hello/
C:\> b config.cxx=cl.exe hello\
```

Out of the Box, even on Windows

- No Python
- No MinGW / MSYS / Cygwin
- No Linux userland
- Ok C++ compiler ;-)

Development & Distribution

Reliable Builds

Cross Compilation

Source Code Generation

No Black Boxes

Sane Syntax

```
FOR_AllSubDirs(Its_a_<go>: ${all_good});
```

The build2 Toolchain

- b build system driver
- bpkg package manager
- brep repository web interface
- bbot build robot (in development)
- https://cppget.org

The build2 Toolchain

- Open source, MIT
- Written in C++14: GCC 4.8, Clang 3.4, VC 14u2
- Self-hosted and self-packaged, on cppget.org
- Platforms: Linux, Windows, Mac OS X, FreeBSD
- Compilers: GCC, Clang, VC, Intel icc

The build2 Toolchain

Examples?

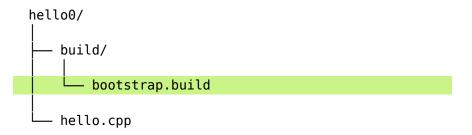
```
// file: hello.cpp
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;
int main (int argc, char* argv[])
  if (argc != 2)
    cerr << "usage: " << arqv[0] << " <name>" << endl;</pre>
    return 1;
  }
  cout << "Hello, " << argv[1] << "!" << endl;</pre>
```

```
hello0/
hello.cpp
```



bootstrap.build

```
# file: build/bootstrap.build
project = hello0
using config
using install
```



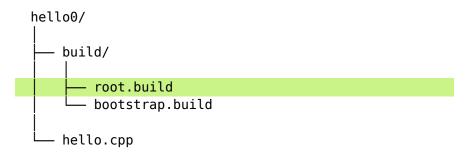
root.build

```
# file: build/root.build

cxx.std = 11

using cxx

hxx{*}: extension = hpp
cxx{*}: extension = cpp
```



buildfile

```
# file: buildfile
exe{hello}: cxx{hello}
```

```
hello0/

build/
root.build
bootstrap.build
hello.cpp
buildfile
```

Out-of-buildfile dependencies

#include'ed headers

- #include'ed headers
- compiler: change (GCC to Clang), upgrade

- #include'ed headers
- compiler: change (GCC to Clang), upgrade
- options: -g to -03, add/remove -I/-L

- #include'ed headers
- compiler: change (GCC to Clang), upgrade
- options: -g to -03, add/remove -I/-L
- input(s): remove source file from lib/exe

Store values/sha256 in .d files

Store values/sha256 in .d files

"Auxiliary Dependency Database"

Variable Overrides

- \$ b config.cxx=g++-5
- \$ b config.cxx.coptions+=-g
- \$ b config.cxx.loptions=+-L/tmp/lib

Operations

- configure/disfigure
- update/clean
- test
- install/uninstall
- dist

Import

- Way to connect projects
- Rule-specific search (import installed)
- pkg-config integration

Subprojects & Amalgamation

- Drop a project (subproject) into another (amalgamation)
- Subprojects inherit amalgamation's configuration
- bpkg configuration is amalgamation

Library Dependency Export

- Like pkg-config but inside the build system
- Library dependencies: interface vs implementation
- Underlinking vs Overlinking

Library Versioning

- Platform-independent: libfoo-1.2.so, libfoo-1.2.dll
- Platform-specific: libfoo.so.1.2 (coming soon)
- Handles soname, etc.

Library Rpath

- Default for non-installed builds (run tests, etc.)
- Optional for installed builds (config.bin.rpath)
- Limited emulation on Windows (non-installed)

What's Next?

build2:

- Parallel builds
- External modules & Inline C++ recipes
- Test module improvements (testscript)
- Documentation

bpkg:

- Query system package managers (rpm, dpkg, pkg-config)
- Build-time dependencies

bbot:

Coming soon

Questions?

build2.org