

Lab 1

Linux / g++ / CMake

ISDN3000E · Programming for Integrative Systems

Today's Agenda

Learning Philosophy

"I hear and I forget. I see and I remember. **I do and I understand.**"

— Confucius (paraphrased)



Each module has hands-on exercises.



Lab materials: `isdn3000e-lab1-tasks/`

Today's Agenda

Module 1: The Shell (60 min)

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Your command-line superpower

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Your command-line superpower

Module 2: g++ Compiler (45 min)

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From source code to executable

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Q&A (30 min)

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Wrap-up and discussion

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Module 1

The Shell

Your textual interface to the computer

What is the Shell?

GUI vs CLI

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GUI vs CLI

- GUI — Graphical User Interface
 - Click buttons, drag windows
 - Limited to what designers provide

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- CLI — Command Line Interface
 - Type commands, compose programs
 - **Unlimited expressiveness**

What is the Shell?

GUI vs CLI

- **GUI** — Graphical User Interface
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- **CLI** — Command Line Interface
 - Type commands, compose programs
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Why Learn the Shell?

1. **Speed** — Faster than clicking
2. **Automation** — Script repetitive tasks
3. **Power** — Combine simple tools
4. **Remote** — SSH into servers
5. **ROS** — All ROS tools use the terminal

Opening a Terminal



Linux

`Ctrl + Alt + T`

or search "Terminal"



macOS

`Cmd + Space`

then type "Terminal"



Windows

Install WSL2

Windows Subsystem for Linux

Opening a Terminal



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The Prompt

```
user@machine:~$
```

- `user` — Your username
- `machine` — Computer name
- `~` — Current directory (home)
- `$` — Ready for input (non-root)

Your First Commands

Navigation

```
pwd      # Where am I?  
ls       # What's here?  
ls -la   # Show details + hidden  
cd folder # Go into folder  
cd ..    # Go up one level  
cd ~     # Go home
```

File Operations

```
mkdir mydir # Create directory  
touch file.txt # Create empty file  
cp a.txt b.txt # Copy file  
mv a.txt b.txt # Move/rename file  
rm file.txt # Delete file (careful!)  
rm -r folder # Delete folder
```

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```



Pro Tips

- Press Tab to auto-complete paths
- Use ↑ and ↓ to navigate command history
- Ctrl+C to cancel a running command
- Ctrl+L to clear the screen

Understanding Paths

Absolute Paths

Start from root /

```
/home/student/projects/robot  
/usr/bin/python3  
/etc/ros/rosdep/sources.list
```

Always leads to the same place

Relative Paths

Start from current directory

```
./build/main      # Current folder  
../data/config.yaml # Parent folder  
~/catkin_ws      # Home shortcut
```

Result depends on where you are

Special Directories

. current | .. parent | ~ home | / root

Reading & Searching Files

Viewing Content

```
cat file.txt      # Print entire file  
head -n 10 file.txt # First 10 lines  
tail -n 10 file.txt # Last 10 lines  
less file.txt     # Scroll through file
```

Finding Things

```
# Find files by name  
find . -name "*.cpp"  
  
# Search inside files  
grep "error" log.txt  
grep -r "TODO" src/  
  
# Count matches  
grep -c "pattern" file
```

Reading & Searching Files

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Modern Alternatives

- `bat` instead of `cat` (syntax highlighting)
- `fd` instead of `find` (simpler syntax)
- `ripgrep (rg)` instead of `grep` (faster)
- `eza` instead of `ls` (better formatting)

Pipes & Redirection

The [Unix Philosophy](#): Do one thing well, then compose.

The Pipe Operator |

Connect the output of one program to the input of another.

```
ls -la | grep ".cpp"          # List only .cpp files  
cat log.txt | grep "ERROR" | wc -l # Count error lines  
history | tail -20            # Last 20 commands
```

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Redirection

```
echo "Hello" > file.txt      # Write to file (overwrite)  
echo "World" >> file.txt    # Append to file  
.program < input.txt       # Read from file  
.program 2> errors.log     # Redirect errors only  
.program &> all.log        # Redirect everything
```



Exercise: Shell Scavenger Hunt

Time: 15 minutes

Download and explore `isdn3000e-lab1-tasks/module1-shell/` :

1. Find all `.txt` files in the `hunt/` directory
2. Find the file containing the word "SECRET"
3. Count how many files contain the word "TODO"
4. **Bonus:** Find the 3 largest files



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4. **Bonus:** Find the 3 largest files

Hints

```
find hunt/ -name "*.txt"          # Task 1
grep -r "SECRET" hunt/           # Task 2
grep -rl "TODO" hunt/ | wc -l    # Task 3
find hunt/ -type f -exec ls -s {} \; | sort -n | tail -3 # Bonus
```

Module 2

The g++ Compiler

From source code to executable

What is Compilation?

Source Code (.cpp) → Compiler → Executable (binary)

1. Preprocess

#include , #define

Expands macros

2. Compile

C++ → Assembly

Syntax check

3. Assemble

Assembly → Object

Machine code

4. Link

Objects → Executable

Resolve symbols

What is Compilation?

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Resolve symbols

g++ in Action

```
g++ main.cpp -o myprogram    # Compile and link  
./myprogram                  # Run the program
```

Your First C++ Program

hello.cpp

```
#include <iostream>

int main() {
    std::cout << "Hello, ISDN3000E!"
        << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Build & Run

```
# Compile
g++ hello.cpp -o hello

# Run
./hello

# Output
Hello, ISDN3000E!
```

Your First C++ Program

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Build & Run

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g++ hello.cpp -o hello

# Run
./hello

# Output
Hello, ISDN3000E!
```

Breaking it Down

- `#include <iostream>` — Include standard I/O library
- `int main()` — Entry point of program
- `std::cout` — Standard output stream
- `return 0` — Exit successfully

Essential g++ Flags

Commonly Used

Flag	Purpose
-o name	Output filename
-std=c++17	C++ standard
-Wall	Enable warnings
-g	Debug symbols

Include & Link

Flag	Purpose
-I path	Include directory
-L path	Library directory
-l name	Link with library
-c	Compile only

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Recommended: `g++ -std=c++17 -Wall -Wextra -g main.cpp -o main`

Multi-File Projects

math_utils.h

```
#ifndef MATH_UTILS_H
#define MATH_UTILS_H

int add(int a, int b);
int multiply(int a, int b);

#endif
```

Declaration (interface)

math_utils.cpp

```
#include "math_utils.h"

int add(int a, int b) {
    return a + b;
}

int multiply(int a, int b) {
    return a * b;
}
```

Implementation

main.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include "math_utils.h"

int main() {
    std::cout << add(2, 3)
          << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Usage

Multi-File Projects

math_utils.h

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#ifndef MATH_UTILS_H
#define MATH_UTILS_H

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Implementation

main.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
#include "math_utils.h"

int main() {
    std::cout << add(2, 3)
          << std::endl;
    return 0;
}
```

Usage

Building Multi-File Projects

```
# Compile each source file separately
g++ -c main.cpp -o main.o
g++ -c math_utils.cpp -o math_utils.o

# Link object files together
g++ main.o math_utils.o -o calculator
```

Header Guards

The Problem

If a header is included twice → **redefinition errors**

The Traditional Solution

```
#ifndef UNIQUE_NAME_H
#define UNIQUE_NAME_H
// Header content
#endif
```

The Modern Solution

```
#pragma once
// Header content
```

 Use `#pragma once` for new projects - simpler and supported by all modern compilers.

Common Compilation Errors

Compile-Time Errors

```
error: expected ';' after expression
```

→ Missing semicolon

```
error: 'cout' was not declared
```

→ Missing `#include` or `std::`

```
error: use of undeclared identifier
```

→ Typo or missing declaration

Link-Time Errors

```
undefined reference to 'add(int, int)'
```

→ Declaration exists but no implementation

→ Or forgot to include `.cpp` in compilation

Fix: Make sure all `.cpp` files are compiled and linked!

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Fix: Make sure all `.cpp` files are compiled and linked!



Debugging Tips

1. Read the **first** error message carefully
2. Check the **line number** mentioned
3. Compile with `-Wall -Wextra` for more hints



Exercise: Multi-File Project

Time: 20 minutes

Navigate to `isdn3000e-lab1-tasks/module2-gpp/` :

1. Split `calculator.cpp` into 3 files
2. Compile manually with g++
3. **Bonus:** Add `subtract()` function

Expected Structure

```
module2-gpp/
├── calculator.h
└── calculator.cpp
    └── main.cpp
```

Module 3

CMake 

Automating the build process

Why CMake?

The Problem

As projects grow, manual compilation becomes painful:

```
g++ -c main.cpp -o main.o
g++ -c utils.cpp -o utils.o
g++ -c network.cpp -o network.o
g++ -c database.cpp -o database.o
g++ -c graphics.cpp -o graphics.o
# ... 50 more files ...
g++ *.o -o myapp -lpthread -lssl
```

Imagine typing this every time...

Why CMake?

The Problem

As projects grow, manual compilation becomes painful:

```
g++ -c main.cpp -o main.o
g++ -c utils.cpp -o utils.o
g++ -c network.cpp -o network.o
g++ -c database.cpp -o database.o
g++ -c graphics.cpp -o graphics.o
# ... 50 more files ...
g++ *.o -o myapp -lpthread -lssl
```

Imagine typing this every time...

The Solution

CMake: Cross-platform **Make**

- Describe your project **once**
- CMake generates build instructions
- Works on Linux, macOS, Windows
- **ROS uses CMake for all packages!**

CMake Basics

CMakeLists.txt

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.16)

# Project name and language
project(Calculator LANGUAGES CXX)

# Set C++ standard
set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD 17)
set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD_REQUIRED ON)

# Create executable from sources
add_executable(calculator
    main.cpp
    math_utils.cpp
)
```

Build Process

```
# Create build directory
mkdir build && cd build

# Generate build files
cmake ..

# Compile
make

# Run
./calculator
```

Or use the modern way:

```
cmake -B build
cmake --build build -- -j$(nproc)
./build/calculator
```

Key CMake Commands

Project Structure

```
# Minimum CMake version
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.16)

# Project declaration
project(MyProject
    VERSION 1.0
    LANGUAGES CXX
)

# C++ standard
set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD 17)
```

Building Targets

```
# Create an executable
add_executable(myapp
    main.cpp
    utils.cpp
)

# Create a library
add_library(mylib
    lib.cpp
)

# Link libraries to target
target_link_libraries(myapp
    PRIVATE mylib
)
```

Include Directories & Libraries

```
# Add include paths
target_include_directories(myapp
    PRIVATE ${CMAKE_SOURCE_DIR}/include
)

# Find and use external packages
find_package(Threads REQUIRED)
target_link_libraries(myapp PRIVATE Threads::Threads)

# Compiler warnings
target_compile_options(myapp PRIVATE -Wall -Wextra)
```

Include Directories & Libraries

```
# Add include paths
target_include_directories(myapp
    PRIVATE ${CMAKE_SOURCE_DIR}/include
)

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```



PUBLIC vs PRIVATE vs INTERFACE

- **PRIVATE** → Only for this target
- **PUBLIC** → This target AND its dependents
- **INTERFACE** → Only for dependents

A Complete Example

Project Structure

```
my_project/
├── CMakeLists.txt
├── include/
│   └── calculator.h
└── src/
    ├── calculator.cpp
    └── main.cpp
└── build/      # Created by cmake
```

CMakeLists.txt

```
cmake_minimum_required(VERSION 3.16)
project(Calculator LANGUAGES CXX)

set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD 17)
set(CMAKE_CXX_STANDARD_REQUIRED ON)

add_executable(calculator
    src/main.cpp
    src/calculator.cpp
)

target_include_directories(calculator
    PRIVATE ${CMAKE_SOURCE_DIR}/include
)

target_compile_options(calculator
    PRIVATE -Wall -Wextra
)
```

Out-of-Source Builds

✗ In-Source Build

```
my_project/
├── CMakeLists.txt
├── main.cpp
└── build/
    ├── CMakeCache.txt      # Generated
    ├── CMakeFiles/
    └── Makefile            # Generated
        └── calculator      # Generated
```

Source mixed with build artifacts 😞

✓ Out-of-Source Build

```
my_project/
├── CMakeLists.txt
├── main.cpp
└── build/
    ├── CMakeCache.txt
    ├── CMakeFiles/
    └── Makefile
        └── calculator
```

Clean separation! Easy to `rm -rf build`

Out-of-Source Builds

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my_project/
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└── Makefile            # Generated
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Source mixed with build artifacts 😞

✓ Out-of-Source Build

```
my_project/
└── CMakeLists.txt
└── main.cpp
└── build/
    ├── CMakeCache.txt
    ├── CMakeFiles/
    └── Makefile
└── calculator
```

Clean separation! Easy to `rm -rf build`



Always Use Out-of-Source Builds

```
cmake -B build      # Configure into 'build' folder
cmake --build build # Build from that folder
```



Exercise: CMake Project

Time: 20 minutes

Navigate to `module3-cmake/starter/`:

1. Write a `CMakeLists.txt`
2. Build using CMake
3. Run the executable
4. **Bonus:** Add compiler warnings

Build Commands

```
cd starter  
cmake -B build  
cmake --build build  
./build/calculator
```

Summary

The Shell

- Navigate with `cd` , `ls` , `pwd`
- Manipulate with `cp` , `mv` , `rm`
- Search with `grep` , `find`
- Compose with `|` pipes

g++

- `g++ -o out src.cpp`
- Use `-Wall` `-Wextra`
- Separate headers & source
- Link with `g++ *.o`

CMake

- `cmake_minimum_required`
- `project()` , `add_executable()`
- Out-of-source builds
- `cmake -B build && cmake --build build`

What's Next?

Lab 2: Introduction to Git / Clion / Debug / AI Coding Agent

Q&A



Thank you!