

# Uc-libc vs klee-uclibc

## Code Structure:

1. One folder for each library (with all the source files)
2. One folder for system dependencies
  1. One folder for each architecture

## Libraries:

1. inet
2. pwd\_grp
3. signal
4. stdio
5. sodlib
6. string
7. termios
8. unistd
9. misc

## Hiding:

1. Conditional Hiding:
  1. *Architecture based:*

```
#if defined __USE_BSD || (defined __USE_XOPEN && !defined
__USE_UNIX98)
    libc_hidden_proto(strlen)
    libc_hidden_proto(strcpy)
    libc_hidden_proto(uname)
```
  2. *Other Condition* such

```
#ifndef WANT_WIDE
    libc_hidden_proto(strncmp)
```
2. Unconditional Hiding

```
libc_hidden_proto(open)
libc_hidden_proto(read)
libc_hidden_proto(close)
libc_hidden_proto(gettimeofday)
```

## What is `libc_hidden_*(function)`:<sup>[1][2]</sup>

1. `libc_hidden_proto(method)` is used to disable the definition of the method in the Standard C library.<sup>[3]</sup>

1b. In other words, they tell the compiler to execute the function defined within the same library.<sup>[4]</sup>

2. `libc_hidden_*` macros are used for PLT bypassing within `libc.so` (and if needed other libraries similarly). For details, please see `EndNote`<sup>[A].</sup><sup>[2]</sup>

**Overriding of certain methods:** Klee-uclibc overrides certain methods of the uclibc library. This is done via the `attribute_hidden` method.

## `libc_hidden_proto` vs `attribute_hidden`:

1. `libc_hidden_proto` is used for functions while `attribute_hidden` can also be used for attributes/variables.

```
void *__curbrk attribute_hidden = 0;
```

2. `libc_hidden_proto` is used to hide the standard implementation (but does keep a copy of the standard implementation) while `attribute_hidden` only keeps the copy of the new implementation during linking. Please note that this is taken from a blog with respect to R but I guess the concept should hold in C/C++ too.<sup>[5]</sup>

## System Dependencies:

Both uclibc and klee-uclibc contains files specific to linux run on different platforms such as x64, arm etc. Each platform folder has the assembly code (as well as the registers).

Klee-uclibc also adds architecture specific features for system calls like `abort()`.

## References:

- [1] <http://stackoverflow.com/a/37293022>
- [2] <http://www.scs.stanford.edu/histar/src/pkg/uclibc/include/libc-symbols.h>
- [3] <https://github.com/nithishr/Klee-uClibcxx/blob/master/klee-uClibcxx/Reports/CodeAnalysis.pdf>
- [4] <https://sourceware.org/ml/libc-alpha/2015-06/msg00036.html>
- [5] <http://comments.gmane.org/gmane.comp.lib.uclibc.general/23292>

## Endnotes:

[A] First of all, you need to have the function prototyped somewhere, say in foo/foo.h:

```
int foo (int __bar);
```

If calls to foo within libc.so should always go to foo defined in libc.so, then in include/foo.h you add:

```
libc_hidden_proto (foo)
```

line and after the foo function definition:

```
int foo (int __bar)
{
    return __bar;
}
libc_hidden_def (foo)
```

or

```
int foo (int __bar)
{
    return __bar;
}
libc_hidden_weak (foo)
```

Similarly for global data. If references to foo within libc.so should always go to foo defined in libc.so, then in include/foo.h you add:

```
libc_hidden_proto (foo)
```

line and after foo's definition:

```
int foo = INITIAL_FOO_VALUE;
libc_hidden_data_def (foo)
```

or

```
int foo = INITIAL_FOO_VALUE;
```

`libc_hidden_data_weak (foo)`

If `foo` is normally just an alias (strong or weak) to some other function, you should use the normal `strong_alias` first, then add `libc_hidden_def` or `libc_hidden_weak`:

```
int baz (int __bar)
{
    return __bar;
}
strong_alias (baz, foo)
libc_hidden_weak (foo)
```

If the function should be internal to multiple objects, say `ld.so` and `libc.so`, the best way is to use:

```
#if !defined NOT_IN_libc || defined IS_IN_rtd
hidden_proto (foo)
#endif
```

in `include/foo.h` and the normal macros at all function definitions depending on what DSO they belong to.

If `versioned_symbol` macro is used to define `foo`, `libc_hidden_ver` macro should be used, as in:

```
int __real_foo (int __bar)
{
    return __bar;
}
versioned_symbol (libc, __real_foo, foo, GLIBC_2_1);
libc_hidden_ver (__real_foo, foo) */
```