A Producer Library Interface to DWARF

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1. INTRODUCTION

This document describes an interface to libdwarf, a library of functions to provide creation of DWARF debugging information records, DWARF line number information, DWARF address range and pubnames information, weak names information, and DWARF frame description information.

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1.2 Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this document is to propose a library of functions to create DWARF debugging information. Reading (consuming) of such records is discussed in a separate document.

The functions in this document have mostly been implemented at Silicon Graphics and are being used by the code generator to provide debugging information. Some functions (and support for some extensions) were provided by Sun Microsystems.

The focus of this document is the functional interface, and as such, implementation and optimization issues are intentionally ignored.

Error handling, error codes, and certain Libdwarf codes are discussed in the "A Consumer Library Interface to DWARF", which should be read (or at least skimmed) before reading this document.

However the general style of functions here in the producer library is rather C-traditional with various types as return values (quite different from the consumer library interfaces). The style generally follows the style of the original DWARF1 reader proposed as an interface to DWARF. When the style of the reader interfaces was changed (1994) in the dwarf reader (See the "Document History" section of "A Consumer Library Interface to DWARF") the interfaces here were not changed as it seemed like too much of a change for the two applications then using the interface! So this interface remains in the traditional C style of returning various data types with various (somewhat inconsistent) means of indicating failure.

The error handling code in the library may either return a value or abort. The library user can provide a function that the producer code will call on errors (which would allow callers avoid testing for error returns if the user function exits or aborts). See the <code>dwarf_producer_init()</code> description below for more details.

1.3 Document History

This document originally prominently referenced "UNIX International Programming Languages Special Interest Group " (PLSIG). Both UNIX International and the affiliated Programming Languages Special Interest Group are defunct (UNIX is a registered trademark of UNIX System Laboratories, Inc. in the United States and other countries). Nothing except the general interface style is actually related to anything shown to the PLSIG (this document was open sourced with libdwarf in the mid 1990's).

See "http://www.dwarfstd.org" for information on current DWARF standards and committee activities.

1.4 Definitions

DWARF debugging information entries (DIEs) are the segments of information placed in the .debug_info and related sections by compilers, assemblers, and linkage editors that, in conjunction with line number entries, are necessary for symbolic source-level debugging. Refer to the document "DWARF Debugging Information Format" from UI PLSIG for a more complete description of these entries.

This document adopts all the terms and definitions in "DWARF Debugging Information Format" version 2. and the "A Consumer Library Interface to DWARF".

In addition, this document refers to Elf, the ATT/USL System V Release 4 object format. This is because the library was first developed for that object format. Hopefully the functions defined here can easily be applied to other object formats.

1.5 Overview

The remaining sections of this document describe a proposed producer (compiler or assembler) interface to *Libdwarf*, first by describing the purpose of additional types defined by the interface, followed by descriptions of the available operations. This document assumes you are thoroughly familiar with the information contained in the *DWARF Debugging Information Format* document, and "A Consumer Library Interface to DWARF".

The interface necessarily knows a little bit about the object format (which is assumed to be Elf). We make an attempt to make this knowledge as limited as possible. For example, *Libdwarf* does not do the writing of object data to the disk. The producer program does that.

1.6 Revision History

March 1993	Work on dwarf2 sgi producer draft begins
March 1999	Adding a function to allow any number of trips through the dwarf_get_section_bytes() call.
April 10 1999	Added support for assembler text output of dwarf (as when the output must pass through an assembler). Revamped internals for better performance and simpler provision for differences in ABI.
Sep 1, 1999	Added support for little- and cross- endian debug info creation.
May 7 2007	This library interface now cleans up, deallocating all memory it uses (the application simply calls dwarf_producer_finish(dbg)).

2. Type Definitions

2.1 General Description

The *libdwarf.h* header file contains typedefs and preprocessor definitions of types and symbolic names used to reference objects of *Libdwarf*. The types defined by typedefs contained in *libdwarf.h* all use the convention of adding *Dwarf_* as a prefix to indicate that they refer to objects used by Libdwarf. The prefix *Dwarf_P_* is used for objects referenced by the *Libdwarf* Producer when there are similar but distinct objects used by the Consumer.

2.2 Namespace issues

Application programs should avoid creating names beginning with Dwarf_dwarf_ or DW_ as these are reserved to dwarf and libdwarf.

3. libdwarf and Elf and relocations

Much of the description below presumes that Elf is the object format in use. The library is probably usable with other object formats that allow arbitrary sections to be created.

3.1 binary or assembler output

With DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS (see below) it is assumed that the calling app will simply write the streams and relocations directly into an Elf file, without going through an assembler.

With DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS the calling app must either A) generate binary relocation streams and write the generated debug information streams and the relocation streams direct to an elf file or B) generate assembler output text for an assembler to read and produce an object file.

With case B) the libdwarf-calling application must use the relocation information to change points of each binary stream into references to symbolic names. It is necessary for the assembler to be willing to accept and generate relocations for references from arbitrary byte boundaries. For example:

```
.data 0a0bcc #producing 3 bytes of data.
.word mylabel #producing a reference
.word endlabel - startlable #producing absolute length
```

3.2 libdwarf relationship to Elf

When the documentation below refers to 'an elf section number' it is really only dependent on getting (via the callback function passed by the caller of dwarf_producer_init()) a sequence of integers back (with 1 as the lowest).

When the documentation below refers to 'an Elf symbol index' it is really dependent on Elf symbol numbers only if DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS are being generated (see below). With DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS the library is generating Elf relocations and the section numbers in

binary form so the section numbers and symbol indices must really be Elf (or elf-like) numbers.

With DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS the values passed as symbol indexes can be any integer set or even pointer set. All that libdwarf assumes is that where values are unique they get unique values. Libdwarf does not generate any kind of symbol table from the numbers and does not check their uniqueness or lack thereof.

3.3 libdwarf and relocations

With DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS libdwarf creates binary streams of debug information and arrays of relocation information describing the necessary relocation. The Elf section numbers and symbol numbers appear nowhere in the binary streams. Such appear only in the relocation information and the passed-back information from calls requesting the relocation information. As a consequence, the 'symbol indices' can be any pointer or integer value as the caller must arrange that the output deal with relocations.

With DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS all the relocations are directly created by libdwarf as binary streams (libdwarf only creates the streams in memory, it does not write them to disk).

3.4 symbols, addresses, and offsets

```
The following applies to calls that pass in symbol indices, addresses, and offsets, such as dwarf_add_AT_targ_address() dwarf_add_arange_b() and dwarf_add_frame_fde_b().
```

With DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS a passed in address is one of: a) a section offset and the (non-global) symbol index of a section symbol. b) A symbol index (global symbol) and a zero offset.

With DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS the same approach can be used, or, instead, a passed in address may be c) a symbol handle and an offset. In this case, since it is up to the calling app to generate binary relocations (if appropriate) or to turn the binary stream into a text stream (for input to an assembler, if appropriate) the application has complete control of the interpretation of the symbol handles.

4. Memory Management

Several of the functions that comprise the *Libdwarf* producer interface dynamically allocate values and some return pointers to those spaces. The dynamically allocated spaces can not be reclaimed (and must not be freed) except by dwarf_producer_finish(dbg).

All data for a particular Dwarf_P_Debug descriptor is separate from the data for any other Dwarf_P_Debug descriptor in use in the library-calling application.

4.1 Read-only Properties

All pointers returned by or as a result of a *Libdwarf* call should be assumed to point to read-only memory. Except as defined by this document, the results are undefined for *Libdwarf* clients that attempt to write to a region pointed to by a return value from a *Libdwarf* call.

4.2 Storage Deallocation

Calling dwarf_producer_finish(dbg) frees all the space, and invalidates all pointers returned from Libdwarf functions on or descended from dbg).

5. Functional Interface

This section describes the functions available in the *Libdwarf* library. Each function description includes its definition, followed by a paragraph describing the function's operation.

The functions may be categorized into groups: initialization and termination operations, debugging information entry creation, Elf section callback function, attribute creation, expression creation, line number creation, fast-access (aranges) creation, fast-access (pubnames) creation, fast-access (weak names) creation, macro information creation, low level (.debug_frame) creation, and location list (.debug_loc) creation.

The following sections describe these functions.

5.1 Initialization and Termination Operations

These functions setup Libdwarf to accumulate debugging information for an object, usually a compilation-unit, provided by the producer. The actual addition of information is done by functions in the other sections of this document. Once all the information has been added, functions from this section are used to transform the information to appropriate byte streams, and help to write out the byte streams to disk.

Typically then, a producer application would create a Dwarf_P_Debug descriptor to gather debugging information for a particular compilation-unit using dwarf_producer_init(). The producer application would use this Dwarf_P_Debug descriptor to accumulate debugging information for this object using functions from other sections of this document. Once all the information had been added, it would call dwarf_transform_to_disk_form() to convert the accumulated information into byte streams in accordance with the DWARF standard. The application would then repeatedly call dwarf_get_section_bytes() for each of the .debug_* created. This gives the producer information about the data bytes to be written to disk. At this point, the producer would release all resource used by Libdwarf for this object by calling dwarf producer finish().

It is also possible to create assembler-input character streams from the byte streams created by this library. This feature requires slightly different interfaces than direct binary output. The details are mentioned in the text.

5.1.1 dwarf_producer_init()

The function dwarf_producer_init() returns a new Dwarf_P_Debug descriptor that can be used to add Dwarf information to the object. On error it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR. flags determine

whether the target object is 64-bit or 32-bit. func is a pointer to a function called-back from Libdwarf whenever Libdwarf needs to create a new object section (as it will for each .debug_* section and related relocation section).

errhand is a pointer to a function that will be used as a default fall-back function for handling errors detected by Libdwarf.

errarg is the default error argument used by the function pointed to by errhand.

For historical reasons the error handling is complicated and the following three paragraphs describe the three possible scenarios when a producer function detects an error. In all cases a short error message is printed on stdout if the error number is negative (as all such should be, see libdwarf.h). Then further action is taken as follows.

First, if the Dwarf_Error argument to any specific producer function (see the functions documented below) is non-null the errhand argument here is ignored in that call and the specific producer function sets the Dwarf_Error and returns some specific value (for dwarf_producer_init it is DW_DLV_BADADDR as mentioned just above) indicating there is an error.

Second, if the Dwarf_Error argument to any specific producer function (see the functions documented below) is NULL and the errarg to dwarf_producer_init() is non-NULL then on an error in the producer code the Dwarf_Handler function is called and if that called function returns the producer code returns a specific value (for dwarf_producer_init it is DW_DLV_BADADDR as mentioned just above) indicating there is an error.

Third, if the Dwarf_Error argument to any specific producer function (see the functions documented below) is NULL and the errarg to dwarf_producer_init() is NULL then on an error abort() is called.

The flags values are as follows:

DW_DLC_WRITE is required. The values DW_DLC_READ DW_DLC_RDWR are not supported by the producer and must not be passed.

If DW_DLC_SIZE_64 is not ORed into flags then DW_DLC_SIZE_32 is assumed. Oring in both is an error.

If DW_DLC_OFFSET_SIZE_64 is not ORed into flags then 64 bit offsets (as defined in the 1999 DWARF3) may be used (see next paragraph) to generate DWARF (if and only if DW_DLC_SIZE_64 is also ORed into flags).

If HAVE_STRICT_32BIT_OFFSET is set at configure time only 32bit DWARF offsets are generated (use configure option --enable-dwarf-format-strict-32bit) and DW_DLC_OFFSET_SIZE_64 is ignored. If HAVE_SGI_IRIX_OFFSETS is set at configure time SGI IRIX offsets (standard 32bit, a special 64bit offset for 64bit address objects) are generated (use configure option --enable-dwarf-format-sgi-irix) and DW_DLC_OFFSET_SIZE_64 is ignored. If neither HAVE_STRICT_32BIT_OFFSET nor HAVE_SGI_IRIX_OFFSETS is set at configure time then standard offset sizes are used (and HAVE_DWARF2_99_EXTENSION is set) and DW_DLC_OFFSET_SIZE_64 is honored.

If DW_DLC_ISA_IA64 is not ORed into flags then DW_DLC_ISA_MIPS is assumed. Oring in both is an error.

If DW_DLC_TARGET_BIGENDIAN is not ORed into flags then endianness the same as the host is assumed.

If DW_DLC_TARGET_LITTLEENDIAN is not ORed into flags then endianness the same as the host is assumed.

If both DW_DLC_TARGET_LITTLEENDIAN and DW_DLC_TARGET_BIGENDIAN are or-d in it is an error.

Either one of two output forms is specifiable: $DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS$ or $DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS$.

The default is DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS. The DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS are relocations in a binary stream (as used in a MIPS Elf object).

The DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS are the same relocations but expressed in an array of structures defined by libdwarf, which the caller of the relevant function (see below) must deal with appropriately. This method of expressing relocations allows the producer-application to easily produce assembler text output of debugging information.

If DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS is ORed into flags then relocations are returned not as streams but through an array of structures.

The function func must be provided by the user of this library. Its prototype is:

```
typedef int (*Dwarf Callback Func)(
    char* name,
    int
                         size,
    Dwarf Unsigned
                         type,
   Dwarf Unsigned
                         flags,
    Dwarf_Unsigned
                         link,
    Dwarf_Unsigned
                         info,
    int*
                         sect_name_index,
    int*
                         error)
```

For each section in the object file that libdwarf needs to create, it calls this function once (calling it from dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()), passing in the section name, the section type, the section flags, the link field, and the info field. For an Elf object file these values should be appropriate Elf section header values. For example, for relocation callbacks, the link field is supposed to be set (by the app) to the index of the symtab section (the link field passed through the callback must be ignored by the app). And, for relocation callbacks, the info field is passed as the elf section number of the section the relocations apply to.

On success the user function should return the Elf section number of the newly created Elf section.

On success, the function should also set the integer pointed to by sect_name_index to the Elf symbol number assigned in the Elf symbol table of the new Elf section. This symbol number is needed with relocations dependent on the relocation of this new section. Because "int *" is not guaranteed to work with elf 'symbols' that are really pointers, It is better to use the dwarf_producer_init_b() interface.

For example, the .debug_line section's third data element (in a compilation unit) is the offset from the beginning of the .debug_info section of the compilation unit entry for this .debug_line set. The relocation entry in .rel.debug_line for this offset must have the relocation symbol index of the symbol .debug_info returned by the callback of that section-creation through the pointer sect_name_index.

On failure, the function should return -1 and set the error integer to an error code.

Nothing in libdwarf actually depends on the section index returned being a real Elf section. The Elf section is simply useful for generating relocation records. Similarly, the Elf symbol table index returned through the sect_name_index must simply be an index that can be used in relocations against this section. The

application will probably want to note the values passed to this function in some form, even if no Elf file is being produced.

5.1.2 dwarf_producer_init_b()

The function dwarf_producer_init_b() is the same as dwarf_producer_init() except that the callback function uses Dwarf_Unsigned rather than int as the type of the symbol-index returned to libdwarf through the pointer argument (see below).

The flags values are as follows:

DW_DLC_WRITE is required. The values DW_DLC_READ DW_DLC_RDWR are not supported by the producer and must not be passed.

If DW_DLC_SIZE_64 is not ORed into flags then DW_DLC_SIZE_32 is assumed. Oring in both is an error.

If DW_DLC_ISA_IA64 is not ORed into flags then DW_DLC_ISA_MIPS is assumed. Oring in both is an error.

Either one of two output forms are specifiable: $DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS$ or $DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS$. $dwarf_producer_init_b()$ is usable with either output form.

Either one of two output forms is specifiable: $DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS$ or $DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS$.

The default is DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS . The DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS are relocations in a binary stream (as used in a MIPS Elf object).

DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS are ORed into flags to cause the same relocations to be expressed in an array of structures defined by libdwarf, which the caller of the relevant function (see below) must deal with appropriately. This method of expressing relocations allows the producer-application to easily produce assembler text output of debugging information.

The function func must be provided by the user of this library. Its prototype is:

```
typedef int (*Dwarf Callback Func b)(
    char* name,
    int
                         size,
    Dwarf Unsigned
                        type,
   Dwarf_Unsigned
                        flags,
    Dwarf Unsigned
                        link,
    Dwarf_Unsigned
                         info,
    Dwarf Unsigned*
                        sect_name_index,
    int*
                         error)
```

For each section in the object file that libdwarf needs to create, it calls this function once, passing in the

section name, the section type, the section flags, the link field, and the info field. For an Elf object file these values should be appropriate Elf section header values. For example, for relocation callbacks, the link field is supposed to be set (by the app) to the index of the symtab section (the link field passed through the callback must be ignored by the app). And, for relocation callbacks, the info field is passed as the elf section number of the section the relocations apply to.

On success the user function should return the Elf section number of the newly created Elf section.

On success, the function should also set the integer pointed to by sect_name_index to the Elf symbol number assigned in the Elf symbol table of the new Elf section. This symbol number is needed with relocations dependent on the relocation of this new section.

For example, the .debug_line section's third data element (in a compilation unit) is the offset from the beginning of the .debug_info section of the compilation unit entry for this .debug_line set. The relocation entry in .rel.debug_line for this offset must have the relocation symbol index of the symbol .debug_info returned by the callback of that section-creation through the pointer sect_name_index.

On failure, the function should return -1 and set the error integer to an error code.

Nothing in libdwarf actually depends on the section index returned being a real Elf section. The Elf section is simply useful for generating relocation records. Similarly, the Elf symbol table index returned through the sect_name_index must simply be an index that can be used in relocations against this section. The application will probably want to note the values passed to this function in some form, even if no Elf file is being produced.

Note that the Dwarf_Callback_Func_b() form passes back the sect_name_index as a Dwarf_Unsigned. This is guaranteed large enough to hold a pointer. (the other functional interfaces have versions with the 'symbol index' as a Dwarf_Unsigned too. See below).

If DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS is in use, then the symbol index is simply an arbitrary value (from the point of view of libdwarf) so the caller can put anything in it: a normal elf symbol index, a pointer to a struct (with arbitrary contents) (the caller must cast to/from Dwarf_Unsigned as appropriate), or some other kind of pointer or value. The values show up in the output of dwarf_get_relocation_info() (described below) and are not emitted anywhere else.

5.1.3 dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()

The function <code>dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()</code> does the actual conversion of the <code>Dwarf</code> information provided so far, to the form that is normally written out as <code>Elf</code> sections. In other words, once all <code>DWARF</code> information has been passed to <code>Libdwarf</code>, call <code>dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()</code> to transform all the accumulated data into byte streams. This includes turning relocation information into byte streams (and possibly relocation arrays). This function does not write anything to disk. If successful, it returns a count of the number of <code>Elf</code> sections ready to be retrieved (and, normally, written to disk). In case of error, it returns <code>DW_DLV_NOCOUNT</code>.

5.1.4 dwarf_get_section_bytes()

The function <code>dwarf_get_section_bytes()</code> must be called repetitively, with the index <code>dwarf_section</code> starting at 0 and continuing for the number of sections returned by <code>dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()</code>. It returns <code>NULL</code> to indicate that there are no more sections of <code>Dwarf</code> information. For each non-<code>NULL</code> return, the return value points to <code>*length</code> bytes of data that are normally added to the output object in <code>Elf</code> section <code>*elf_section</code> by the producer application. It is illegal to call these in any order other than 0 through <code>N-1</code> where <code>N</code> is the number of dwarf sections returned by <code>dwarf_transform_to_disk_form()</code>. The <code>dwarf_section</code> number is actually ignored: the data is returned as if the caller passed in the correct <code>dwarf_section</code> numbers in the required sequence. The <code>error</code> argument is not used.

There is no requirement that the section bytes actually be written to an elf file. For example, consider the .debug_info section and its relocation section (the call back function would resulted in assigning 'section' numbers and the link field to tie these together (.rel.debug_info would have a link to .debug_info). One could examine the relocations, split the .debug_info data at relocation boundaries, emit byte streams (in hex) as assembler output, and at each relocation point, emit an assembler directive with a symbol name for the assembler. Examining the relocations is awkward though. It is much better to use dwarf_get_section_relocation_info()

The memory space of the section byte stream is freed by the dwarf_producer_finish() call (or would be if the dwarf_producer_finish() was actually correct), along with all the other space in use with that Dwarf_P_Debug.

5.1.5 dwarf get relocation info count()

The function dwarf_get_relocation_info() returns, through the pointer count_of_relocation_sections, the number of times that dwarf get relocation info() should be called.

The function dwarf_get_relocation_info() returns DW_DLV_OK if the call was successful (the count_of_relocation_sections is therefore meaningful, though count of relocation sections could be zero).

*drd_buffer_version is the value 2. If the structure pointed to by the *reldata_buffer changes this number will change. The application should verify that the number is the version it understands (that it matches the value of DWARF_DRD_BUFFER_VERSION (from libdwarf.h)). The value 1 version was never used in production MIPS libdwarf (version 1 did exist in source).

It returns DW_DLV_NO_ENTRY if count_of_relocation_sections is not meaningful because DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS was not passed in the dwarf_producer_init() (or dwarf_producer_init_b()) call.

It returns DW_DLV_ERROR if there was an error, in which case count_of_relocation_sections is not meaningful.

5.1.6 dwarf_get_relocation_info()

The function dwarf_get_relocation_info() should normally be called repetitively, for the number of relocation sections that dwarf get relocation info count() indicated exist.

It returns DW_DLV_OK to indicate that valid values are returned through the pointer arguments. The error argument is not set.

It returns DW_DLV_NO_ENTRY if there are no entries (the count of relocation arrays is zero.). The error argument is not set.

It returns DW_DLV_ERROR if there is an error. Calling dwarf_get_relocation_info() more than the number of times indicated by dwarf_get_relocation_info_count() (without an intervening call to dwarf_reset_section_bytes()) results in a return of DW_DLV_ERROR once past the valid count. The error argument is set to indicate the error.

Now consider the returned-through-pointer values for DW_DLV_OK .

*elf_section_index is the 'elf section index' of the section implied by this group of relocations.

*elf_section_index_link is the section index of the section that these relocations apply to.

*relocation_buffer_count is the number of array entries of relocation information in the array pointed to by *reldata_buffer.

*reldata buffer points to an array of 'struct Dwarf Relocation Data s' structures.

The version 2 array information is as follows:

```
Dwarf_Unsigned drd_offset; /* where the data to reloc is */
Dwarf_Unsigned drd_symbol_index;
};
```

The Dwarf_Rel_Type enum is encoded (via casts if necessary) into the single unsigned char drd_type field to control the space used for this information (keep the space to 1 byte).

The unsigned char drd_length field holds the size in bytes of the field to be relocated. So for elf32 object formats with 32 bit apps, drd_length will be 4. For objects with MIPS -64 contents, drd_length will be 8. For some dwarf 64 bit environments, such as ia64, drd_length is 4 for some relocations (file offsets, for example) and 8 for others (run time addresses, for example).

If drd_type is dwarf_drt_none, this is an unused slot and it should be ignored.

If drd_type is dwarf_drt_data_reloc this is an ordinary relocation. The relocation type means either (R_MIPS_64) or (R_MIPS_32) (or the like for the particular ABI. drd_length gives the length of the field to be relocated. drd_offset is an offset (of the value to be relocated) in the section this relocation stuff is linked to. drd_symbol_index is the symbol index (if elf symbol indices were provided) or the handle to arbitrary information (if that is what the caller passed in to the relocation-creating dwarf calls) of the symbol that the relocation is relative to.

When drd_type is dwarf_drt_first_of_length_pair the next data record will be drt_second_of_length_pair and the drd_offset of the two data records will match. The relevant 'offset' in the section this reloc applies to should contain a symbolic pair like

```
.word second_symbol - first_symbol
```

to generate a length. drd_length gives the length of the field to be relocated.

drt_segment_rel means (R_MIPS_SCN_DISP) is the real relocation (R_MIPS_SCN_DISP applies to exception tables and this part may need further work). drd_length gives the length of the field to be relocated.

The memory space of the section byte stream is freed by the dwarf_producer_finish() call (or would be if the dwarf_producer_finish() was actually correct), along with all the other space in use with that Dwarf_P_Debug.

5.1.7 dwarf reset section bytes()

The function dwarf_reset_section_bytes() is used to reset the internal information so that dwarf_get_section_bytes() will begin (on the next call) at the initial dwarf section again. It also resets so that calls to dwarf_get_relocation_info() will begin again at the initial array of relocation information.

Some dwarf producers need to be able to run through the dwarf_get_section_bytes() and/or the dwarf_get_relocation_info() calls more than once and this call makes additional passes possible. The set of Dwarf_Ptr values returned is identical to the set returned by the first pass. It is acceptable to call this before finishing a pass of dwarf_get_section_bytes() or

dwarf_get_relocation_info() calls. No errors are possible as this just resets some internal pointers. It is unwise to call this before dwarf_transform_to_disk_form() has been called.

5.1.8 dwarf_producer_finish()

The function <code>dwarf_producer_finish()</code> should be called after all the bytes of data have been copied somewhere (normally the bytes are written to disk). It frees all dynamic space allocated for <code>dbg</code>, include space for the structure pointed to by <code>dbg</code>. This should not be called till the data have been copied or written to disk or are no longer of interest. It returns non-zero if <code>successful</code>, and <code>DW_DLV_NOCOUNT</code> if there is an error.

5.2 Debugging Information Entry Creation

The functions in this section add new DIEs to the object, and also the relationships among the DIE to be specified by linking them up as parents, children, left or right siblings of each other. In addition, there is a function that marks the root of the graph thus created.

5.2.1 dwarf_add_die_to_debug()

The function dwarf_add_die_to_debug() indicates to Libdwarf the root DIE of the DIE graph that has been built so far. It is intended to mark the compilation-unit DIE for the object represented by dbg. The root DIE is specified by first_die.

It returns 0 on success, and DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.2.2 dwarf_new_die()

The function dwarf_new_die() creates a new DIE with its parent, child, left sibling, and right sibling DIEs specified by parent, child, left_sibling, and right_sibling, respectively. There is no requirement that all of these DIEs be specified, i.e. any of these descriptors may be NULL. If none is specified, this will be an isolated DIE. A DIE is transformed to disk form by dwarf_transform_to_disk_form() only if there is a path from the DIE specified by

dwarf_add_die_to_debug to it. This function returns DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

new_tag is the tag which is given to the new DIE. parent, child, left_sibling, and right_sibling are pointers to establish links to existing DIEs. Only one of parent, child, left_sibling, and right_sibling may be non-NULL. If parent (child) is given, the DIE is linked into the list after (before) the DIE pointed to. If left_sibling (right_sibling) is given, the DIE is linked into the list after (before) the DIE pointed to.

To add attributes to the new DIE, use the Attribute Creation functions defined in the next section.

5.2.3 dwarf_die_link()

```
Dwarf_P_Die dwarf_die_link(
        Dwarf_P_Die die,
        Dwarf_P_Die parent,
        Dwarf_P_Die child,
        Dwarf_P_Die left-sibling,
        Dwarf_P_Die right_sibling,
        Dwarf_Error *error)
```

The function dwarf_die_link() links an existing DIE described by the given die to other existing DIEs. The given die can be linked to a parent DIE, a child DIE, a left sibling DIE, or a right sibling DIE by specifying non-NULL parent, child, left_sibling, and right_sibling Dwarf_P_Die descriptors. It returns the given Dwarf_P_Die descriptor, die, on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

Only one of parent, child, left_sibling, and right_sibling may be non-NULL. If parent (child) is given, the DIE is linked into the list after (before) the DIE pointed to. If left_sibling (right_sibling) is given, the DIE is linked into the list after (before) the DIE pointed to. Non-NULL links overwrite the corresponding links the given die may have had before the call to dwarf_die_link().

5.3 Attribute Creation

The functions in this section add attributes to a DIE. These functions return a Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor that represents the attribute added to the given DIE. In most cases the return value is only useful to determine if an error occurred.

Some of the attributes have values that are relocatable. They need a symbol with respect to which the linker will perform relocation. This symbol is specified by means of an index into the Elf symbol table for the object (of course, the symbol index can be more general than an index).

5.3.1 dwarf_add_AT_location_expr()

The function dwarf_add_AT_location_expr() adds the attribute specified by attr to the DIE

descriptor given by ownerdie. The attribute should be one that has a location expression as its value. The location expression that is the value is represented by the Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor loc_expr. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute given, on success. On error it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.2 dwarf_add_AT_name()

The function dwarf_add_AT_name() adds the string specified by name as the value of the DW_AT_name attribute for the given DIE, ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_attribute descriptor for the DW_AT_name attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.3 dwarf_add_AT_comp_dir()

The function dwarf_add_AT_comp_dir() adds the string given by current_working_directory as the value of the DW_AT_comp_dir attribute for the DIE described by the given ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute for this attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.4 dwarf_add_AT_producer()

The function dwarf_add_AT_producer() adds the string given by producer_string as the value of the DW_AT_producer attribute for the DIE given by ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor representing this attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.5 dwarf_add_AT_const_value_signedint()

The function dwarf_add_AT_const_value_signedint() adds the given Dwarf_Signed value signed_value as the value of the DW_AT_const_value attribute for the DIE described by the

given ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for this attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.6 dwarf_add_AT_const_value_unsignedint()

The function dwarf_add_AT_const_value_unsignedint() adds the given Dwarf_Unsigned value unsigned_value as the value of the DW_AT_const_value attribute for the DIE described by the given ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for this attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.7 dwarf_add_AT_const_value_string()

The function dwarf_add_AT_const_value_string() adds the string value given by string_value as the value of the DW_AT_const_value attribute for the DIE described by the given ownerdie. It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for this attribute on success. On error, it returns DW_DLV_BADADDR.

5.3.8 dwarf_add_AT_targ_address()

The function dwarf_add_AT_targ_address() adds an attribute that belongs to the "address" class to the die specified by ownerdie. The attribute is specified by attr, and the object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The relocatable address that is the value of the attribute is specified by pc_value. The symbol to be used for relocation is specified by the sym_index, which is the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.3.9 dwarf add AT targ address b()

The function dwarf_add_AT_targ_address_b() is identical to dwarf_add_AT_targ_address_b() except that sym_index() is guaranteed to be large enough that it can contain a pointer to arbitrary data (so the caller can pass in a real elf symbol index, an arbitrary number, or a pointer to arbitrary data). The ability to pass in a pointer through sym_index() is only usable with DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

The pc_value is put into the section stream output and the sym_index is applied to the relocation information.

Do not use this function for attr DW_AT_high_pc if the value to be recorded is an offset (not a pc) [use dwarf_add_AT_unsigned_const() (for example) instead].

5.3.10 dwarf_add_AT_dataref()

This is very similar to dwarf_add_AT_targ_address_b() but results in a different FORM (results in DW_FORM_data4 or DW_FORM_data8).

Useful for adding relocatable addresses in location lists.

sym_index() is guaranteed to be large enough that it can contain a pointer to arbitrary data (so the caller can pass in a real elf symbol index, an arbitrary number, or a pointer to arbitrary data). The ability to pass in a pointer through sym_index() is only usable with DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

The pc_value is put into the section stream output and the sym_index is applied to the relocation information.

Do not use this function for DW_AT_high_pc, use dwarf_add_AT_unsigned_const() [(for example) if the value to be recorded is an offset of DW_AT_low_pc] or dwarf_add_AT_targ_address_b() [if the value to be recorded is an address].

5.3.11 dwarf add AT ref address()

This is very similar to dwarf_add_AT_targ_address_b() but results in a different FORM (results in DW_FORM_ref_addr being generated).

Useful for DW_AT_type and DW_AT_import attributes.

sym_index() is guaranteed to be large enough that it can contain a pointer to arbitrary data (so the caller can pass in a real elf symbol index, an arbitrary number, or a pointer to arbitrary data). The ability to pass in a pointer through sym_index() is only usable with DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

The pc_value is put into the section stream output and the sym_index is applied to the relocation information.

Do not use this function for DW_AT_high_pc.

5.3.12 dwarf_add_AT_unsigned_const()

The function dwarf_add_AT_unsigned_const() adds an attribute with a Dwarf_Unsigned value belonging to the "constant" class, to the DIE specified by ownerdie. The object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The attribute is specified by attr, and its value is specified by value.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.3.13 dwarf_add_AT_signed_const()

The function dwarf_add_AT_signed_const() adds an attribute with a Dwarf_Signed value belonging to the "constant" class, to the DIE specified by ownerdie. The object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The attribute is specified by attr, and its value is specified by value.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.3.14 dwarf_add_AT_reference()

The function dwarf_add_AT_reference() adds an attribute with a value that is a reference to another DIE in the same compilation-unit to the DIE specified by ownerdie. The object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The attribute is specified by attr, and the other DIE being referred to is specified by otherdie.

This cannot generate DW FORM ref addr references to DIEs in other compilation units.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.3.15 dwarf_add_AT_flag()

The function dwarf_add_AT_flag() adds an attribute with a Dwarf_Small value belonging to the "flag" class, to the DIE specified by ownerdie. The object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The attribute is specified by attr, and its value is specified by flag.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.3.16 dwarf_add_AT_string()

The function dwarf_add_AT_string() adds an attribute with a value that is a character string to the DIE specified by ownerdie. The object that the DIE belongs to is specified by dbg. The attribute is specified by attr, and its value is pointed to by string.

It returns the Dwarf_P_Attribute descriptor for the attribute on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.4 Expression Creation

The following functions are used to convert location expressions into blocks so that attributes with values that are location expressions can store their values as a DW_FORM_blockn value. This is for both .debug_info and .debug_loc expression blocks.

To create an expression, first call dwarf_new_expr() to get a Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor that can be used to build up the block containing the location expression. Then insert the parts of the expression in prefix order (exactly the order they would be interpreted in in an expression interpreter). The bytes of the expression are then built-up as specified by the user.

5.4.1 dwarf_new_expr()

The function dwarf_new_expr() creates a new expression area in which a location expression stream can be created. It returns a Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor that can be used to add operators to build up a location expression. It returns NULL on error.

5.4.2 dwarf_add_expr_gen()

The function dwarf_add_expr_gen() takes an operator specified by opcode, along with up to 2 operands specified by val1, and val2, converts it into the Dwarf representation and appends the bytes to the byte stream being assembled for the location expression represented by expr. The first operand, if present, to opcode is in val1, and the second operand, if present, is in val2. Both the operands may actually be signed or unsigned depending on opcode. It returns the number of bytes in the byte stream for expr currently generated, i.e. after the addition of opcode. It returns DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

The function dwarf_add_expr_gen() works for all opcodes except those that have a target address as an operand. This is because it does not set up a relocation record that is needed when target addresses are involved.

5.4.3 dwarf_add_expr_addr()

The function dwarf_add_expr_addr() is used to add the DW_OP_addr opcode to the location expression represented by the given Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor, expr. The value of the relocatable address is given by address. The symbol to be used for relocation is given by sym_index, which is the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table. It returns the number of bytes in the byte stream for expr currently generated, i.e. after the addition of the DW_OP_addr operator. It returns DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.4.4 dwarf_add_expr_addr_b()

The function dwarf_add_expr_addr_f() is identical to dwarf_add_expr_addr() except that sym_index() is guaranteed to be large enough that it can contain a pointer to arbitrary data (so the caller can pass in a real elf symbol index, an arbitrary number, or a pointer to arbitrary data). The ability to pass in a pointer through sym_index() is only usable with DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

5.4.5 dwarf expr current offset()

The function dwarf_expr_current_offset() returns the number of bytes currently in the byte stream for the location expression represented by the given W(Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor, expr. It returns DW DLV NOCOUNT on error.

5.4.6 dwarf_expr_into_block()

The function dwarf_expr_into_block() returns the address of the start of the byte stream generated for the location expression represented by the given Dwarf_P_Expr descriptor, expr. The length of the byte stream is returned in the location pointed to by length. It returns DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.5 Line Number Operations

These are operations on the .debug_line section. They provide information about instructions in the program and the source lines the instruction come from. Typically, code is generated in contiguous blocks, which may then be relocated as contiguous blocks. To make the provision of relocation information more efficient, the information is recorded in such a manner that only the address of the start of the block needs to be relocated. This is done by providing the address of the first instruction in a block using the function dwarf_lne_set_address(). Information about the instructions in the block are then added using the function dwarf_add_line_entry(), which specifies offsets from the address of the first instruction. The end of a contiguous block is indicated by calling the function dwarf_lne_end_sequence().

Line number operations do not support DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

5.5.1 dwarf_add_line_entry()

The function dwarf_add_line_entry() adds an entry to the section containing information about source lines. It specifies in code_offset, the offset from the address set using dwarf_lne_set_address(), of the address of the first instruction in a contiguous block. The source file that gave rise to the instruction is specified by file_index, the source line number is specified by lineno, and the source column number is specified by column_number (column numbers begin at 1) (if the source column is unknown, specify 0). file_index is the index of the source file in a list of source files which is built up using the function dwarf_add_file_decl().

is_source_stmt_begin is a boolean flag that is true only if the instruction at code_address is the first instruction in the sequence generated for the source line at lineno. Similarly, is_basic_block_begin is a boolean flag that is true only if the instruction at code_address is the first instruction of a basic block.

It returns 0 on success, and DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.5.2 dwarf_lne_set_address()

The function dwarf_lne_set_address() sets the target address at which a contiguous block of instructions begin. Information about the instructions in the block is added to .debug_line using calls to dwarfdwarf_add_line_entry() which specifies the offset of each instruction in the block relative to the start of the block. This is done so that a single relocation record can be used to obtain the final target address of every instruction in the block.

The relocatable address of the start of the block of instructions is specified by offs. The symbol used to relocate the address is given by symidx, which is normally the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table

It returns 0 on success, and DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.5.3 dwarf_lne_end_sequence()

The function dwarf_lne_end_sequence() indicates the end of a contiguous block of instructions. address() should be just higher than the end of the last address in the sequence of instructions. block of instructions, a call to dwarf_lne_set_address() will have to be made to set the address of the start of the target address of the block, followed by calls to dwarf_add_line_entry() for each of the instructions in the block.

It returns 0 on success, and DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.5.4 dwarf_add_directory_decl()

The function dwarf_add_directory_decl() adds the string specified by name to the list of include directories in the statement program prologue of the .debug_line section. The string should therefore name a directory from which source files have been used to create the present object.

It returns the index of the string just added, in the list of include directories for the object. This index is then used to refer to this string. It returns DW_DLV_NOCOUNT on error.

5.5.5 dwarf add file decl()

The function dwarf_add_file_decl() adds the name of a source file that contributed to the present object. The name of the file is specified by name (which must not be the empty string or a null pointer, it must point to a string with length greater than 0). In case the name is not a fully-qualified pathname, it is prefixed with the name of the directory specified by dir_idx. dir_idx is the index of the directory to be prefixed in the list builtup using dwarf_add_directory_decl().

time_mod gives the time at which the file was last modified, and length gives the length of the file in bytes.

It returns the index of the source file in the list built up so far using this function, on success. This index can then be used to refer to this source file in calls to dwarf_add_line_entry(). On error, it returns DW DLV NOCOUNT.

5.6 Fast Access (aranges) Operations

These functions operate on the .debug_aranges section.

5.6.1 dwarf_add_arange()

The function dwarf_add_arange() adds another address range to be added to the section containing address range information, .debug_aranges. The relocatable start address of the range is specified by begin_address, and the length of the address range is specified by length. The relocatable symbol to be used to relocate the start of the address range is specified by symbol_index, which is normally the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.6.2 dwarf_add_arange_b()

The function dwarf_add_arange_b() adds another address range to be added to the section containing address range information, .debug aranges.

If end_symbol_index is not zero we are using two symbols to create a length (must be DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS to be useful)

begin_address is the offset from the symbol specified by symbol_index . offset_from_end_symbol is the offset from the symbol specified by end_symbol_index. length is ignored. This begin-end pair will be show up in the relocation array returned by dwarf_get_relocation_info() as a dwarf_drt_first_of_length_pair and dwarf_drt_second_of_length_pair pair of relocation records. The consuming application will turn that pair into something conceptually identical to

```
.word end_symbol + offset_from_end - \
  ( start_symbol + begin_address)
```

The reason offsets are allowed on the begin and end symbols is to allow the caller to re-use existing labels when the labels are available and the corresponding offset is known (economizing on the number of labels in use). The 'offset_from_end - begin_address' will actually be in the binary stream, not the relocation record, so the app processing the relocation array must read that stream value into (for example) net_offset and actually emit something like

```
.word end_symbol - start_symbol + net_offset
```

If end_symbol_index is zero we must be given a length (either DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS or DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS):

The relocatable start address of the range is specified by begin_address, and the length of the address range is specified by length. The relocatable symbol to be used to relocate the start of the address range is specified by symbol_index, which is normally the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table. The offset_from_end_symbol is ignored.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.7 Fast Access (pubnames) Operations

These functions operate on the .debug_pubnames section.

5.7.1 dwarf_add_pubname()

The function dwarf_add_pubname() adds the pubname specified by pubname_name to the section containing pubnames, i.e.

.debug_pubnames. The DIE that represents the function being named is specified by die.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.8 Fast Access (weak names) Operations

These functions operate on the .debug_weaknames section.

5.8.1 dwarf_add_weakname()

The function dwarf_add_weakname() adds the weak name specified by weak_name to the section containing weak names, i.e.

.debug_weaknames. The DIE that represents the function being named is specified by die.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.9 Static Function Names Operations

The .debug_funcnames section contains the names of static function names defined in the object, and also the offsets of the DIEs that represent the definitions of the functions in the .debug_info section.

5.9.1 dwarf_add_funcname()

The function dwarf_add_funcname() adds the name of a static function specified by func_name to the section containing the names of static functions defined in the object represented by dbg. The DIE that represents the definition of the function is specified by die.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.10 File-scope User-defined Type Names Operations

The .debug_typenames section contains the names of file-scope user-defined types in the given object, and also the offsets of the DIEs that represent the definitions of the types in the .debug_info section.

5.10.1 dwarf_add_typename()

The function dwarf_add_typename() adds the name of a file-scope user-defined type specified by type_name to the section that contains the names of file-scope user-defined type. The object that this section belongs to is specified by dbg. The DIE that represents the definition of the type is specified by die.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.11 File-scope Static Variable Names Operations

The .debug_varnames section contains the names of file-scope static variables in the given object, and also the offsets of the DIEs that represent the definition of the variables in the .debug_info section.

5.11.1 dwarf_add_varname()

The function <code>dwarf_add_varname()</code> adds the name of a file-scope static variable specified by <code>var_name</code> to the section that contains the names of file-scope static variables defined by the object represented by <code>dbg</code>. The <code>DIE</code> that represents the definition of the static variable is specified by <code>die</code>.

It returns a non-zero value on success, and 0 on error.

5.12 Macro Information Creation

All strings passed in by the caller are copied by these functions, so the space in which the caller provides the strings may be ephemeral (on the stack, or immediately reused or whatever) without this causing any difficulty.

5.12.1 dwarf_def_macro()

Adds a macro definition. The name argument should include the parentheses and parameter names if this is a function-like macro. Neither string should contain extraneous whitespace. dwarf_def_macro() adds the mandated space after the name and before the value in the output DWARF section(but does not change the strings pointed to by the arguments). If this is a definition before any files are read, lineno should be 0. Returns DW_DLV_ERROR and sets error if there is an error. Returns DW_DLV_OK if the call was successful.

5.12.2 dwarf_undef_macro()

Adds a macro un-definition note. If this is a definition before any files are read, lineno should be 0. Returns DW_DLV_ERROR and sets error if there is an error. Returns DW_DLV_OK if the call was successful.

5.12.3 dwarf_start_macro_file()

fileindex is an index in the .debug_line header: the index of the file name. See the function dwarf_add_file_decl(). The lineno should be 0 if this file is the file of the compilation unit source itself (which, of course, is not a #include in any file). Returns DW_DLV_ERROR and sets error if there is an error. Returns DW DLV OK if the call was successful.

5.12.4 dwarf end macro file()

Returns DW_DLV_ERROR and sets error if there is an error. Returns DW_DLV_OK if the call was successful.

5.12.5 dwarf_vendor_ext()

```
int dwarf_vendor_ext(Dwarf_P_Debug dbg,
    Dwarf_Unsigned constant,
    char * string,
    Dwarf Error* error);
```

The meaning of the constant and thestring in the macro info section are undefined by DWARF itself, but the string must be an ordinary null terminated string. This call is not an extension to DWARF. It simply enables storing macro information as specified in the DWARF document. Returns DW_DLV_ERROR and sets error if there is an error. Returns DW_DLV_OK if the call was successful.

5.13 Low Level (.debug_frame) operations

These functions operate on the .debug_frame section. Refer to libdwarf.h for the register names and register assignment mapping. Both of these are necessarily machine dependent.

5.13.1 dwarf_new_fde()

The function dwarf_new_fde() returns a new Dwarf_P_Fde descriptor that should be used to build a complete FDE. Subsequent calls to routines that build up the FDE should use the same Dwarf_P_Fde descriptor.

It returns a valid Dwarf_P_Fde descriptor on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.13.2 dwarf_add_frame_cie()

The function dwarf_add_frame_cie() creates a CIE, and returns an index to it, that should be used to refer to this CIE. CIEs are used by FDEs to setup initial values for frames. The augmentation string for the CIE is specified by augmenter. The code alignment factor, data alignment factor, and the return address register for the CIE are specified by code_align, data_align, and ret_addr_reg respectively. init_bytes points to the bytes that represent the instructions for the CIE being created, and init_bytes_len specifies the number of bytes of instructions.

There is no convenient way to generate the <code>init_bytes</code> stream. One just has to calculate it by hand or separately generate something with the correct sequence and use dwarfdump -v and readelf (or objdump) and some kind of hex dumper to see the bytes. This is a serious inconvenience!

It returns an index to the CIE just created on success. On error it returns DW_DLV_NOCOUNT.

5.13.3 dwarf_add_frame_fde()

The function dwarf_add_frame_fde() adds the FDE specified by fde to the list of FDEs for the object represented by the given dbg. die specifies the DIE that represents the function whose frame information is specified by the given fde. cie specifies the index of the CIE that should be used to setup the initial conditions for the given frame.

If the MIPS/IRIX specific DW_AT_MIPS_fde attribute is not needed in .debug_info pass in 0 as the die argument.

It returns an index to the given fde.

5.13.4 dwarf_add_frame_fde_b()

This function is like dwarf_add_frame_fde() except that dwarf_add_frame_fde_b() has new arguments to allow use with DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS.

The function dwarf_add_frame_fde_b() adds the FDE specified by fde to the list of FDEs for the object represented by the given dbg.

die specifies the DIE that represents the function whose frame information is specified by the given fde. If the MIPS/IRIX specific DW_AT_MIPS_fde attribute is not needed in .debug_info pass in 0 as the die argument.

cie specifies the index of the CIE that should be used to setup the initial conditions for the given frame. virt_addr represents the relocatable address at which the code for the given function begins, and sym_idx gives the index of the relocatable symbol to be used to relocate this address (virt_addr that is). code len specifies the size in bytes of the machine instructions for the given function.

```
If sym_idx_of_end is zero (may be DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS or DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS):
```

virt_addr represents the relocatable address at which the code for the given function begins, and sym_idx gives the index of the relocatable symbol to be used to relocate this address (virt_addr that is). code_len specifies the size in bytes of the machine instructions for the given function. sym_idx_of_end and offset_from_end_sym are unused.

If sym idx of end is non-zero (must be DW DLC SYMBOLIC RELOCATIONS to be useful):

virt_addr is the offset from the symbol specified by sym_idx. offset_from_end_sym is the offset from the symbol specified by sym_idx_of_end. code_len is ignored. This begin-end pair will be show up in the relocation array returned by dwarf_get_relocation_info() as a dwarf_drt_first_of_length_pair and dwarf_drt_second_of_length_pair pair of relocation records. The consuming application will turn that pair into something conceptually identical to

```
.word end_symbol + begin - \
  ( start_symbol + offset_from_end)
```

The reason offsets are allowed on the begin and end symbols is to allow the caller to re-use existing labels when the labels are available and the corresponding offset is known (economizing on the number of labels in use). The 'offset_from_end - begin_address' will actually be in the binary stream, not the relocation record, so the app processing the relocation array must read that stream value into (for example) net_offset and actually emit something like

.word end_symbol - start_symbol + net_offset

It returns an index to the given fde.

On error, it returns DW_DLV_NOCOUNT.

5.13.5 dwarf_add_frame_info_b()

```
Dwarf Unsigned dwarf add frame info b(
       Dwarf_P_Debug
                       dbq,
       Dwarf P Fde
                       fde,
       Dwarf_P_Die
                       die,
       Dwarf_Unsigned cie,
       Dwarf Addr virt_addr,
       Dwarf Unsigned code len,
       Dwarf_Unsigned sym_idx,
       Dwarf_Unsigned end_symbol_index,
       Dwarf Addr
                       offset_from_end_symbol,
       Dwarf_Signed
                       offset_into_exception_tables,
       Dwarf Unsigned exception table symbol,
       Dwarf Error*
                       error)
```

The function dwarf_add_frame_fde() adds the FDE specified by fde to the list of FDEs for the object represented by the given dbg.

This function refers to MIPS/IRIX specific exception tables and is not a function other targets need.

die specifies the DIE that represents the function whose frame information is specified by the given fde. If the MIPS/IRIX specific DW_AT_MIPS_fde attribute is not needed in .debug_info pass in 0 as the die argument.

cie specifies the index of the CIE that should be used to setup the initial conditions for the given frame.

offset_into_exception_tables specifies the MIPS/IRIX specific offset into .MIPS.eh_region elf section where the exception tables for this function begins. exception_table_symbol is also MIPS/IRIX specific and it specifies the index of the relocatable symbol to be used to relocate this offset.

If end_symbol_index is not zero we are using two symbols to create a length (must be DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS to be useful)

virt_addr is the offset from the symbol specified by sym_idx. offset_from_end_symbol is the offset from the symbol specified by end_symbol_index. code_len is ignored. This begin-end pair will be show up in the relocation array returned by dwarf_get_relocation_info() as a dwarf_drt_first_of_length_pair and dwarf_drt_second_of_length_pair pair of relocation records. The consuming application will turn that pair into something conceptually identical to

```
.word end_symbol + offset_from_end_symbol - \
  ( start_symbol + virt_addr)
```

The reason offsets are allowed on the begin and end symbols is to allow the caller to re-use existing labels when the labels are available and the corresponding offset is known (economizing on the number of labels in use). The 'offset_from_end - begin_address' will actually be in the binary stream, not the relocation record, so the app processing the relocation array must read that stream value into (for example) net_offset and actually emit something like

```
.word end_symbol - start_symbol + net_offset
```

If end_symbol_index is zero we must be given a code_len value (either DW_DLC_STREAM_RELOCATIONS or DW_DLC_SYMBOLIC_RELOCATIONS):

The relocatable start address of the range is specified by virt_addr, and the length of the address range is specified by code_len. The relocatable symbol to be used to relocate the start of the address range is specified by symbol_index, which is normally the index of the symbol in the Elf symbol table. The offset_from_end_symbol is ignored.

It returns an index to the given fde.

On error, it returns DW DLV NOCOUNT.

5.13.6 dwarf_add_frame_info()

The function dwarf_add_frame_fde() adds the FDE specified by fde to the list of FDEs for the object represented by the given dbq.

die specifies the DIE that represents the function whose frame information is specified by the given fde. If the MIPS/IRIX specific DW_AT_MIPS_fde attribute is not needed in .debug_info pass in 0 as the die argument.

cie specifies the index of the CIE that should be used to setup the initial conditions for the given frame. virt_addr represents the relocatable address at which the code for the given function begins, and sym_idx gives the index of the relocatable symbol to be used to relocate this address (virt_addr that is). code len specifies the size in bytes of the machine instructions for the given function.

offset_into_exception_tables specifies the offset into .MIPS.eh_region elf section where the exception tables for this function begins. exception_table_symbol gives the index of the relocatable symbol to be used to relocate this offset. These arguments are MIPS/IRIX specific, pass in 0

for other targets.

It returns an index to the given fde.

5.13.7 dwarf_fde_cfa_offset()

The function dwarf_fde_cfa_offset() appends a DW_CFA_offset operation to the FDE, specified by fde, being constructed. The first operand of the DW_CFA_offset operation is specified by regP. The register specified should not exceed 6 bits. The second operand of the DW CFA offset operation is specified by offset.

```
It returns the given fde on success.
```

It returns DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.13.8 dwarf_add_fde_inst()

The function dwarf_add_fde_inst() adds the operation specified by op to the FDE specified by fde. Up to two operands can be specified in vall, and vall. Based on the operand specified Libdwarf decides how many operands are meaningful for the operand. It also converts the operands to the appropriate datatypes (they are passed to dwarf_add_fde_inst as Dwarf_Unsigned).

It returns the given fde on success, and DW_DLV_BADADDR on error.

5.13.9 dwarf_insert_fde_inst_bytes()

The function dwarf_insert_fde_inst_bytes() inserts the byte array (pointed at by ibytes and of length len) of frame instructions into the fde fde. It is incompatible with dwarf_add_fde_inst(), do not use both functions on any given Dwarf_P_Debug. At present it may only be called once on a given fde. The len bytes ibytes may be constructed in any way, but the assumption is they were copied from an object file such as is returned by the libdwarf consumer function

dwarf_get_fde_instr_bytes().

It returns DW_DLV_OK on success, and DW_DLV_ERROR on error.

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A Producer Library Interface to DWARF

David Anderson

ABSTRACT

This document describes an interface to a library of functions to create DWARF debugging information entries and DWARF line number information. It does not make recommendations as to how the functions described in this document should be implemented nor does it suggest possible optimizations.

The document is oriented to creating DWARF version 2. Support for creating DWARF3 is intended but such support is not yet fully present. DWARF4 support is also intended.

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