

# Dynamic Linking

A **dynamic linker** is actually a special loader that loads external shared libraries into a running process

- ▶ Small piece of code, `stub`, used to locate the appropriate memory-resident library routine
- ▶ Only one copy in memory
- ▶ Don't have to re-link after a library update

```
1  if ( stub_is_executed ){  
2      if ( !routine_in_memory )  
3          load_routine_into_memory();  
4      stub_replaces_itself_with_routine();  
5      execute_routine();  
6  }
```