

ECE 471 – Embedded Systems

Lecture 29

Vince Weaver

`http://web.eece.maine.edu/~vweaver`

`vincent.weaver@maine.edu`

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Announcements

- HW#9 was posted
- News: Tesla had recall because firmware update caused power steering to fail when go over bump
- Midterm on Friday
- Don't forget projects. 23 groups.



HW#8 / Linux 1-wire note

- Why not use “temperature” file?
- Had to look in linux source code, w1_therm.c
- git log / git bisect
- Added May 11 2020, first appeared Linux 5.8
- Not even the main feature, as an afterthought
- Better fits the sysfs philosophy
- Any reason not to use it? What if kernel version too old...



HW#9 – Modular Code

- What is modular code?
- In C you can compile each C file into its own object file, link together at end
- Each C file can act as self-contained module
- Can make code-reuse easier, can treat like a library
- API defined in a header .h file



- Can be easier to follow code than in one huge program
- Easier when working in shared git repository



HW#9 – Converting Floating Point to Digits

- Re-use i2c display code from earlier homework
- Re-use temp code (either TMP36 or the 1-wire)
- Display the temperature on display
- Code coverage, Writing good testable code
- Converting a double to characters to print
 - Use `sprintf()`

```
char string[128];  
double temperature;  
sprintf(string, "%.1lf", temperature);  
/* Now string[0] has first digit, string[1] second, etc */
```



○ Use division/modulus

```
double temperature=23.4;  
int hundreds,tens,ones,remainder;
```

```
hundreds=temperature/100;  
remainder=temperature%100;  
tens=remainder/10;  
ones=remainder%10;
```



HW#9 Notes – Building Separate Files

- In previous homeworks we put everything in one C file
- This isn't really practical for large projects
- By splitting things up into smaller files you can have some benefits
 - Easier to organize/find code
 - Can re-use code easier
 - Less chance of merge conflicts when multiple people working on project
 - Can take common code and make libraries



- For example in the homework, we could put temperature read code into its own file with a `double get_temperature(void)` interface
- For other C files to see this, you need to export the definition. Usually this is done by putting the advance definition `double get_temperature(void);` in a `.h` header file and then including it in the other files
- Note: don't put full C functions in header files. I know this is a C++ thing but it's usually frowned upon when programming in C
- Each file does not need a `main()` function, you only



need one per combined program.

- To link the various .o files together involves the “linker”. However it’s easier to just let gcc do it (gcc knows how to run the linker for you) `gcc -o display_temp display.o temperature.o`
- The linker merges the .o files into one big executable, and makes sure the placeholders to functions/variables in all of the files get the right addresses/pointers to where things live in the finished executable.
- How do you make sure when you change one C file that everything that uses it is also rebuilt? A well-crafted



Makefile will have all these dependencies in place and will rebuild everything properly.

- Static vs Dynamic linking redux (we did discuss that earlier in the semester)



Midterm #2 Preview

- Booting on the Pi
 - What a bootloader does
 - Why Pi is unusual
- Real Time
 - Definitions
 - Is this hard, soft, firm
- i2c/SPI/1-wire
 - Know the tradeoffs between i2c, SPI, 1-wire
 - Be able to follow the C code for them



- Security
 - Buffer overrun, why it is bad
- Coding Practices
 - Be aware of the case studies we suggested
 - Know of some of the recommended ways to write safer C code



HW#6 Review

- What is a “safe” amount of overhead? 10% of max observed? Twice max observed?
- As saw when under load there might not be any guarantees
- Using real-time priorities helped a lot
- Why not let regular users be able to specify this?
- People handled hard/soft/firm realtime fine



Finished up the parts we didn't finish from Lecture 28

