
Subject: Re: linking problems

Posted by [mr_ped](#) on Thu, 31 May 2007 09:41:04 GMT

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.h and .c/.cpp (and some more extra extensions) are source files containing the source code from programmer.

Than there was in good old days of command line tools a Makefile file, which contained all rules how to compile the source code into final binary files. Upp handles rules in its own way, having all the things hard-wired do GCC or MSC compiler, with options scattered all over the place (Main package configuration, custom build steps, Setup Build methods, and so on...). Basically it's much less powerful than classic Makefile, but it saves you some hassle as long as you play along Upp rules. (i.e. x86 binaries for win/linux)

The process of compilation does produce .o files (object files, that is (already) binary form of program instructions, but it's not connected to other .o files yet (it's not linked).

And finally to get working product you need to link all .o files together into some .exe or .so (library), .dll (dynamically linked library), and so on...

During the linking you may add to final product already prepared (outside from current source compilation) .o files, libraries (usually .a or .so files, which are basically an archive of .o files).

And during execution of final product there may be dynamic libraries (.dll in windows and .so in linux) loaded and linked during runtime.

(check for example <http://www.ibm.com/developerworks/library/l-shobj/> for further description of differences between static and dynamic linking)

--- how does this relate to your problem ---

You want to use different library (open scene graph).

a) So you must include *.h files in your source to let know compiler about API of the library during compilation of .cpp sources into .o object files.

b) you must provide the .a / .so / .o / etc. i.e. binary library during linking so the compiler can produce final executable.

You must firstly know if you want to link statically or dynamically (shared) to that library. If the library does provide .so files, those are used in "shared" linking. And you must add the path to those files somewhere in the build process. It's either possible (I think) to configure Upp to add external library to linking process (but I don't know how to do it, maybe somebody else will give you exact example). Or you may import the library sources as new package into Upp, set it up properly to compile from source, and create the (open scene graph) .o files inside Upp together with creation of your own .o files. Than the Upp will link that listed package automagically.

So either find out how to add external library, or import the Open scene graph into new package in Upp, and make it compile successfully. (may be lot of fun if it depends on other libraries, which you will have to turn into packages too.)

For example of domesticated libraries check in Upp "All packages" in Select main package, and look in uppsrc for plugin\z, plugin\png, and so on.. All those are external libraries converted into native Upp packages. (and adding them to your Upp application is as simple as doing "Add package" to your own project package, including ".h" in your source, and calling the functions ... nothing more to do then)

I know it's a long post, and still doesn't nail the problem down for you, but at least you may get better insight how the things works inside. And maybe after some toying around with this info your will solve your problem too.
