

CoCoALib - Bug #1319

Problem rebuilding dependencies when file PREPROCESSOR_DEFNS.H does not exist

25 Sep 2019 15:11 - John Abbott

Status:	Closed	Start date:	25 Sep 2019
Priority:	Normal	Due date:	
Assignee:	John Abbott	% Done:	100%
Category:	Improving	Estimated time:	1.77 hour
Target version:	CoCoALib-0.99700	Spent time:	1.80 hour
Description			
I did something like the following, and ended with lots of error messages about PREPROCESSOR_DEFNS.H not existing. Changed version number (by editing configuration/version). Tried to make, but got error about "version has changed; run ./configure --again". Ran ./configure --again. Tried running make veryclean Got lots of error mesgs about PREPROCESOR_DEFNS.H not existing.			
Related issues:			
Related to CoCoA-5 - Support #1387: John's visit Feb 2020		Closed	07 Jan 2020

History

#1 - 25 Sep 2019 15:13 - John Abbott

- Category set to Improving
- Target version set to CoCoALib-0.99700

The error mesgs appear when the makefile tries to rebuild the dependencies.

#2 - 25 Sep 2019 15:29 - John Abbott

The point is that make veryclean also deletes (most of?) the files generated by configuration.

Something is evidently not quite right. Surely after make veryclean it should say that reconfiguration is needed?

#3 - 09 Jan 2020 14:46 - John Abbott

- Status changed from New to In Progress
- Assignee set to John Abbott
- % Done changed from 0 to 20

This is a bit tricky.

As far as I can see, make veryclean deletes include/CoCoA/PREPROCESSOR_DEFNS.H, but then tries to rebuild the dependencies (why?) in src/CoCoA-5/

Rebuilding the dependencies fails because PREPROCESSOR_DEFNS.H is needed...

#4 - 09 Jan 2020 14:56 - John Abbott

Here is what happened (I think):

- changed version number (CoCoALib and CoCoA-5)
- configure again
- start to build, but **interrupt** while Make_dependencies is being built (in src/CoCoA-5/)
- run make veryclean; but this triggered rebuilding of src/CoCoA-5/Make_dependencies

As far as I can see src/CoCoA-5/Make_dependencies exists and is empty... (as it should, but why the error?)

NOTE there were also errors about library.H non existing, but these are "(in)consequential".

#5 - 09 Jan 2020 20:57 - John Abbott

I think I have found out what the problem is: in some (all?) Makefile the dependencies file has a declared dependency on COCOA_ROOT/configuration/version, this automatically triggers regeneration of the dependency file.

I now think that this is incorrect design. I, myself, almost always compile from COCOA_ROOT, and the Makefile there explicitly checks if the version has changed, and prints out an error message (saying that one must re-configure).

Also running make in the COCOA_ROOT directory also **explicitly** checks that all dependency files are newer than autoconf.mk (and rebuilds them if not).

I think that removing the declared dependency of DEPEND_FILE on autoconf.mk should solve the problem (but have not yet tried this).

#6 - 14 Jan 2020 21:33 - John Abbott

- *Related to Support #1387: John's visit Feb 2020 added*

#7 - 14 Jan 2020 21:52 - John Abbott

- *% Done changed from 20 to 50*

I have just repeated the steps described in comment 4, and this time it worked as hoped.

I have a **doubt**: in the Makefiles the dependencies are rebuilt only if library.H is newer than the dependency file. Is this right? library.H should be generated/changed only when configure is run or when MakeUnifiedHeader.sh is run. Hmm, maybe this is reasonable after all.

#8 - 15 Jan 2020 22:15 - John Abbott

- *Status changed from In Progress to Feedback*

- *% Done changed from 50 to 90*

- *Estimated time set to 1.77 h*

It is probably best to regard this as resolved, and just test it as is. Perhaps it is not perfect, but I think the current arrangement is quite reasonable.

#9 - 11 Feb 2020 12:22 - John Abbott

- *Status changed from Feedback to Closed*

- *% Done changed from 90 to 100*