# CoCoALib - Support #1353

## configure script help

27 Oct 2019 21:13 - John Abbott

| Status: | Closed | | Start date: | 27 Oct 2019 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Priority: | Normal | | Due date: | |
| Assignee: | John Abbott | | % Done: | 100% |
| Category: | Documentation | | Estimated time: | 1.11 hour |
| Target version: | CoCoALib-0.99700 | | Spent time: | 1.05 hour |

**Description**

Bruns recently asked (by email) if configuring CoCoALib with **--no-boost** will work OK.

I believe CoCoALib does not depend on BOOST at all; it is needed only for the CoCoA-5 interpreter.

Check this; and perhaps modify the help for **configure** so that it is clear that the BOOST options are relevant only for CoCoA-5.

**Related issues:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Related to CoCoALib - Design #933: Separate configure scripts for CoCoALib an... | **In Progress** | **30 Sep 2016** |
| Related to CoCoALib - Feature #1360: configure script: add flags for "only co... | **Closed** | **01 Nov 2019** |
| Related to CoCoALib - Design #1413: configure script: MODE option obsolete? | **Closed** | **11 Feb 2020** |

---

**History**

**#1 - 27 Oct 2019 21:13 - John Abbott**

*- Related to Design #933: Separate configure scripts for CoCoALib and CoCoA-5 added*

**#2 - 27 Oct 2019 21:16 - John Abbott**

*- Status changed from New to In Progress*

*- % Done changed from 0 to 20*

I have just compiled CoCoALib with the option **--no-boost**, and everything worked fine (as I expected/hoped). Of course, CoCoA-5 did not build.

It may help to make a special section in the **configure** help message for options related just to CoCoA-5 (BOOST and readline).

**#3 - 28 Oct 2019 11:48 - Anna Maria Bigatti**

*- % Done changed from 20 to 30*

I think that --no-boost should be listed as a CoCoALib option, because it can compile without boost, instead of a CoCoA-5 option, because the latter cannot compile without boost, so that's non an option.

**#4 - 28 Oct 2019 12:31 - John Abbott**

Ahhh. I see your point.

For CoCoALib the option **--no-boost** does nothing (since CoCoALib does not use BOOST, I believe).
This does make me feel that separate configure scripts for CoCoALib and CoCoA-5 might make better sense; though it will be (very) slightly more work for us when we want to compile a new version of CoCoA-5.

The current arrangement is potentially confusing for people who just want CoCoALib.

**#5 - 29 Oct 2019 10:58 - Anna Maria Bigatti**

I have another suggestion:  add the flag **--only-lib** that does --no-boost --no-readline and does not compile cocoa5.
Configuration should be faster, and also compilation (with no attempt to compile cocoa5)


**#6 - 09 Jan 2020 13:29 - John Abbott**

*- Related to Feature #1360: configure script: add flags for "only cocoalib" or "both cocoalib and cocoa5" (for boost) added*


**#7 - 09 Jan 2020 13:32 - John Abbott**

*- Assignee set to John Abbott*

*- % Done changed from 30 to 90*

*- Estimated time set to 0.88 h*


I think that the *documentation* for the configure script is clear enough now; so am moving this issue to *feedback*.
The issue ([#1360](#1360)) about the names for the options is separate.


**#8 - 11 Feb 2020 12:41 - John Abbott**

*- Related to Design #1413: configure script: MODE option obsolete? added*


**#9 - 13 Feb 2020 11:06 - John Abbott**

*- Status changed from In Progress to Closed*

*- % Done changed from 90 to 100*

*- Estimated time changed from 0.88 h to 1.11 h*


Anna finds current --help doc acceptable.  Closing.

**NOTE** the help will almost certainly change when [#1360](#1360) is implemented!