CoCoA-5 - Bug #757

readline: fix script for finding libreadline

31 Jul 2015 16:43 - John Abbott

Status:	Closed		Start date:	31 Jul 2015
Priority:	Immediate		Due date:	
Assignee:	John Abbott		% Done:	100%
Category:	External Libs		Estimated time:	4.01 hours
Target version:	CoCoA-5.2.0 spring 2017		Spent time:	3.60 hours
Description				
The script for finding libreadline (and lines in configure) are broken. Fix them!				
Related issues:				
Related to CoCoALib - Design #933: Separate configure scripts for CoCoALib an...			**In Progress**	**30 Sep 2016**

History

#1 - 31 Jul 2015 16:45 - John Abbott

Default should be to look for readline automatically?

Anyway make it work properly, like the other extlibs!

#2 - 17 Feb 2016 11:31 - John Abbott

My first hasty attempt to deal with libreadline was to treat it like the other external libraries; now I have some doubts because readline is needed only by CoCoA-5, not by any part of CoCoALib, so it should not really be mixed up with the CoCoALib files....

What do you think?

#3 - 17 Feb 2016 11:32 - John Abbott

- Target version changed from CoCoA-5.1.3/4 Jan 2016 to CoCoA-5.2.0 spring 2017

#4 - 17 Feb 2016 11:39 - Anna Maria Bigatti

John Abbott wrote:

> My first hasty attempt to deal with libreadline was to treat it like the other external libraries; now I have some doubts because readline is needed only by CoCoA-5, not by any part of CoCoALib, so it should not really be mixed up with the CoCoALib files....
>
> What do you think?

true... but it might be easier to deal with it together with the other libraries...

#5 - 13 Jun 2016 19:25 - John Abbott

- Status changed from New to Resolved

- % Done changed from 0 to 50

I have hacked the various scripts, and now it works on my MacBook.

However, I have just re-read the earlier comments, and indeed it is rather poor style to mix options related to CoCoA-5 into the configuration for CoCoALib. After all, CoCoA-5 is "just" an application which uses CoCoALib...

Moreover, fixing the scripts made me notice that the readline library depends on another library: either ncurses or termcap. Both of these libraries seem to be quite low-level (and both are in /usr/lib on my MacBook).

I have adapted the script readline-check-cxx.sh so that it should pick a working (built-in) "termcap library" (or give error if no such built-in library was found). Hopefully this will allow people to use a non-installed readline library.

Perhaps I'll ask Anna to check if everything works for her; then maybe I can try to find a way to move the script into the CoCoA-5 part...

#6 - 13 Jun 2016 20:38 - John Abbott

I have modified the readline scripts so that they accept only absolute paths as input. Recall that there can be problems with relative paths which begin with a minus sign (and so look like an option). Double quotes are needed to help protect against the presence of other awkward characters.

#7 - 03 Oct 2016 14:11 - John Abbott

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

#8 - 03 Oct 2016 14:13 - John Abbott

- Status changed from Resolved to Feedback

- % Done changed from 50 to 90

This has been "resolved" for 4 months; moving it to "feedback". I expect the current scripts are not perfect, but they are probably sufficient for the vast majority of cases... I hope!

#9 - 13 Oct 2016 14:25 - John Abbott

Should there also be an option to say not to use readline even if it is present?
If so, what should the option be called? **--no-readline**?

It is hard to see how this might be useful for most people, but it could be handy for debugging; and I suppose it is possible that readline might be a nuisance in some contexts?

#10 - 14 Oct 2016 13:20 - John Abbott

The options relating to readline have inconsistent names:

- **--with-readline=**
- **--with-libreadline=**

The new option I added is called **--no-readline** for the time being.

What names should we use?

#11 - 02 Mar 2017 16:12 - Anna Maria Bigatti

- Status changed from Feedback to Closed

- % Done changed from 90 to 100

#12 - 28 Apr 2017 09:13 - Anna Maria Bigatti

- Estimated time set to 4.01 h