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Subject: Using DMC

Posted by [cbpporter](#) on Tue, 10 Mar 2009 10:35:08 GMT

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Hi!

As you might have heard, the latest release of Digital Mars D comes with full source code. While the army of self appointed license experts have already figured out that the license is not really open source, the code is still available and also available on MacOS, so my guess is that D adoption will start to pick up a little in some circles.

So I thought about giving D a second try. But the problem is DMC for compiling U++. As I sat there butchering U++ templates into something that DMC can compile, It was obvious that the code should compile and DMC is not that good with complicated template syntax, especially with inline friend scope resolution.

I was wondering if anybody ever tried to contact Walter on the state of DMC.

Or if anybody managed to compile at least a significant part of Core?

With such issues with the compiler, D adoption will forever remain for hobbyists, who don't really need to integrate existing C++ libraries, or if they do, they'll write their own. On the other hand, Qt bindings for D are starting to emerge. Last time I checked Qt, it did not favor that clever template tricks, so that might be the reason.

PS: While configuring TheIDE for DMC, I had dozens of crashes. Even leaving the builder field empty crashes.

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Subject: Re: Using DMC

Posted by [unodgs](#) on Tue, 10 Mar 2009 10:52:28 GMT

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Last time I tried to build core with DMC I had problem with compiling string class. I don't remeber the error now (something with templates). I follow D groups and C.beta and it seems development of dmc is suspended. I think Walter is now very focused on D only. That's a pity, as DMC is quite fast compiler. But you're right about letting him know it can't build U++ sources. I remeber Walter did regular patches to be able to compile boost library. Maybe only simple fixes are needed for upp.

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Subject: Re: Using DMC

Posted by [cbpporter](#) on Tue, 10 Mar 2009 11:07:45 GMT

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Yes, String has a lot of compilation issues. I had to turn things like:

```
friend ...() {}  
into:  
friend ...();  
//outside of the class, at the end of the file  
template <...>  
inline ...() {}
```

This is quite the hack and I don't know if it works in linked file. Also tchar from AString which is tchar from String0 or WString0 could not be found by the compiler. But after I fixed these and other such friends, I started getting hundreds of mangled names without any readable error message.

But I agree. Letting him know would be good. While with the current issues DMD has and Walter focusing on D, I doubt we will have a DMC capable of compiling U++ in any practical timespan, Walter fixing DMC would be quite useful not only for us, but for other projects. As you said, DMC is very fast, especially if you're testing something, and the only reason I would use D is for the compiler performance.

There is also another option. I think that D can load DLLs built with other compilers. But here we have U++'s issues with dlls.

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Subject: Re: Using DMC  
Posted by [Mindtraveller](#) on Sun, 15 Mar 2009 21:18:29 GMT  
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Excuse me for little offtopic. But the topic you are discussing I believe is important for many people who use U++.  
Is there any possibility to include DMC builder into SVN version of TheIDE? Yes, I know that DMC is not compiling U++ itself, but TheIDE is good development platform to be used for many applications w/o U++.

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Subject: Re: Using DMC  
Posted by [cbpporter](#) on Tue, 17 Mar 2009 09:30:49 GMT  
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I don't know if including a builder designed specially for a compiler that can't handle U++ is a good idea. On the other hand, including a generic build method that can handle DMC (and quite possibly other compilers), but with extra parameters that a user must provide and instructions on the site for setting up common compilers might be a good idea.

Until then, if you want to set it up yourself, you need to:

1. Download DMC and STLPort or use the CD if you have it
2. Create a new compile setting and add paths toward include and lib dirs
3. Choose GCC as a builder and set "dmc" as compiler name.
4. Modify GCC builder sources so that problematic parameters are not included in the command line (like -g3 for debug mode and another one for release mode). This part is certainly the most annoying part, but dmc will complain about wrong parameters, and the entire process including download and TheIDE recompile for builder shouldn't take more than 10 minutes.

PS: be prepared for a lot of TheIDE crashes. Every 5-10 builds, it will crash while using dmc, and also letting it give a lot of compilation errors will crash it again, so you should stop the build after the first few compilation errors.

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Subject: Re: Using DMC

Posted by [mirek](#) on Tue, 17 Mar 2009 09:41:32 GMT

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cbpporter wrote on Tue, 17 March 2009 05:30Mindtraveller wrote on Sun, 15 March 2009 23:18Excuse me for little offtopic. But the topic you are discussing I believe is important for many people who use U++.

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There is already "script builder", where you can use Esc to describe the build process.

Mirek

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