# SRC Modula-3
# Version 2.11

Bill Kalsow
Eric Muller

Systems Research Center
Digital Equipment Corporation
130 Lytton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301-1044

released: Jan 7, 1992
manual update: Jan 5, 1992

# Contents

# Chapter 1

# Introduction

This document describes SRC Modula-3 and the terms under which it is distributed.

The distribution contains a Modula-3 compiler and runtime, a set of libraries, a coverage analyzer, a Modula-3 pretty printer, and a small test suite of Modula-3 programs. The compiler generates C as intermediate code.

This release is known to work on a variety of machines (see the table on page 6). We have not tested the software in any other configurations. It may function correctly on other versions of Ultrix or on other machines.

The compiler and runtime system was designed and implemented by Bill Kalsow and Eric Muller. Neither of us view this as a finished product. Nonetheless, we thought others might like to use it. The system should be of interest to two camps: those interested in trying out Modula-3 and those interested in compiler hacking.

## Other Documents

The bibliography at the end of this document contains some references related to Modula-3.

The Modula-3 language is described in "Systems Programming with Modula-3" [14], edited by Greg Nelson and published by Prentice Hall. It should be available in book stores. Other chapters in this book describe the thread mechanism and readers and writers.

Sam Harbison wrote "Modula-3" [9] and "Safe Programming with Modula-3" [10], overviews of Modula-3 and "Modula-3" [11], a textbook for Modula-3.

To receive a SRC report on paper, contact:

SRC Report Distribution
Digital Equipment Corporation
130 Lytton Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301-1044

`src-report@src.dec.com`

## Acknowledgments

Many people contributed to SRC Modula-3, and we would like to thank them. Below is a partial list of the contributors.

We use the garbage collector developed by **Joel Bartlett** (DEC-WRL). It has been modified to support incremental and generational collection by **John DeTreville** (DEC-SRC).

**John Dillon** (DEC-SRC) provided the original C version of thread switching.

**Mark R. Brown** and **Greg Nelson** (DEC-SRC) designed the readers and writers interfaces.

**Jorge Stolfi** (DEC-SRC) and **Stephen Harrison** (DEC-WSE) were very patient alpha-testers. They gave us invaluable bug reports and also translated some DEC-SRC Modula-2+ modules to Modula-3.

**Jérôme Chailloux** (ILOG) developed the X interfaces while visiting DEC-SRC. We also had numerous discussions about the evolution of SRC Modula-3.

The "gatekeepers" (DEC-WRL), in particular **Paul Vixie**, helped with the distribution of SRC Modula-3.

**David Goldberg** (XEROX PARC) ported SRC Modula-3 to the SPARC machines.

**Ray Lischner** ported the system to the APOLLO machines.

**Richard Orgass** (IBM Rochester) and **Roger Hoover** (IBM) ported the system to the IBM machines.

**Piet van Oostrum** (Utrecht University) ported the system to the HP series 9000/300 computers running HP/UX 7.0.

**Pat Lashley** (KLA Instruments) contributed the lexer for `pps`.

**Régis Crelier** (ETH) designed and implemented the pickles modules while he was a summer intern at SRC.

**Mick Jordan** (DEC-SRC) provided challenging programs to compile.

**Norman Ramsey** (Princeton University) has pushed the system into obscure corners and found many bugs there.

**R.J. Stroud** and **Dick Snow** (University of Newcastle upon Tyne) provided the Encore Multimax port.

**Dave Nichols** (Xerox PARC) fixed and improved the pretty printer.

**Greg Nelson** and **Mark Manasse** (DEC-SRC) designed and implemented the Trestle window system.

**Sam Harbison** contributed the `FieldList` interface.

**Steven Pemberton** (CWI) wrote the `enquire` program and made it available to the community.

The vbtkit software has been designed and implemented by a large number of people at SRC: **Andrew Birrell**, **Ken Brooks**, **Marc H. Brown**, **Mark R. Brown**, **Pat Chan**, **Luca Cardelli**, **John DeTreville**, **Steve Glassman**, **Mark Manasse**, **Jim Meehan**, **Greg Nelson**, **Jorge Stolfi**, **Mary-Claire van Leunen**.

FormsVBT is due to **Jim Meehan** and **Marc H. Brown** (DEC-SRC).

**Peter Klein** (RWTH Aachen) contributed a tool to help convert Modula-2 to Modula-3 programs.

**James J. Walker** (GTE Laboratories) ported the system to the HPPA machines.

**Thomas Brupbacher** (ETH Zuerich) ported the system to the SUN386 machines.

**Dennis Brueni** (`brueni@csgrad.cs.vt.edu`) ported the system to the OKI machines.

**Dave Detlefs** (DEC SRC) wrote the Modula-3 mode for gnuemacs. **David Goldberg** (XEROC PARC) wrote the `m3tags` program.

Thanks also to all the people who used SRC Modula-3 and reported bugs.

The various ports would have been impossible without the work of a number of people, who kindly made their modifications available. However, most of the bugs you may find in these ports were introduced during the final integration of these modifications and we are to be blamed for them.

# Chapter 2

# License

SRC Modula-3 is distributed under the terms of this license:



NOTICE: There is also a commercial license. By signing and returning it, further rights to use and distribute SRC Modula-3 are granted. This license is in `doc/agreement.ps`.

# Chapter 3

# History

**Version 2.11** is the first public release of the FormsVBT window toolkit and the Zeus animation system.

**Version 2.10** includes a port to the HP/PA and tt SUN 386i architectures and many improvements to the IBM RS/6000 port.

**Version 2.0** implements the twelve language changes (i.e. generics, IEEE floating point interfaces, ...) that are included in [14]. Version stamp checking was moved into the m3 driver, which also supports -make mode and generates enough type declarations to make debugging tolerable. The compiler internals were rearranged and many bugs were removed. Better code is produced.

**Version 1.6** fixes many bugs that have been reported. It also introduces the SUN3, UMAX and ARM architectures. Some Unix interfaces have been added or modified (Usocket, Udir, Uexec, Uerror). The names in the Rd and Wr interfaces are now more coherent. The new Pkl interface allow input/output of binary data structures. The runtime has been rewritten to be mostly in Modula-3; this allows for clean interfaces to the runtime; some limitations have been removed (profiling; scheduling). The driver has been rewritten, so as to support shared libraries (on IBMR2, by default); the syntax of some options has changed.

**Version 1.5** supports five new architectures (AP300, AIX386, IBMR2, IBMRT and HP300). The driver has been modified to improve portability of user systems. The SRC Modula-3 libraries have been reorganized, and of course known bugs have been fixed. New demonstration programs and games are included.

**Version 1.4** is the second public release of SRC Modula-3. It uses the new features of version 1.3 and was alpha-tested by several SRC clients. This version added <*UNUSED*> and <*OBSOLETE*> pragmas, simplified coverage profiling by having the compiler directly generate the counters, reduced the number of #line directives in the generated C, added "map" procedures so that the garbage collector can efficiently locate global references, packed enumerations into smaller C types, and fixed several bugs.

**Version 1.3** is for internal use only. This version serves to snapshot the massive editing that has taken place since 1.2. This version fixed the variable renaming problems, made TEXT a REF ARRAY OF CHAR, converted the text implementation to Modula-3, passed nested procedures as closures, used C initialization where possible for constants and variables, added warning messages, and fixed many bugs.

**Version 1.2** Thanks to the new technology introduced in 1.1, porting the compiler to other machines is much easier. We have ported it to DECstation 3100 running Ultrix 3.1. A few bugs have been fixed. The driver processes the options `-D` and `-B` in a slightly different way.

The installation procedure is new, and we no longer furnish executables as the intermediate C files are present on the release. Because the intermediate C files vary according to the target machine, there are separate `tar` files for each of the supported machines. However, each distribution contains all of the sources; only the intermediate C files differ.

**Version 1.1** This version is for internal use only. The main difference with Version 1.0 is the use of RCS and the use of `imake` rather than the standard `make`.

**Version 1.0** This version is the first public release of the SRC Modula-3 system. It contains a Modula-3 compiler and runtime, a core library, a coverage analyzer, a dependency checker, a Modula-3 pretty printer, and a small test suite of Modula-3 programs. The compiler generates C as an intermediate code.

It is known to run on VAX Ultrix 3.1. We have not tested the software in any other configurations. The software may function correctly on other versions of Ultrix, and if recompiled, may even work on other machines.

# Chapter 4

# Installation

This chapter describes how to get and install the SRC Modula-3 system.

## 4.1 What is available

SRC Modula-3 is distributed via anonymous `ftp` from `gatekeeper.dec.com`. The distribution is in a set of compressed `tar` files in the directory named `pub/DEC/Modula-3/release`. The files are of the form *archive*-`2.11.tar.Z`.

The archives `boot.`*architecture* are used to build and install `m3make`, a driver and a compiler. These programs are built from intermediate C files that are architecture specific; you need to get the archive(s) corresponding to the architecture(s) on which you want to install SRC Modula-3. The supported *architecture*s are:

| *architecture* | Hardware | Operating system | Build disk (KB) | Build cpu (min) | Install (KB) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| AIX386 | | AIX/PS2 | | | |
| AP3000 | Apollo DN4500 | Domain/OS 10.2 | | | |
| ARM | Acorn R260 | RISC iX 1.21 | | | |
| DS3100 | DECstation 5000/200 | Ultrix 4.2 | 51569 | 23 | 7917 |
| HP300 | HP 9000/300 | HP-UX 7.0 | | | |
| HPPA | HP 700/800 | HP-UX 8.0 | | | |
| IBMR2 | IBM RISC System/6000 | AIX 3.1 | | | |
| IBMRT | IBM RT | IBM/4.3 (AOS 4.3) | | | |
| NEXT | NeXT | | | | |
| OKI | Okidata 7300 (i860) | AT&T SVR4.0 | | | |
| SPARC | Sparcstation-1 | SunOS 4.1.x | | | |
| SUN3 | Sun 3/? | SunOS ? | | | |
| SUN386 | Sun 386i | SunOS 4.0.1 | | | |
| UMAX | Encore Multimax | UMAX 4.3 (R4.1.1) | | | |
| VAX | VAX 8800 | Ultrix 4.2 | | | |

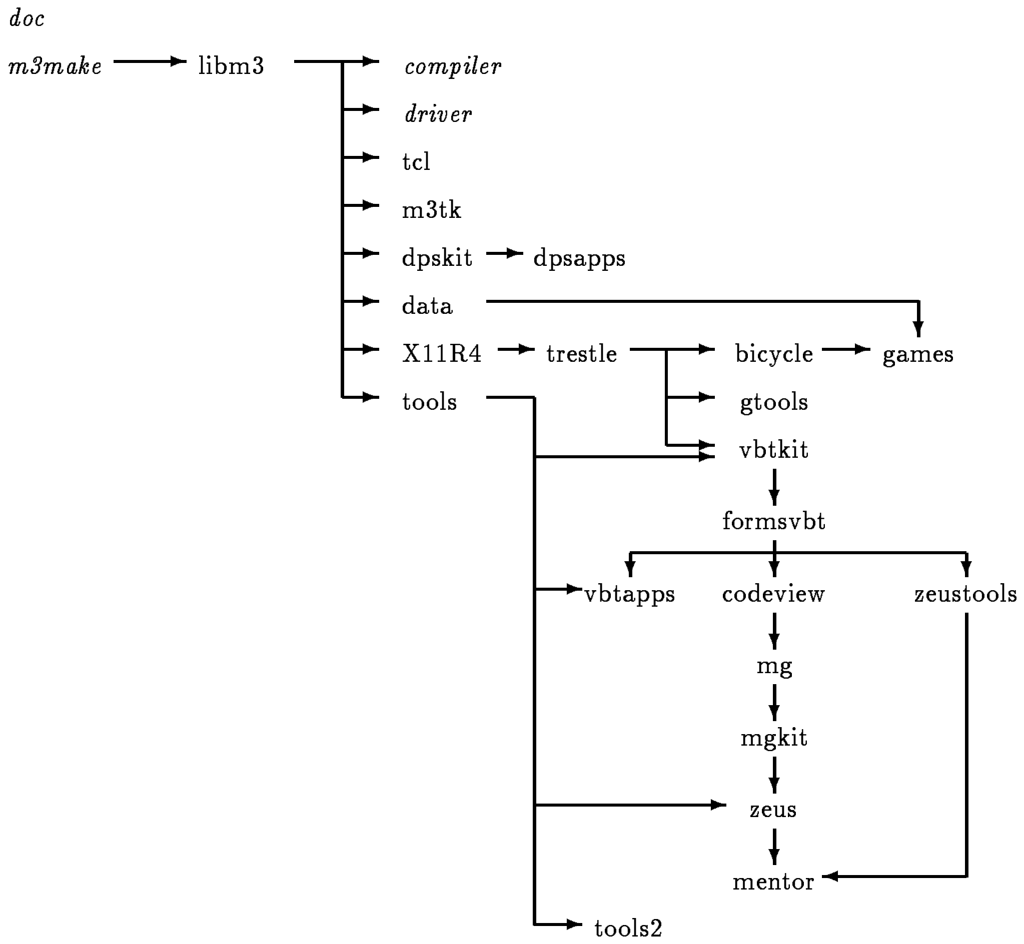
Each of these archives is about 4000 kilobytes. The column "Build" indicates the resources you need to build and install the programs: "disk" is the amount of disk space (in kilobytes), "cpu" is the amount of user and system cpu time (in minutes). The column "Install" indicates the amount of disk space that will be permanently used after the installation is done.

The other archives contain Modula-3 source files for various libraries and programs.

| File Name | File Size KB | Build disk KB | Build cpu min | Install KB | Sources KB | Contents |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| doc | 464 | | | | | the documentation for SRC Modula-3 |
| m3make | 79 | | | | | make for Modula-3 |
| libm3 | 1448 | 24751 | 19 | 7088 | 4870 | base library |
| compiler | 416 | 10102 | 20 | -1088 | 1461 | compiler sources |
| driver | 82 | 1849 | 3 | -905 | 239 | driver sources |
| X11R4 | 128 | 2542 | 3 | 977 | 434 | binding interfaces to the X11R4 libraries |
| trestle | 472 | 16517 | 21 | 5168 | 1332 | Trestle window system |
| data | 29 | 2604 | 4 | 857 | 159 | some generic container types |
| tools | 432 | 7893 | 3 | 3216 | 1121 | development tools |
| gtools | 2320 | 5400 | 1 | 0 | 5400 | graphic development tools |
| tcl | 696 | 1540 | 1 | 58 | 1399 | binding interface to Tcl |
| vbtkit | 656 | 17969 | 21 | 5448 | 1992 | More VBTs |
| formsvbt | 112 | 8960 | 6 | 1496 | 4802 | FormsVBT |
| vbtapps | 344 | 23193 | 4 | 10751 | 1110 | FormsVBT applications |
| codeview | 23 | 1065 | 2 | 367 | 78 | source code displays for zeus |
| mg | 85 | 3578 | 5 | 1166 | 257 | low-level animation tools |
| mgkit | 84 | 4100 | 6 | 1326 | 287 | higher-level animation tools |
| zeus | 88 | 3123 | 6 | 987 | 251 | algoirthm animation core |
| zeustools | 31 | 192 | 2 | 52 | 112 | preprocessing tools for animations |
| mentor | 328 | 9762 | 42 | 4 | 1017 | algorithm animation demos |
| bicycle | 46 | 1214 | 2 | 383 | 117 | bitmaps of cards for games |
| games | 86 | 33380 | 4 | 16133 | 295 | a few demo program |
| dpskit | 112 | 1 | 1 | 0 | -32643 | binding interfaces to Display PostScript |
| dpsapps | 12 | 4495 | 1 | 2209 | 41 | applications using Display PostScript |
| m3tk | 1000 | 38400 | 69 | 16 | 3770 | Modula-3 AST tool kit |
| tests | 424 | | | | | validation tests |

The column "File Size" is the size (in kilobytes) of the compressed tar file. The column "Build" indicates the resources you need to build and install these pieces of sources: "disk" is the amount of disk space (in kilobytes), "cpu" is the amount of user and system cpu time (in minutes). The column "Install" indicates the amount of disk space that will be permanently used after the installation is done and the sources are deleted. If you want to keep the sources around, you will need the additional space indicated in the "Sources" column. These time and sizes were measured on a DECstation 5000/240 running Ultrix 4.2; other architectures may have different requirements.

You need to build and install `libm3` to have a useful system, but all the other pieces are optional. Here is the dependency graph for the archives:




The `m3make` and `doc` archives are included in the `boot` archives so you don't need to install them explicitly.

The `compiler` and `driver` archives contain the Modula-3 sources while the `boot` archives contain the intermediate C code for those programs. Unless you want to look at the sources of these programs, you don't need to install the `compiler` and `driver` archives.

## 4.2 Getting SRC Modula-3

In the following, `$` is the shell prompt and `ftp>` is the `ftp` prompt. To get SRC Modula-3:

1. Make sure that you have enough disk space using the tables above.

2. Create a fresh directory for the software and go there. Path names below are relative to that directory, and it will be called the top-level directory:

   `$ mkdir` *top-level*
   `$ cd` *top-level*

3. Open an ftp connection with gatekeeper.dec.com [16.1.0.2]; give anonymous for the name and your login id for the password:

```
$ ftp gatekeeper.dec.com
Connected to gatekeeper.dec.com.
...
Name (gatekeeper.dec.com):  anonymous
Password (gatekeeper.dec.com:anonymous):  your name@your machine
...
```

4. Change to the proper directory:

```
ftp> cd pub/DEC/Modula-3/release
```

5. Set the transmission type to binary:

```
ftp> type binary
```

6. Get the distribution bootstrap:

```
ftp> get boot.architecture-2.11.tar.Z
```

7. Get libm3 along with any other Modula-3 sources that you want:

```
ftp> get libm3-2.11.tar.Z
ftp> get ...
```

8. Close the connection:

```
ftp> quit
```

## 4.3 Installation procedure

Once you have ftp'ed the archives, you need to do the following from the top-level directory to build and install the system:

1. Unpack the boot.*architecture* archive:

```
$ zcat boot.architecture-2.11.tar.Z | tar xpof -
$ rm boot.architecture-2.11.tar.Z
```

2. Using m3make/model-configs/*architecture* as a model, create a configuration file for your installation of SRC Modula-3 in m3make/*architecture*/config.

3. Make sure that the directory named on the "BIN_USE = " line in your config is on your search path.

4. Build and install the m3make system:

```
$ (cd m3make/architecture; make -f ../src/Makefile all install)
```

You may need to tell your shell that new executables (m3make) are present after the install step, using rehash, for example.

5. You may want to change chapter 7 of this document to describe your installation (see that chapter to know how to proceed).

6. Build and install the SRC Modula-3 driver and compiler:

   ```
   $ m3make -f m3makefile.boot all install
   ```

   This moves the driver, the compiler and some other files to the directories specified in your `config` file. Again, you may need to tell your shell that new executables (`m3`) are present, using `rehash`, for example.

7. At this point, you should have successfully installed the Modula-3 compiler and driver. To check, type

   ```
   $ m3 -\?
   ```

   The driver should list its configuration options.

8. You can now delete the bootstrap directories to conserve space:

   ```
   $ rm -f m3make driver compiler
   ```

   (Note: if you are doing a port, don't do that!)

9. Build and install the other libraries and tools. Now, you have a choice. You can install all of them at once (a) or install them one at a time by hand (b). Installing them all at once is easiest, but requires more disk space at its worst moment.

   (a) To install all of them at once, starting from the compressed tar files:

   ```
   $ m3make build_install.all
   ```

   After this is done, you can:

   ```
   $ m3make clean.all
   ```

   to remove all the derived files and keep only the sources, or you can:

   ```
   $ m3make delete.all
   ```

   to delete all the non-installed files.

   (b) To build and install the archive *archive*:

   `$ m3make build_install.`*archive*

   After this is done, you can:

   `$ m3make clean.`*archive*

   to remove all the derived files and keep only the sources, or you can:

   `$ m3make delete.`*archive*

   to delete all the files.

   If you select (b), you need to start with `libm3` and make sure that you build according to the dependency graph shown above. There is no need to rebuild and reinstall the `m3make`, `doc`, `driver` or `compiler` source archives (but you can do so if you want).

   Whether you choose option (a) or option (b), the libraries and tools will be built using the system installed in the previous step and should help detecting problems in the installation.

10. If you want to build the gnuemacs tags file for the public interfaces:

    ```
    $ m3make FTAGS
    ```

Later, you can upgrade any of the source components, including `m3make`, `doc`, the `driver` or the `compiler`, by building and installing the corresponding source archive; you should not need to remove the existing files then.

## 4.4 Running the tests

SRC Modula-3 includes a collection of test programs. While these programs are primarily intended to help the developers of SRC Modula-3, you may want to look at them or run them. The tests are available in the archive `tests`. If you're interested, see the `README` file at the top-level of that archive.

# Chapter 5

# How to use the system

This section describes each of the tools in the SRC Modula-3 distribution and how to use them. Briefly, the tools include a compiler, a linker, a pretty printer, and a line-based profiler. See also chapter 7 for tools and hints that are local to your installation.

## 5.1 Compiling

To compile a Modula-3 program, invoke `m3`(1). This driver is much in the style of `cc`(1); the output is an object file or an executable program, according to the options.

`m3` parses the command line and invokes the compiler and linker as required. `m3` tells the compiler where to seek imported interfaces and where to find the Modula-3 runtime library. Arguments ending in `.m3` or `.i3` are assumed to name Modula-3 source files to be compiled. Arguments ending in `.mo`, `.io` or `.o` are assumed to name object files, possibly created by other language processors, that are to be linked with the object files created by `m3`. Arguments ending in `.mc`, `.ic`, or `.c` are assumed to name C source files to be compiled. Arguments ending in `.ms`, `.is`, or `.s` are assumed to name assembly language files to be translated into object files by the assembler. Arguments starting with `-` specify compiler options. Other arguments are assumed to name library files, and are simply passed along to the linker.

The source for a module named `M` is normally in a file named `M.m3`. The source for an interface named `I` must be in a file named `I.i3`. The main program is the module that implements the interface `Main`.

There are options to compile without linking, stop compiling after producing C, emit debugger symbols, generate profiling hooks, retain intermediate files, override search paths, select non-standard executables for the various passes, and pass arguments to individual passes. For the full details, see the `m3`(1) man page.

In a source file, an occurrence of `IMPORT Mumble` causes the compiler to seek an interface named `Mumble`. The compiler will step through a sequence of directories looking for the file `Mumble.i3`. It will parse the first such file that it finds, which is expected to contain an interface named `Mumble`. If no file `Mumble.i3` exists, or if the parse fails, the compiler will generate an error. The particular sequence of directories to be searched is determined by the options passed to `m3`. See the `m3(1)` manual page for full details.

## 5.2 An example

Here's a simple program composed of a main module, an imported interface and its implementation.

In the file `Main.m3`:

```
MODULE Main;
IMPORT A;
BEGIN
  A.DoIt ();
END Main.
```

In the file `A.i3`:

```
INTERFACE A;
PROCEDURE DoIt ();
END A.
```

In the file `A.m3`:

```
MODULE A;
IMPORT Wr, Stdio;

PROCEDURE DoIt () =
   BEGIN
     Wr.PutText (Stdio.stdout, "Hello world.\n");
     Wr.Close (Stdio.stdout);
   END DoIt;

BEGIN
END A.
```

If SRC Modula-3 is installed correctly, the command

```
m3 -make -why -o hello Main.m3 A.m3 A.i3
```

will compile the three compilation units and link them with the standard libraries. The result will be left in the executable file named `hello`.

## 5.3 Makefiles

Once installed, SRC Modula-3 provides `m3make`, a slightly enhanced version of plain `make`. The primary benefit provided by `m3make` is that the operational description found in most `makefiles` is replaced by a more declarative one. The result is that `makefiles` are smaller, simpler, and more portable. You're not required to use `m3make`, but we believe you will like it.

The `m3makefile` for the example above would be:

```
implementation (Main)
module (A)
program (hello)
```

See the `m3make` manpage for full details.

## 5.4 Language restrictions

With a few exceptions, SRC Modula-3 implements the Modula-3 language as defined in "Systems Programming with Modula-3" ([14]).

## Arithmetic checking.

SRC Modula-3 does not generate any special checking for integer arithmetic overflow or underflow. You get whatever checking your C compiler gives you. We decided that the runtime checking was too expensive in a compiler that was constrained to produce C. Depending on your machine, the `FloatMode` interface may be used to control floating point exceptions.

## Packed types.

Packed types are restricted. `BITS n FOR T` is treated as `T` everywhere except when applied to a field in a record. In that case, the field is implemented by a *bitfield* of width `n` in a C `struct`. Otherwise, a Modula-3 field is implemented as a *member* of a C `struct`. Consequently, Modula-3 types that would require the C field to span word boundaries are not accepted by SRC Modula-3.

## Stack overflow checking.

SRC Modula-3 does not reliably detect thread stack overflows. Stacks are only checked for overflow on procedure entry. No checking is done on external procedures. Thread stacks are allocated in fixed size chunks. The required `Thread` interface has been augmented with the `SizedClosure` type to allow arbitrary sized stacks. The default size can be adjusted with `Thread.MinDefaultStackSize` and `Thread.IncDefaultStackSize`.

## Exception semantics.

SRC Modula-3 uses C's `setjmp/longjmp` mechanism to unwind the stack when raising an exception. A problem can occur: assignments may appear to be undone. For example, consider

```
TRY
  i := 3;
  P ();
EXCEPT E:
  j := i;
END;
```

where `P` raises exception `E`. The compiler generates a `setjmp` at the beginning of the try statement. If the C compiler allocates variable `i` to a register, the assignment of `3` may be lost during the `longjmp` and branch that gets to the handler.

## Method constants.

The language definition says that if `T` is an object type and `m` one of its methods, `T.m` denotes the procedure value that implements that method and that this value is a constant. In SRC Modula-3, `T.m` denotes the correct procedure constant, but since the compiler generates runtime code to locate the method, some uses of the constant that the `C` compiler must resolve at link time will cause `C` errors. For example,

```
CONST P = T.m;  BEGIN P (...) ...
```

will work, since no initialized `C` storage is allocated for `P`. But the following generates initialized storage and will fail

```
CONST X = ARRAY [0..2] OF Proc { T.m, ..};
```

Similarly, although Modula-3 allows it, the following cannot be evaluated at compile time

```
CONST X = (T.m = MyProcedure);
```

## 5.5 Pragmas

SRC Modula-3 recognizes the pragmas described below.

`<*EXTERNAL*>`

The pragma `<*EXTERNAL N:L*>` may precede an interface or a procedure or variable declaration in an interface. It asserts that the following entity is named "N" and implemented in language "L". If "N" is omitted, the external name is the Modula-3 name. The default and only recognized value for "L" is `C`. The ":" is only required when specifying "L". "N" and "L" may be Modula-3 identifiers or string literals.

The names of external procedures and variables are passed through to the C compiler unchanged. *The types of external variables, the types of formal parameters, the types of results, and the raises clauses of external procedures are all assumed to be correct and are not checked against their external implementation.* Standard calling conventions are used when calling external procedures.

Beginning an interface with `<*EXTERNAL*>` declares all of the procedures and variables in that interface external.

For example:

```
<*EXTERNAL*> INTERFACE OS;
VAR errno: INTEGER;
PROCEDURE exit (i: INTEGER);
END OS.
```

allows importers of `OS` to access the standard UNIX symbols `errno` and `exit` through the names `OS.errno` and `OS.exit` respectively.

Alternatively, the following interface provides access to the same two symbols, but uses a more conventional Modula-3 name for the procedure:

```
INTERFACE OS;
<*EXTERNAL errno:C *> VAR errno: INTEGER;
<*EXTERNAL exit:C  *> PROCEDURE Exit (i: INTEGER);
END OS.
```

If several variables are declared within a single `<*EXTERNAL*> VAR` declaration, they are all assumed to be external.

The external pragma may optionally specify a name different from the Modula-3 name. For example:

```
INTERFACE Xt;
  <*EXTERNAL "_XtCheckSubclassFlag" *>
  PROCEDURE CheckSubclassFlag (...);
  ...
```

defines a procedure named `Xt.CheckSubclassFlag` in Modula-3 and named `_XtCheckSubclassFlag` in the generated C.

### `<*INLINE*>`

The pragma `<*INLINE*>` may precede a procedure declaration. The pragma is allowed in interfaces and modules. SRC Modula-3 recognizes but ignores this pragma.

For example:

```
INTERFACE X;
<*INLINE*> PROCEDURE P (i: INTEGER);
<*INLINE*> PROCEDURE Q ();
END X.
```

declares `X.P` and `X.Q` to be inlined procedures.

### `<*ASSERT*>`

The pragma `<*ASSERT expr*>` may appear anywhere a statement may appear. It is a static error if "expr" is not of type `BOOLEAN`. At runtime "expr" is evaluated. It is a checked runtime error if the result is `FALSE`.

Assertion checking can be disabled with the `-a` compiler switch.

### `<*TRACE*>`

The pragma `<*TRACE expr*>` may appear at the end of any variable or formal declaration. This pragma will generate tracing calls whenever the declared variable is modified.

The "expr" must evaluate to a procedure of two arguments. The first argument is the name of the traced variable, a `TEXT`. The second argument is the traced variable. Note that any of the formal passing modes may be used with the second argument.

For example:

```
MODULE M;
VAR x: Foo <*TRACE MyTrace.FooChanged*>;
```

will cause

```
MyTrace.FooChanged ("M.x", x)
```

to be generated after each statement that modifies `x`. Variable aliasing is not tracked, so

```
WITH  alias = x DO  INC(alias) END
```

will not generate any tracing.

The pieces of Modula-3 grammar affected by `<*TRACE expr*>` are:

```
VariableDecl = IdList (":" Type & ":=" Expr) V_TRACE.
Formal       = [Mode] IdList (":" Type & ":=" ConstExpr) V_TRACE.
ForSt        = FOR Id V_TRACE ":=" Expr TO Expr [BY Expr] DO S END.
Handler      = QualId {"," QualId} ["(" Id V_TRACE ")"] "=>" S.
TCase        = Type {"," Type} ["(" Id V_TRACE ")"] "=>" S.
Binding      = Id V_TRACE "=" Expr.
V_TRACE      = [ "<*" TRACE  Expr "*>" ].
```

The pragma `<*TRACE stmt-list*>` may appear immediately after any `BEGIN`. The specified "stmt-list" will be inserted after each statement of the block started by the `BEGIN`. For example:

```
BEGIN <* TRACE  INC(cnt); MyTrace(cnt) *>
  i := j;
  j := i;
END;
```

will generate `INC(cnt); MyTrace(cnt)` after each of the assignment statements.

### <*FATAL*>

The pragma `<*FATAL id-list*>` may appear anywhere a declaration may appear. It asserts that the exceptions named in "id-list" may be raised, but unhandled in the containing scope. If they are, it's fatal and the program should crash. Effectively, the `<*FATAL*>` pragma disables a specific set of "potentially unhandled exception" warnings. If "id-list" is `ANY`, the pragma applies to all exceptions. The effects of the `<*FATAL*>` pragma are limited to its containing scope — they cannot be imported from interfaces.

For example:

```
EXCEPTION InternalError;
<*FATAL InternalError*>
```

at the top-level of a module `M` means that no warnings will be generated for procedures in `M` that raise but don't list `InternalError` in their `RAISES` clauses.

Similarly,

```
PROCEDURE X() RAISES {} =
BEGIN
  ...
  <*FATAL ANY*> BEGIN
     List.Walk (list, proc);
  END;
  ...
END X;
```

specifies that although `X` raises no exceptions and `List.Walk` may, no warnings should be generated.

### <*UNUSED*>

The pragma `<*UNUSED*>` may precede any declaration. It asserts that the entity in the following declaration is not used and no warnings should be generated.

For example, the procedures that implement the default methods for an object may not need all of the actual parameters:

```
PROCEDURE DefaultClose (<*UNUSED*> wr: Wr.T) =
   BEGIN (* do nothing *) END DefaultClose;
```

<*OBSOLETE*>

The pragma <*OBSOLETE*> may precede any declaration (e.g. <*OBSOLETE*> PROCEDURE P ();). A warning is emitted in any module that references an obsolete symbol. This feature is used to warn clients of an evolving interface that they are using features that will disappear in the future.

<*NOWARN*>

The pragma <*NOWARN*> may appear anywhere. It prevents warning messages from being issued for the line containing the pragma. It is probably better to use this pragma in a few places and enable all warnings with the -w1 switch than to ignore all warnings.

<*LINE*>

For the benefit of preprocessors that generate Modula-3 programs, the compiler recognizes a <*LINE ... *> pragma, in two forms:

```
<*LINE number filename *>
<*LINE number *>
```

where number is an integer literal and filename is a text literal. This pragma causes the compiler to believe, for purposes of error messages and debugging, that the line number of the following source line is number and that the current input file is filename. If filename is omitted, it is assumed to be unchanged. <*LINE ... *> may appear between any two Modula-3 tokens; it applies to the source line following the line on which it appears. Here's an example: <*LINE 32 "SourceLoc.nw" *>.

<*PRAGMA*>

The pragma <*PRAGMA id-list*> may appear anywhere. It notifies the compiler that pragmas beginning with the identifiers in "id-list" may occur in this compilation unit. Since the compiler is free to ignore any pragma, the real effect of <*PRAGMA*> is to tell the compiler that pragmas it doesn't implement are coming, but they shouldn't cause "unrecognized pragma" warnings.

## 5.6 Linking

SRC Modula-3 requires a special two-phase linker. You must link Modula-3 programs with m3.

The first phase of the linker checks that all version stamps are consistent, generates flat struct* declarations for all opaque and object types, and builds the initialization code from the collection of objects to be linked. The second phases calls ld to actually link the program.

The information needed by the first phase is generated by the compiler in files ending in .ix and .mx. Libraries containing Modula-3 code must be created using m3 -a. m3 will combine the .ix and .mx files for the objects in the library into a new file ending in .ax. The .ix, .mx, and .ax files must reside in the same directory as their corresponding .io, .mo and .a files. If m3 encounters a library without a .ax file, it assumes that the library contains no Modula-3 code.

For every symbol X.Z exported or imported by a module, the compiler generates a version stamp. These stamps are used to ensure that all modules linked into a single program agree on the type of X.Z. The linker will refuse to link programs with inconsistent version stamps.

## 5.7 Runtime arguments

Command line arguments given to Modula-3 programs are divided in two groups. Those that start with the characters `@M3` are reserved for the Modula-3 runtime and are accessible via the `RTParams` interface (we call those the *runtime parameters*). The others are accessible via the `Params`, `ParseParams`, and `RTArgs` interfaces (these are the *program arguments*).

The following runtime parameters are recognized today; others are simply ignored.

- `@M3nogc` turns the garbage collector off.
- `@M3showheap=`*name* activates the logging of heap allocation and garbage collection events. The program forks a process running the *name* program, and sends it these events as they occur. If =*name* is ommitted, the `showheap` program is forked (it is part of the `tools` archive); this program displays the status of the heap pages. See its man page for more details.
- `@M3showthread=`*name* activates the logging of thread switching events. The program forks a process running the *name* program, and sends it these events as they occur. If =*name* is ommitted, the `showthread` program is forked (it is part of the `tools` archive); this program displays the status of the various threads. See its man page for more details.
- `@M3noincremental` disables incremental garbage collection; uses stop-and-copy instead.
- `@M3nogenerational` disables generational garbage collection.
- `@M3novm` disables the use of VM protection by the garbage collector. Implies `@M3noincremental` and `@M3nogenerational`.
- `@M3paranoidgc` checks the heap for sanity after each collection.

## 5.8 Garbage Collection

A crucial fact for clients of the garbage collector to know is that *objects in the heap move*. If all references to a traced heap object are from other traced heap objects, the collector may move the referent. Hence, it is a bad idea to hash pointer values. References from the stack or untraced heap into the traced heap are never modified.

The new collector is, by default, incremental and generational. The interruptions of service should be very small, and the overall performance should be better than with the previous collectors.

The use of VM protection is currently implemented only for the DS3100 architecture. On other architectures, `@M3novm` is the default.

Note that the new optional background collection thread is not on by default; this may change in the future.

The procedures `RTHeap.DisableCollection` and `RTHeap.EnableCollection` are now marked as obsolete, although they still work; preferred new alternatives are described in the `RTHeap` interface.

When you debug a Modula-3 program, you might find it simplest to run it with the `@M3novm` switch. For example, if you use `gdb`, you can start your program with

```
(gdb) run MyProgram @M3novm
```

If you do not use the `@M3novm` flag, you must set `gdb` to ignore VM faults generated on the collector's behalf, by typing

```
(gdb) handle 11 noprint pass
```

And then, without `@M3novm`, you might not be able to examine the heap when the program stops, because the heap may be protected. You can turn off all current heap protection by telling gdb

```
(gdb) call RTHeap__FinishVM()
```

If you also want the collector not to use VM protection in the future (i.e., if you wish you'd typed `@M3novm` to start with), you can type

```
(gdb) call RTHeap__NoVM()
```

If your program is not run from the debugger, and it dumps core, the runtime automatically calls the equivalent of a `RTHeap.FinishVM()` to let you examine the heap in the core file.

Because of the use of VM protection by the collector, there are some additional constraints on what programs may legally do. For example, you cannot pass an address on the heap as an argument to `sigvec`(2). These restrictions are documented in `RTHeapDepC.c`. If they seem onerous, we might be able to eliminate some. Note also that `fork()` and `vfork()` are now relatively expensive operations, since they cause the current collection to finish; this situation may improve in a future release.

## 5.9 Debugging

Since an intermediate step of the Modula-3 compiler is to produce C code, you may use any debugger for which your C compiler can produce debugging information; in most cases, this means `dbx` or `gdb`.

However, this mechanism has limitations: the C compiler generates source-level information that relates the executable program to the intermediate C code, not to the Modula-3 source code. We attempted to reflect as much as possible of the source-level Modula-3 information into the intermediate C code. But there are still some shortcomings that you should know about.

### Names

Global names (i.e. top-level procedures, constants, types, variables, and exceptions) are prefixed by their module's name and two underscores. For example, in an interface or module named `X`, the C name of a top-level procedure `P` would be `X__P`. Note, there are two underscores between `X` and `P`.

Local names (e.g. of local variables and formal parameters) are preserved.

The compiler will issue a warning and append an underscore to any Modula-3 name that is a C reserved word.

### Types

Modula-3 is based on structural type equivalence, C is not. For this reason, the compiler maps all structurally equivalent Modula-3 types into a single C type. These C types have meaningless names like `_t1fc3a882`. The Modula-3 type names are equated to their corresponding C type. Unfortunately variables are declared with the C type names. So, if you ask your debugger "what is the type of v?", it will most likely answer, "`_t13e82b97`". But, if you ask "what is `_t13e82b97`?" it will most likely give you a useful type description.

The table 5.1 indicates the C types corresponding to Modula-3 types.

Despite the fact that the compiler turns all object references into `char*`, the linker generates useful type declarations. These declarations are available under the type's global name. For example, to print an object

| Modula-3 | C |
|---|---|
| enumeration | `unsigned char`, `unsigned short` or `unsigned int` depending on the number of elements in the enumeration. |
| `INTEGER` | `int` |
| subrange | `char`, `short` or `int`, possibly `unsigned`, depending on the base type of the subrange. Subranges of enumerations are implemented by the same type as the full enumeration. Subranges of `INTEGER` are implemented by the smallest type containing the range. For example, the type `[0..255]` is mapped to `unsigned char` and `[-1000..1000]` is mapped to `short`. |
| `REAL` | `float` |
| `LONGREAL` | `double` |
| `EXTENDED` | `double` |
| `ARRAY I OF T` | `struct { tT elts[n] }`, where `tT` is the C type of `T` and `n` is `NUMBER(I)`. |
| `ARRAY`$^n$ `OF T` | `struct { tT* elts; int size[`$n$`] }`, where `tT` is the C type of `T` and `elts` is a pointer to the first element of the array. |
| `RECORD ... END` | `struct{ ... }` with the same collection of fields as the original record. |
| `BITS n FOR T` | Usually `tT` where `tT` is the the C type of `T`. When `T` is an ordinal type and the packed type occurs within a record, it generates a C bit field. |
| `SET OF T` | `struct { int elts[n] }` where `n` is $\lceil$`NUMBER (T)/sizeof(int)`$\rceil$. |
| `REF T`<br>`UNTRACED REF T` | `tT*` where `tT` is the C type of `T`. |
| `OBJECT ... END` | `ADDRESS`, a `typedef` for `char*` or `void*` (depending on the system) defined in `M3Machine.h`. Each use of an object reference is cast into a pointer of the appropriate type at the point of use. |
| `PROCEDURE (): T` | Usually `tT *(proc)()` where `tT` is the C type of `T`. If `T` is a record or array, an extra `VAR` parameter is passed to the procedure which it uses to store the return result. |

Table 5.1: Type implementations

o of type `Wr.T`, type `print *(Wr__T)o`. Note that if o was really a subtype of `Wr.T`, say `TextWr.T`, then you must use `print *(TextWr__T)o` to see the additional fields. If the same type appears with two names in a program, the linker arbitrarily picks one.

To print the null terminated string in a variable of type `TEXT` (or `Text.T`) named `txt`, type `print *(char**)txt`.

If you don't know the type of a traced reference, you may be able to use the runtime information to discover it. Given a reference `r`, `print *(_refHeader*)(((char*)r)-4)` will print its typecode `x`, and `print *_types[x]` will print the corresponding typecell. A typecell includes a type's Modula-3 name as a C string (`typecell.name`). If the type doesn't have a Modula-3 name, its internal is the concatenation of "_t" and `typecell.selfID` in hex.

## File names and line numbers

Due to liberal use of the `#line` mechanism of C, the Modula-3 file names and line numbers are preserved. Your debugger should give you the right names and line numbers and display the correct Modula-3 source code (if it includes facilities to display source code).

Note that uses of the `<*LINE*>` pragma are propagated into the intermediate C code.

## Debugger quirks

Most debuggers have a few quirks. `dbx` is no exception. We've found that having a `.dbxinit` file in your home directory with the following contents prevents many surprises:

```
ignore SIGVTALRM
set $casesense = 1
```

The first line tells `dbx` to ignore virtual timer signals. They are used by the Modula-3 runtime to trigger thread preemptions. The second line tells `dbx` that your input is case sensitive.

## Procedures

Modula-3 procedures are mapped as closely as possible into C procedures. Two differences exist: "large" results and nested procedures.

First, procedures that return structured values (i.e. records, arrays or sets) take an extra parameter. The last parameter is a pointer to the memory that will receive the returned result. This parameter was necessary because some C compilers return structured results by momentarily copying them into global memory. The global memory scheme works fine until it's preempted by the Modula-3 thread scheduler.

Second, nested procedures are passed an extra parameter. The first parameter to a nested procedure is a pointer to the local variables of the enclosing block. To call a nested procedure from the debugger, pass the address of the enclosing procedure's local variable named `frame`.

When a nested procedure is passed as a parameter, the address of the corresponding C procedure and its extra parameter are packaged into a small closure record. The address of this record is actually passed. Any call through a formal procedure parameter first checks to see whether the parameter is a closure or not and then makes the appropriate call. Likewise, assignments of formal procedure parameters to variables perform runtime checks for closures.

`<*EXTERNAL*>` procedures have no extra parameters. *except if they return large results??*

### Threads

There is no support for debugging threads. That is, there is no mechanism to force the debugger to examine a thread other than the one currently executing. Usually you can get into another thread by setting a breakpoint that it will hit. There is no mechanism to run a single thread while keeping all others stopped.

If your debugger allows you to call procedures in a stopped program, as both `dbx` and `gdb` do, then `print Thread__DumpEverybody()` will produce a table listing the status of all threads.

## 5.10 Thread scheduling

This version of SRC Modula-3 has a more flexible scheduling algorithm than the previous versions. Here is a rough explanation of its behaviour.

All threads are kept in a circular list. This list is modified only when new threads are created or when threads exit; that is, the relative order of threads in this list is never modified.

When the scheduler comes into action, the list of threads is scanned starting with the thread following the one currently running, until a thread that can execute is found:

- if it was preempted by the scheduler, it can execute
- if it is waiting for a condition or a mutex that is still held, it cannot execute
- if it has blocked because of a call to `Time.Pause` (or a similar procedure), it can execute iff the timeout is now expired
- if it has blocked because of a call to `RTScheduler.IOSelect` (or a similar procedure), it can execute iff the timeout is now expired or a polling `select(2)` returns a non-zero value.

If such a thread is found, it becomes active.

If no thread can execute, and there are no threads blocked in a `Time.Pause` or a `RTScheduler.IOSelect`, a deadlock situation is detected and reported. Otherwise, a combination of the file descriptors sets (OR of all the file descriptors sets) and timeouts (MIN of all the timeouts) is formed, `select(2)` is called with those arguments and the whole process of searching for an executable thread is redone. This ensure that the Unix process does not consume CPU resources while waiting.

The scheduler is activated when the running thread tries to acquire a mutex which is locked, waits for a condition, calls `Time.Pause` (or a similar procedure) with a future time, calls `RTScheduler.IOSelect` (or a similar procedure) with a non-zero valued timeout and no files are ready at the time of the call, or the time allocated to the thread has expired (preemption).

Preemption is implemented using the Unix virtual interval timer. `RTScheduler.SetSwitchingInterval` can be used to change the interval between preemptions. SRC Modula-3 no longer uses the real time interval timer nor the profiling interval timer for thread scheduling; these are available to the program.

Because of the preemption implementation, Unix kernel calls will block the process (i.e. the Unix process sleeps even though some threads could run). However, `Time.Pause` and `RTScheduler.IOSelect` provide functional equivalents of `sigpause(2)` and `select(2)` that do not cause the process to block.

## 5.11 Profiling

In addition to the usual profiling tools (e.g. see `prof(1)`, `gprof(1)` and `pixie(1)`), SRC Modula-3 provides support for line-based profiling.

To enable collection of data during the execution of programs, give the `-Z` option to the `m3` command for the compilation of the modules you want to examine and also for the linking of the program. To interpret the result, run `analyze_coverage(1)`.

Note that because of the extensive data collection performed by this mode of profiling, the execution time of the program can be significantly larger when it is enabled; thus, simultaneous time profiling can produce erroneous results. For the same reason, the profiling data file is rather large; furthermore, as it is augmented by each execution of the program, you may want to compress it from time to time (see `analyze_coverage(1)` for more details).

## 5.12 Pretty printing

SRC Modula-3 includes a pretty-printer for Modula-3 programs. It is accessible as `m3pp`(1). Read its man page to find out how to use it.

## 5.13 Gnuemacs support

### 5.13.1 `modula-3-mode`

SRC Modula-3 comes with a mode for editing Modula-3 programs under `gnuemacs`. Here is a list of the key things this mode provides:

- Indenting/pretty-printing

  Modula-3 mode gives you access to two methods of formatting code, one "batch" and one "interactive." The batch method invokes the program `m3pp`, which takes a program unit such as a procedure and formats it completely. The `gnuemacs` commands that invoke `m3pp` are `M-x m3::pp-buffer` which pretty prints the current buffer, `M-x m3::pp-region` which pretty-prints the code between mark and point, and `M-x m3::pp-unit` which pretty-prints the "unit" containing the cursor. (A unit is a top-level construct such as `CONST`, `TYPE`, `VAR`, or `PROCEDURE`.) `m3::pp-buffer`, `m3::pp-region` and `m3::pp-unit` are bound to the keys `C-c b`, `C-c r` and `C-c u`, respectively.

  The other method of formatting text is a more traditional one for `gnuemacs`, in which there the language mode provides a key that indents the current line appropriately. In keeping with the convention used in modes for other languages such as Lisp and C, the key used is `TAB`. Typing `TAB` on a line indents the current line in a way that is (we hope) appropriate given the lines that precede it.

  The two formatting methods are not mutually exclusive; perhaps you like the way `m3pp` lines up columns in declarations, but you also like to keep things indented while you type. You can use the electric mode to get things close, then invoke `m3pp` when you're done.

- Avoidance of typing:

  Modula-3 mode offers some aid if you don't like typing a lot of uppercase keywords. The `TAB` actually serves double duty; it not only indents the current line, but when invoked at the end of a word, it attempts to complete the current word as a keyword. For example `b TAB` expands the `b` to `BEGIN`, provided the `b` appears in a context where `BEGIN` may be a valid keyword. There are some fairly extensive rules governing the contexts in which a given keyword is a valid completion; the net result is that it is seldom necessary to type more than one letter to get the correct completion. If you specify a non-unique prefix of a set of keywords, it chooses the first in an ordering intended to capture frequency of use; it also presents the other choices, and typing `TAB` repeatedly cycles through these choices.

A pair of related features are "`END`-completion" and "`END`-matching." If the elisp variable `m3::electric-end` is set to `'all`, completing the keyword `END` has the additional effect of finding the construct that the `END` completes. If that construct is a an interface, module, or procedure, it fills in the name of the completed construct after the `END`; otherwise, it inserts a comment containing the keyword of the completed construct. If `m3::electric-end` is `'proc-mod`, it only fills in real names, never keyword comments. Independently, a non-`nil` value of the elisp variable `m3::blink-end-matchers` causes completion of `END` to blink the cursor briefly at the beginning of the completed construct.

- Finding files.

  The key `C-c i` is bound to `m3::show-interface`, which expects the point to be in an interface name, and attempts to find that interface and display it in another window. (If you are using `epoch` and the value of `m3::show-file-new-screen` is `t`, which is the default, the interface will be displayed in a new `epoch` screen, that is, a top-level X window. If you use `m3-path` files, `m3::show-interface` will use those to provide a search path; otherwise, it uses a built-in list of directories. The default value of this list is the one used at SRC; other sites will probably need to modify this.

  The key `C-c m` is bound to `m3::show-implementation`. This attempts to find the module that implements the interface in the current buffer. This function relies on a SRC-specific convention where public interfaces are symbolic links to home directories for the packages that export them, which also contain the implementations. Obviously, this site-specific convention may not work outside of SRC, and `m3::show-implementation` may need to be re-implemented or abandoned.

To have the Modula-3 mode automatically invoked when visiting a Modula-3 source file, you should put in your `.emacs`:

```
(autoload 'modula-3-mode "modula3")
(setq auto-mode-alist
     (append '(("\\.ig$" . modula-3-mode)
               ("\\.mg$" . modula-3-mode)
               ("\\.i3$" . modula-3-mode)
               ("\\.m3$" . modula-3-mode))
               auto-mode-alist))
```

It is also convenient to have the lines:

```
(setq completion-ignored-extensions
   (append '(".mo" ".mx" ".mc" ".io" ".ix") completion-ignored-extensions))
```

so that you don't get the files with those extensions offered as possible completions.

Your system administrator may have inserted these lines in the default macro files for your system.

### 5.13.2 Tags

There is also a program to build tags file for Modula-3 programs: `m3tags`; see the manpage for the details. When the system is installed, a tag file for the public interfaces is built. To access it, you need in your `.emacs` (or in the system initialization file) the line:

```
(visit-tags-table "LIB_USE/FTAGS")
```

where `LIB_USE` is the place where the Modula-3 libraries have been installed.

## 5.14 Unix signals

On Unix the Modula-3 runtime catches three signals: `SIGSEGV`, `SIGBUS`, and `SIGVTALRM`. Otherwise, the runtime leaves the default Unix signal handlers unaltered.

`SIGSEGV` indicates a "segmentation violation" and is often signaled when a process dereferences `NIL`. The runtime catches `SIGSEGV`, prints an error message, and attempts to crash with a "core file".

`SIGBUS` indicates a "bus error" (pdp-11 days?) and is often signaled when the process accesses unmapped memory (usually a thread stack overflow). The runtime catches `SIGSEGV`, prints an error message, and attempts to crash with a "core file".

`SIGVTALRM` is the "virtual timer alarm". It is used to periodically preempt the running thread.

## 5.15 Keeping in touch

`comp.lang.modula3` is a Usenet newsgroup devoted to Modula-3. There you will find discussions on the language and how to use it, annoucements of releases (both of SRC Modula-3 and of other systems). Since not everybody has access to Usenet, we also maintain a relay mailing list, to which we resend the articles appearing in `comp.lang.modula3`. To be added to this list, send a message to `m3-request@src.dec.com`. You may post articles to `comp.lang.modula3` by sending them to `m3@src.dec.com`.

**Reporting bugs.** We prefer that you send bug reports to `m3-request@src.dec.com`. After we have reviewed your report, we may post an article in `comp.lang.modula3`, describing the bug and a workaround or a fix.

Needless to say, this implementation probably has many bugs. We are quite happy to receive bug reports. We can't promise to fix them, but we will try. When reporting a bug, please send us a short program that demonstrates the problem.

# Chapter 6

# The libraries

SRC Modula-3 includes a large set of libraries, described in this chapter. It is intended that the interfaces within the library be complete and self documenting.

The library `foo` is in the files `LIB/libfoo.a` and `LIB/libfoo.ax`, and the interfaces that are implemented by this library are in the directory `PUB`; `LIB` and `PUB` depend on your local configuration, see chapter 7 for the values of these parameters (by default, they are `/usr/local/lib/m3` and `/usr/local/include/m3`).

Normally, the `m3` driver knows the location of the public interfaces and archives. You just need to pass the `-lfoo` option to `m3` to link with the library `foo`. Also, the driver automatically links with the `m3` library.

The key to making Modula-3 successful requires designing, building and sharing libraries. You are encouraged to send us useful modules or programs and we will include them in the next release as contributed software. You can also announce the availability of your work on `comp.lang.modula3`.

Your system may have additional libraries; see chapter 7 or ask your system administrator.

## 6.1 The m3 library

The `m3` library contains some basic interfaces and modules. This library is always included when linking Modula-3 programs, and its interfaces are accessible using the default search path.

Conversion of representation:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Fmt` | Formatting to `Text.T` |
| `Scan` | Parsing from `Text.T` |
| `Convert` | Basic binary/ASCII conversion of numbers |
| `CConvert` | Low-level routines for floating-point conversion |

Input/output is achieved using readers and writers:

| | |
|---|---|
| Rd | Basic operations on readers |
| UnsafeRd | Faster version for non-concurrent access |
| RdClass | To implement new classes of readers |
| Wr | Basic operations on writers |
| UnsafeWr | Faster version for non-concurrent access |
| WrClass | To implement new classes of writers |
| TextRd | Readers that are connected to `Text.Ts` |
| TextWr | Writers that are connected to `Text.Ts` |
| Stdio | Readers and writers for standard files |
| FileStream | Readers and writers connected to named files |
| UFileRdWr | Readers and writers connected to file descriptors |
| NullRd | An empty reader |
| NullWr | A writer that absorbs bytes |
| UFileRd | Readers connected to Unix file descriptors |
| UFileWr | Writers connected to Unix file descriptors |
| FilterRd | A transparent filter |
| RdUtils | Convenience procedures scan readers and format errors |
| IOFailure | Lists the common exceptions raised by readers and writers |

Higher-level input/output:

| | |
|---|---|
| AutoFlushWr | buffered writers that flush automatically |
| MsgRd | Readers on streams of messages |
| MsgWr | Writers on streams of messages |
| SeekableRd | Seekable readers from unseekable ones |
| Pkl | reading and writing binary data structures |

Support for more complex parsing and printing:

| | |
|---|---|
| Formatter | Formatting of text, for example for pretty-printers |
| FWr | Writers with embedded formatting commands |
| FieldList | Awk-like field access to input |
| Lex | Simple string scanning |

There is also a very primitive equivalent of `stdio`, which is needed by the low-levels of the runtime: `SmallIO`.

Fingerprints (64 bits CRC's are built using polynomial arithmetic:

| | |
|---|---|
| FPrint | Compute the fingerprint of a `Text.T` |
| PolyBasis | support for `FPrint` |
| Poly | support for `FPrint` |

There is a set of interfaces to provide standard access to and operations on basic types: `Char`, `Boolean`, `Cardinal`, `Integer`, `Real`, `LongReal`, `Extended`, `Address`, `Refany`, `Root`, and `Cast`.

The m3 library has a few basic data structures, lists:

| | |
|---|---|
| List | Lists of `REFANYs` |
| GenList.[im]g | Generic list interface and implementation |
| RefanyList | Lists of `REFANYs` |
| TextList | Lists of `TEXTs` |

sets:

| | |
|---|---|
| IntegerSet | sets of INTEGERs |
| RefanySet | sets of REFANYs |
| TextSet | sets of TEXTs |

tables:

| | |
|---|---|
| IntTable | Tables that map INTEGERs to REFANYs |
| RefTable | Tables that map REFANYs to REFANYs |
| IntIntTbl | Tables that map INTEGERs to INTEGERs |
| IntRefTbl | Tables that map INTEGERs to REFANYs |
| IntTxtTbl | Tables that map INTEGERs to TEXTs |
| RefIntTbl | Tables that map REFANYs to INTEGERs |
| RefRefTbl | Tables that map REFANYs to REFANYs |
| RefTxtTbl | Tables that map REFANYs to TEXTs |
| TxtIntTbl | Tables that map TEXTs to INTEGERs |
| TxtRefTbl | Tables that map TEXTs to REFANYs |
| TxtTxtTbl | Tables that map TEXTs to TEXTs |
| IntegerToIntegerTable | obsolete — use IntIntTbl |
| IntegerToRefanyTable | obsolete — use IntRefTbl |
| IntegerToTextTable | obsolete — use IntTxtTbl |
| RefanyToIntegerTable | obsolete — use RefIntTbl |
| RefanyToRefanyTable | obsolete — use RefRefTbl |
| RefanyToTextTable | obsolete — use RefTxtTbl |
| TextToIntegerTable | obsolete — use TxtIntTbl |
| TextToRefanyTable | obsolete — use TxtRefTbl |
| TextToTextTable | obsolete — use TxtTxtTbl |

sorted tables:

| | |
|---|---|
| STable | Sorted tables, implemented by 2-3-4 trees |
| STableF | friends-only interface to sorted tables |
| SIntTable | STable applied to INTEGER |
| SIntTableF | friends-only interface to sorted integer tables |
| STextTable | STable applied to Text.T |
| STextTableF | friends-only interface to sorted text tables |

property lists:

| | |
|---|---|
| Property | simple, unmonitored property lists |
| PropertyV | property sets including NIL |
| PropertyF | friends-only |
| MProperty | monitored property lists |
| MPropertyF | friends-only |

symbolic expressions:

| | |
|---|---|
| Atom | unique texts |
| Sx | symbolic expressions |
| SxSymbol | "symbols" for symbolic expressions |
| SxSyntax | controls for reading and printing symbolic expressions |
| SxPrivate | friends-only private definitions |

There is a set of interfaces that give access to the ANSI-C libraries. This collection is under construction and provides only a subset of the ANSI required functionality.

| | |
|---|---|
| `M3toC` | support for Modula-3/C communication |
| `Ctypes` | C-like names for types |
| `Cstdarg` | obsolete |
| `Cstdlib` | `stdlib.h` |
| `Cstring` | `string.h` |
| `Cerrno` | `errno.h` |
| `Cstddef` | `stddef.h` |
| `Csetjmp` | `setjmp.h` |
| `Cstdio` | `stdio.h` |

There is a set of interfaces that give access to the runtime system. The `Rep` interfaces depend heavily on the runtime implementation; other interfaces are more likely to be present (at least, similar functionalities) in other systems.

| | |
|---|---|
| `RTException` | exception mechanism |
| `RTMath` | basic math functions |
| `RTScheduler` | low-level access to the thread scheduler |
| `RTType` | type manipulation |
| `RTProc` | procedure manipulation |
| `RTHeap` | heap allocation and garbage collection |
| `RTHeapRep` | additional control over the heap |
| `RTMisc` | miscellaneous support functions; runtime errors |
| `RTStack` | low-level thread stack allocation |
| `RTThread` | low-level thread switching |
| `RT0` | low-level types used throughout the runtime |
| `RT0u` | low-level variables initialized by the linker |
| `RTArgs` | low-level access to the command line and environment |
| `RTTypeFP` | type fingerprints |
| `RTMain` | main program control |
| `RTParams` | runtime parameters |
| `RTutils` | misc. runtime diagnostics |
| `RTHeapPolicy` | parameters to tune the allocator and collector |
| `RTWeakRef` | runtime support for `WeakRef` |
| `RTHeapComm` | showheap support |
| `RTHeapEvent` | showheap support |
| `RTLoader` | dynamic loading support |
| `RTSignal` | runtime signal handlers |

There is a set of interfaces giving access to the Unix system. These interfaces are machine-dependent, but we tried to use the same names in all versions to make programs easier to port. Thus, it should be no more difficult to port Modula-3 programs that use these interfaces than it is to port C programs.

In general, an interface regroups the definitions given by a system include file and the related functions. Eventually, all of sections 2 and 3 should be available. Currently, we have pieces of the following interfaces:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Utypes` | Declarations of types name (`sys/types.h`) |
| `Uerror` | Declarations of error codes (`errno.h`) |
| `Uipc` | Inter-process communication (`sys/ipc.h`) |
| `Umsg` | Inter-process messages (`sys/msg.h`) |
| `Unetdb` | Network database manipulation (`netdb.h`) |
| `Uprocess` | Process ids |
| `Uresource` | Resources utilization (`sys/resource.h`) |
| `Usem` | Semaphores (`sys/sem.h`) |
| `Ushm` | Shared memory (`sys/shm.h`) |
| `Usignal` | Signals (`signal.h`) |
| `Utime` | Time manipulation (`sys/time.h`) |
| `Uugid` | User and group ids |
| `Uutmp` | Login names (`utmp.h`) |
| `Upwd` | (`pwd.h`) |
| `Usocket` | (`socket.h`) |
| `Usyslog` | (`syslog.h`) |
| `Uuio` | (`uio.h`) |
| `Udir` | (`dir.h`) |
| `Uexec` | (`exec.h`) |
| `Ustat` | (`stat.h`) |
| `Uin` | (`in.h`) |
| `Umman` | memory management (`mman.h`) |
| `Unix` | Other functions (not yet organized in separate interfaces) |

Some geometric support:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Math` | sin, cos and friends |
| `Point` | 2-D integral points |
| `Interval` | Open integral intervals |
| `Axis` | horizontal and vertical axes |
| `Rect` | 2-D integral rectangles |
| `Transform` | 2-D transformations |
| `Stat` | simple statistics |
| `Region` | a set of integer lattice points |
| `Path` | a sequence of straight and curved line segments |
| `Trapezoid` | quadrilaterals with horizontal north and south edges |
| `PolyRegion` | a list of regions |
| `PathPrivate` | friends-only representation of paths |
| `RegionRep` | friends-only representation of regions |
| `Range` | simple support for computing `start+length` spans |

Support for manipulating colors:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Color` | color values as `REAL` triples |
| `ColorMatch` | nearest color match from a set |
| `ColorName` | mapping from color names to RGB triples |
| `ColorNameF` | friends-only cache of color names |
| `RGB` | Red-Green-Blue triple |
| `HSV` | Hue-Saturation- |
| `CIE` | 1931 Comission Internationale de l'Eclairage colors |
| `LDW` | a perceptual color model |
| `YPQ` | another perceptual color model |
| `IntRGB` | 10-bit, fixed-point RGB triples |
| `ByteRGB` | [0..255] RGB triples |
| `Intensity` | light intensities |
| `IntensityScale` | tables for scaling light intensities |
| `RGBCIE` | friends-only RGB ⇔ CIE mapping |
| `RGBDist` | distances between RGB values |
| `RGBIO` | I/O of RGB values as symbolic expressions |
| `RGBScale` | linear scaling of RGB values |
| `RGBSort` | sorting of RGB arrays |
| `RGBSortPrivate` | friends-only |

Interfaces to access and manipulate command line arguments and environment variables:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Env` | Simple access to environment variables |
| `Params` | Simple access to command line arguments |
| `ParseParams` | Parsing of UNIX-style command lines |
| `ParseShell` | Lower level support |

Interfaces to navigate through the file system:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Dir` | directory access |
| `Filename` | File names manipulation |
| `File` | simple file access |
| `Pathname` | pathname manipulation |
| `Bundle` | Access to embedded files |
| `BundleRep` | friends-only interface to embedded files |
| `Rsrc` | General resource locator |

Interfaces for manipulating times:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Time` | Time manipulation |
| `LongRealTime` | Times as `LONGREAL`s |
| `ETimer` | Elapsed time counters |

Interfaces to help build external performance monitoring tools like `showheap` and `showthreads`:

| | |
|---|---|
| `PerfTool` | start/stop control for external performance tools |
| `LowPerfTool` | start/stop control for low-level external perf. tools |
| `PerfComm.[im]g` | generic binding for performance tools |

Finally, various interfaces, including the mandatory ones.

| | |
|---|---|
| `Main` | Main program interface |
| `Text` | Character strings |
| `TextF` | Reveals to our friends what a `Text.T` is |
| `Thread` | Control of concurrency |
| `ThreadF` | Additional control for our friends |
| `ThreadComm` | binding layer for `showheap` |
| `ThreadEvent` | data passed to `showheap` |
| `Word` | Unsigned integer manipulation |
| `Random` | Random numbers |
| `RandomPerm` | Random permutations |
| `UID` | Generate unique identifiers |
| `Float.ig` | generic properties and functions of floating-point values |
| `RealFloat` | standard functions on `REAL` values |
| `LongFloat` | standard functions on `LONGREAL` values |
| `ExtendedFloat` | standard functions on `EXTENDED` values |
| `FloatMode` | control for arithmetic exceptions and rounding |
| `FPU` | hardware floating-point unit description |
| `SRCM3Path` | Modula-3 file name components |
| `CopyBytes` | safe!? interface to copy bytes |
| `M3Config` | Site-specific configuration data |
| `WeakRef` | weak references (i.e. don't prevent garbage collection) |

## 6.2 The data structures library

The library `m3data` provides generic data structures. The interfaces in that library are currently being designed and the implementations need more testing. Your comments are welcome.

First, a small collection of interfaces to be used as parameters to the generic modules below:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Int` | `INTEGER`s |
| `Reel` | `REAL`s |
| `Txt` | `TEXT`s |

In the interfaces that follow, *foo*`ADT`, is an interface that specifies the properties of all *foo*s and `foo` is an interface that provides a reasonable default implementation of a *foo*`ADT`.

generic sets:

| | |
|---|---|
| `SetADT.[im]g` | generic abstract set |
| `Set.[im]g` | a generic set |
| `IntSetADT` | an abstract set of `INTEGER`s |
| `IntSet` | a set of `INTEGER`s |
| `ReelSetADT` | an abstract set of `REAL`s |
| `ReelSet` | a set of `REAL`s |
| `TxtSetADT` | an abstract set of `TEXT`s |
| `TxtSet` | a set of `TEXT`s |

generic bags:

| | |
|---|---|
| `BagADT.[im]g` | generic abstract bag |
| `Bag.[im]g` | a generic bag |
| `IntBagADT` | an abstract bag of `INTEGER`s |
| `IntBag` | a bag of `INTEGER`s |
| `ReelBagADT` | an abstract Bag of `REAL`s |
| `ReelBag` | a bag of `REAL`s |
| `TxtBagADT` | an abstract Bag of `TEXT`s |
| `TxtBag` | a bag of `TEXT`s |

generic queues:

| | |
|---|---|
| `QueueADT.[im]g` | generic abstract queue |
| `Queue.[im]g` | a generic queue |
| `IntQueueADT` | an abstract queue of `INTEGER`s |
| `IntQueue` | a queue of `INTEGER`s |
| `ReelQueueADT` | an abstract Queue of `REAL`s |
| `ReelQueue` | a queue of `REAL`s |
| `TxtQueueADT` | an abstract Queue of `TEXT`s |
| `TxtQueue` | a queue of `TEXT`s |

generic priority queues:

| | |
|---|---|
| `PQueueADT.[im]g` | generic abstract priority queue |
| `PQueue.[im]g` | a generic priority queue |
| `IntPQueueADT` | an abstract priority queue of `INTEGER`s |
| `IntPQueue` | a priority queue of `INTEGER`s |
| `ReelPQueueADT` | an abstract Priority Queue of `REAL`s |
| `ReelPQueue` | a priority queue of `REAL`s |
| `TxtPQueueADT` | an abstract Priority Queue of `TEXT`s |
| `TxtPQueue` | a priority queue of `TEXT`s |

generic stacks:

| | |
|---|---|
| `StackADT.[im]g` | generic abstract stack |
| `Stack.[im]g` | a generic stack |
| `IntStackADT` | an abstract stack of `INTEGER`s |
| `IntStack` | a stack of `INTEGER`s |
| `ReelStackADT` | an abstract Stack of `REAL`s |
| `ReelStack` | a stack of `REAL`s |
| `TxtStackADT` | an abstract Stack of `TEXT`s |
| `TxtStack` | a stack of `TEXT`s |

## 6.3 The X11R4 library

The library `m3X11R4` contains binding interfaces for the X11R4 system. The interfaces are:

| | |
|---|---|
| `X` | Xlib-level functionalities |
| `Xt` | X Toolkit Intrinsics |
| `XtC` | X class types |
| `XtE` | X representation types |
| `XtN` | X resource names |
| `XtR` | X representation types |
| `Xrm` | X resources |
| `Xmu` | X misc. utilities |
| `Xct` | X compound text |
| `Xaw` | X Athena Widget set |
| `Xatom` | X atoms |

## 6.4 The Trestle library

The library `m3ui` contains the Trestle toolkit. It's a powerful set of tools for building windowing applications. A full description of Trestle can be found in the "Trestle Reference Manual" [12].

| | |
|---|---|
| `VBT` | the basic window abstraction: Virtual Bitmap Terminal |
| `Trestle` | top-level access to the window system |

interfaces to compose windows:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Split` | the general interface for splitting sub-windows |
| `ZSplit` | overlapping windows |
| `HVSplit` | tiled windows |
| `PackSplit` | multi-row packed windows |
| `TSplit` | one-at-a-time temporally separated windows |

interfaces to modify the painting or keyboard behavior of windows:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Filter` | a simple pass-thru VBT |
| `BorderedVBT` | windows with borders |
| `RigidVBT` | unstrechable windows |
| `HighlightVBT` | windows capable of displaying highlighted rectangles |
| `TranslateVBT` | windows that translate coordinate systems |
| `ButtonVBT` | windows that are sensitive to button presses |
| `QuickBtnVBT` | buttons activated on the down-stroke |
| `MenuBtnVBT` | buttons to be embedded in menus |
| `AnchorBtnVBT` | buttons that can be used to anchor pull-down menus |
| `StableVBT` | a filter with a preferred size |

Leaf VBTs:

| | |
|---|---|
| `TextVBT` | window that displays a text string |
| `TextureVBT` | window that displays a possibly colored texture |
| `HVBar` | an adjustable bar for use within `HVSplits` |
| `TypeInVBT` | one line, editable text strings |

Low-level, screen-independent window system resources:

| | |
|---|---|
| `PaintOp` | painting operations |
| `Cursor` | cursor shapes |
| `Pixmap` | rectangular arrays of pixels |
| `Font` | typefaces |
| `Palette` | a mechanism for combining screen-dependent functions |
| `ScreenType` | a homogeneous class of screens |
| `Gray` | gray-scale pixmaps |
| `TwoTone` | mixes black & white and color paint ops |
| `Latin1Key` | ISO-Latin-1 keyboard symbols |
| `KeyboardKey` | common keyboard symbols |

Lower-level, screen-dependent operations:

| | |
|---|---|
| `ScrnPaintOp` | painting operations |
| `ScrnCursor` | cursor shapes |
| `ScrnPixmap` | rectangular arrays of pixels |
| `ScrnFont` | typefaces |
| `ScrnColorMap` | color maps |

Interfaces and additional information to help build new VBT classes:

| | |
|---|---|
| `VBTClass` | the primary obligations of a class implementor |
| `VBTRep` | the internals of a `VBT` |
| `FilterClass` | information for subtypes of `FilterVBT` |
| `ProperSplit` | information for subtypes of non-filter (ie. split) classes |
| `BdrVBTClass` | information for subtypes of `BorderVBTs` |
| `BtnVBTClass` | information for subtypes of `ButtonVBTs` |
| `TextVBTClass` | information for subtypes of `TextVBTs` |

Interfaces that provide control of painting operations:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Batch` | a sequence of painting commands |
| `BatchUtil` | clipping and translation of batches |
| `PaintPrivate` | paint batches |

Miscellaneous window system goo:

| | |
|---|---|
| `VBTTuning` | performance adjustment knobs |
| `TrestleComm` | failure exceptions |

other low-level stuff:

| | |
|---|---|
| `BatchRep` | friends-only representation of batches |
| `DpyFilter` | a filter class to catch re-screen events |
| `ETAgent` | a low-level filter that redirects window I/O methods |
| `MiscDetail` | a weakref-like facility to encode `REFs` as `INTEGERs` |
| `MouseSplit` | mouse click delivery for splits |
| `PlttFrnds` | friends-only representation of palettes |
| `TrestleClass` | friends-only interface for Trestle bindings |
| `TrestleOnX` | low-level Trestle binding to X |
| `TrestleImpl` | low-level interface to set the default binding |

## 6.5 The vbtkit library

The library `vbtkit` adds another layer of window building tools.

Feedback VBTs provide visual feedback based on the "state" of their children:

| | |
|---|---|
| `Feedback` | a multi-filter with visual feedback for the child |
| `FeedbackClass` | the methods needed to build a Feedback |
| `FeedbackVBT` | a no-op Feedback VBT |
| `BiFeedbackVBT` | for composing feedback VBTs |
| `MarginFeedbackVBT` | displays a left margin as a visual feedback |
| `BorderedFeedbackVBT` | displays a border as visual feedback |
| `ShadowedFeedbackVBT` | displays a shadow as visual feedback |

Filters that modify their children's painting or keyboard response:

| | |
|---|---|
| `ChoiceVBT` | a multi-filter used to build radio-buttons |
| `ClipboardVBT` | a filter taht stores a text |
| `FlexVBT` | VBTs with a natural size, strech and shrink (ala TeX) |
| `GuardedBtnVBT` | a `ButtonVBT` that requires double-clicks |
| `ReactivityVBT` | makes its child active, passive, dormant or invisible |
| `Scale` | uses `ScaleFilter` to keep its window filled |
| `ScaleFilter` | scales the child's apparent resolution |
| `ShadowedVBT` | surrounds its child with a shadow |
| `SwitchVBT` | a VBTkit-style button |
| `ViewportVBT` | a multi-filter that displays multiple views of its child |
| `ZBackgroundVBT` | a filter to put around the background of a `ZSplit` |
| `ZChassisVBT` | a multi-filter that provides a "chassis" for `ZSplit` child |
| `ZChildVBT` | a typical child of a `ZSplit` |
| `ZGrowVBT` | a switch that lifts and reshapes its nearest `ZChildVBT` |
| `ZMoveVBT` | a switch that moves its nearest `ZChildVBT` |

Splits that compose several children:

| | |
|---|---|
| `AnchorSplit` | a multi-split version of `AnchorBtnVBT` |
| `JoinVBT` | allows multiple parents to share a child |
| `ListVBT` | displays a vertical list of children |
| `Multi` | a split class that supports "logical" children |
| `MultiClass` | methods needed to build a `Multi` |
| `Radio` | a split that provides mutual exclusion on set of VBTs |
| `SplitterVBT` | rows of children with separating bars |
| `VBTAlbum` | a photo album of snapshot VBTs |
| `ZTilps` | a multi-split like `ZSplit` |

Other useful leaf VBT classes:

| | |
|---|---|
| `BooleanVBT` | an on-off interactor |
| `DragSwitchVBT` | a switch version of a `DragBtnVBT` |
| `FileBrowserVBT` | displays the files of a directory |
| `MenuSwitchVBT` | a switch version of `MenuBtnVBT` |
| `NumericScrollerVBT` | a scroller with a bounded integer range |
| `NumericVBT` | displays an editable, bounded integer |
| `PixmapVBT` | displays a fixed pixmap |
| `QuickSwitchVBT` | a switch version of a `QuickBtnVBT` |
| `ScrollerVBT` | vertical and horizontal scroll bars |
| `ShadowedBarVBT` | 3-D rectangles |
| `SourceVBT` | a button that looks for marked "targets" |
| `TextEditVBT` | a scrollable, editable text window |
| `TextPort` | an editable text window |
| `TrillSwitchVBT` | a switch that generates repeated events |
| `TypescriptVBT` | a "glass teletype" window |

miscellaneous other stuff:

| | |
|---|---|
| `AnyEvent` | a holder for any of the Trestle event-time events |
| `AutoRepeat` | a timer for repetitively calling a procedure |
| `CursorFromAscii` | converts an ASCII representation to a `Cursor.T` |
| `EditCmd` | the low-level key bindings used by `TextPort` |
| `FlexShape` | flexible sizes used by `FlexVBT` |
| `Image` | a screen-independent, colored pixmap |
| `Key` | common non-graphic keys |
| `KeyTrans` | mapping from keyboard keys to ASCII characters |
| `MText` | a mutable sequence of characters |
| `MTextDebug` | utilities for debugging `MTexts` |
| `MTextRd` | a reader on an `MText` |
| `MTextUnit` | internals of an MText |
| `PaintOpCache` | a cache of recently created paint-ops |
| `PixmapFromAscii` | converts an ASCII representation to a `Pixmap.T` |
| `Pts` | utilities to convert between pixels and points |
| `Shadow` | Motif-like 3-D-like shadows |
| `TextPortPrivate` | common definitions for the text editing windows |
| `UnixUtils` | temporary - utilities to access a Unix file system |
| `VBTColors` | associates foreground and background colors with a `VBT` |
| `VBTSnap` | captures a screen dependent pixmap "snapshot" of window |
| `VTDef` | low-level definitions used by `VText` |
| `VText` | a visible, mutable, multi-line text |
| `VTextDef` | more low-level stuff for use by `VText` |
| `XParam` | handles X's `display` and `geometry` parameters |
| `XTrestle` | installs a top-level window using X-style positioning args |
| `ZSplitUtils` | utility procedures for manipulating `ZSplits` |

## 6.6 The FormsVBT library

The library `formsvbt` provides a high-level system for describing and building user interfaces. A full description of FormsVBT can be found in "The FormsVBT Reference Manual" [5].

| | |
|---|---|
| `FormsVBT` | the primary interface to the UI builder |
| `FormsCache` | an in-memory cache of forms |
| `FVTypes` | basic types used by `FormsVBT` |
| `FVRuntime` | a private interface to the `FormsVBT` runtime |
| `Manpage` | the `FormsVBT` man page? |

## 6.7 The codeview library

| | |
|---|---|
| `CodeView` | animated source code views |
| `DataView` | animated variable views |

## 6.8 The mg library

| | |
|---|---|
| `Animate` | |
| `MGPublic` | convenience routines for manipulating `MG` elements |
| `Appearances` | |
| `CirclePixmap` | builds `Pixmaps` of circles and ovals |
| `CirclePixmapCache` | a cache of `CirclePixmaps` |
| `Fuzzy` | interval arithmetic |
| `MG` | |
| `MGPaintOp` | `PaintOp.Ts` with animated colors |
| `MGV` | |
| `Matrix2D` | |
| `R2` | |
| `R2Box` | |
| `RealPath` | |
| `ShapePixmap` | |
| `ShapeUtils` | |
| `TypeSelector.[im]g` | |
| `TypeSelector.[im]g` | |

## 6.9 The mgkit library

`ChipsVBT`
`RectsVBT`
`LinearArray`
`LinearArraySelector`
`IntArrayView`
`BinaryTree`
`GenericSubTree`
`GenericSubTreeSelector`
`GenericTree`
`RadialTree`
`GraphVBTExtras`
`GraphVBT`
`AnimationPath`
`Grid`
`MGRd`

## 6.10 The zeus library

```
Algorithm
AlgorithmClass
View
ViewClass
Zeus
ZeusClass
ZeusCodeView
ZeusDataView
ZeusPanel
ZeusUtil
```

## 6.11 The bicycle library

Bitmap images of playing cards:

```
Card
PixmapFromXData
```

## 6.12 The dpskit library

Access to the display PostScript extensions of an X-server:

```
DPS
DisplayList
DisplayListStack
DPSWindow
ButtonDLE
DragButtonDLE
PopupButtonDLE
PopupMenuDLE
SlideLineDLE
PagerDLE
OneSlideDLE
SlideXDLE
WarpDLE
TranslateDLE
TextLineDLE
SimpleTextDLE
VContainerDLE
HContainerDLE
DLWindow
ScaledDLWindow
Fifo
Linked2Tree
Unique
Pile
```

## 6.13 The TclTk library

`Tcl` is an embeddable tool command language. `Tk` is an X11 toolkit based on the `Tcl` language. Both have been developed by John Ousterhout at UC Berkeley.

For an introduction to Tcl and Tk you may wish to read two papers: "Tcl: An Embeddable Command Language", in the Proceedings of the 1990 Winter USENIX Conference, and "An X11 Toolkit Based on the Tcl Language", in the Proceedings of the 1991 Winter USENIX Conference.

The library `TclTk` gives access to the `Tcl` and `Tk` libraries from Modula-3 programs, via the interfaces `TclC` and `TkC` respectively.

# Chapter 7

# Local Guide

This chapter describes how SRC Modula-3 is installed at SRC, how to use it and how to contribute to it.

## 7.1 Your Environment

Find a DECstation (Pmax or 3max). Modula-3 runs on Vaxen, but almost nobody bothers. Modula-3 doesn't run on Alphas, yet.

Before you work in Modula-3, login and make sure that your home directory contains the files listed below. It's important that you have these files in at least minimal working order. Beware! Getting everything perfect can be a *huge* time sink.

`.xsession` Your `.xsession` file is run first, it selects your window manager and gets your X server initialized. After the comments, around line 38, there's a line that looks like:

```
set WINMGR = "tvtwm"
```

The window managers that are allowed are `tvtwm`, `dxwm`, and `mwm`. Today most people are using `tvtwm`. Most window managers can be configured with a `rc` file. I have a file named `.tvtwmrc` that `tvtwm` reads during startup. I don't know exactly what the file does, nor what it could do. I suggest you copy a version of the file from a friend and read the `tvtwm` man page.

`.login` Your `.login` file should begin by reading the system-defined `.login` file using the shell command:

```
source /proj/local/lib/system.login
```

This command will work on all our machines (Fireflies, VAX mainframes, DECstations). The file it refers to figures out what kind of machine you are running on and sets your basic environment accordingly. In particular, the programs `m3`, `m3pp`, `m3make` and their man pages should be on your search paths.

Put your personal customizations after the `source` command given above.

`.cshrc` Similarly, your `.cshrc` file should begin with the line

```
source /proj/mips/lib/system.cshrc
```

and conclude with your personal customizations.

`.X11Startup` Your `.X11Startup` file is used to start a set of X applications each time you login. My `.X11Startup` contains:

```
xmodmap /udir/kalsow/.xmodmaprc
xload  -geometry 130x70-0+135 &
xclock -geometry 130x130-0+0 &
xterm  -iconic -geometry "80x55" &
xterm  -iconic -geometry "80x55" &
xmh    -iconic -geometry "685x750" &
xrn    -iconic -geometry "685x750" &
```

`xmodmap` is a program that can redefine the mapping of your keyboard. My `.xmodmaprc` file fixes the brain damaged DECstation keyboard so that the escape key is in the right place and the shift lock is disabled. If you do nothing, the mystery key labelled "F11" is your escape key. Here's my `.xmodmaprc` file:

```
!
! Caps_Lock -> Control
! F1        -> Caps_Lock
!
remove Lock      = Caps_Lock
keysym F1        = Caps_Lock
keysym Caps_Lock = Control_R
add Lock         = Caps_Lock
add Control      = Control_R

!
! key cap      character   (first unshifted, second shifted)
!
!    , ,          ,   <
!    . .          ,   >
!    < >          ‘   ~
!    ‘ ~          ESC ESC
!
keysym less      = quoteleft asciitilde
keysym comma     = comma     less
keysym period    = period    greater
keysym quoteleft = Escape    Escape
```

I also start a program that displays my system's load average – `xload`, a clock, a few X terminals, my mail reader – `xmh`, and my news reader – `xrn`.

`.Xdefaults` Your `.Xdefaults` file defines some of the ten bazillion options that make X applications so much fun. My advice is to steal a copy from someone who's screen looks OK. When you're really bored, diddle with your `.Xdefaults`. (You need to login again or run `xdb` to reload your `.Xdefaults` file.)

## 7.2 Editing

Several people at SRC have spent some time doing various things to try to make Modula-3 programming in `gnuemacs` and `epoch` more pleasant and productive.

Our editing czar says, "use epoch". Epoch is a version of gnuemacs that's been feature-ified to fit better with X; it is very similar to gnuemacs and can even share the same elisp code. As always, you should probably read its man page.

You'll need a .emacs file to hold your personal configuration. At SRC, you should copy this from /proj/generic/lib/_emacs and uncomment lines that enable features you want to use; outside of SRC, the best way to get started is probably to copy a .emacs from someone you trust.

/proj/m3/pkg/gnuemacs/src/modula3.e is an elisp package that defines modula-3-mode, an emacs "major mode" for editing Modula-3 source code. It provides mechanisms for formatting code and for quickly uppercasing and prefix-completing keywords.

*INSERT how to use Steve Glassman's "mpindex".*

### to do (i.e. Dave Detlefs' wish list)

- Identifier completion. Dave has an experimental m3-complete-identifier command, that constructs the complete list of identifiers declared in the current file, and then uses the current word as a prefix to pick out a set of possibilites. It is buggy, and too slow to use on even medium-sized files. He may try to make it robust, fast enough, and more ambitious: completing record field names or second parts of qualified names, etc.

- Epoch display of the call stack in debugging. It would be kind of neat if, while debugging, the buffers on the source files for the call stack appeared as some sort of stack of windows.

## 7.3 Compiling

You should use m3make. The best advice for beginners is to copy an existing package that's similar to the one you want to create. You'll probably find the following files:

```
./README           - a top-level description created by m3create
./src/m3makefile   - the input to m3make
./src/*.[im][3g]   - the Modula-3 sources of the program
./mips/*.[im][ox] - the compiled objects for a DECstation
./vax/*            - the compiled objects for a VAX
```

There's a man page for m3make, at some point you should read it.

You can use epoch's compile command to run m3make and then use the next-error facitility to quickly move to the source lines containing errors.

The standard epoch M-x compile command will work with Modula-3 and m3make. Invoke this command in a buffer whose current directory is the one containing your derived files (i.e. if your cursor is in a source file then first visit ../mips). When you invoke this command, it presents the current compile command in the minibuffer for your approval. The first time you run this, the command will be make -k. If you modify this to m3make, that will become the new current command on subsequent makes. The results of the m3make will be displayed in a buffer called *compilation*.

When a compile is finished, next-error (^X-`) will parse the *compilation* buffer and find the first error in the file, moving the current error to the top of the *compilation* buffer, and moving the point to the line containing the error in the appropriate source buffer. When you invoke next-error again, it will go to the start of the next line containing an error. The big advantage of using next-error is that uses the gnuemacs "marker" facility to keep things straight if you edit the file to fix errors, changing the line numbers. Barring drastic edits, next-error will still get you to the right line.

Mick Jordan has also defined some commands that let you use m3check in a shell window, and get about the same next-error behavior. *INSERT the details...*

## 7.4 Debugging

Today you get your choice of debugger – either gdb or dbx. At the moment most SRCers prefer gdb, although it can't read DECstation core files.

### with dbx

Like everything else, dbx will read a start-up file. It reads the file named .dbxinit in your home directory. In that file you place any commands that you'd like executed each time you start the debugger. Here's a suggested .dbxinit file:

```
ignore 26
set $casesense = 1
set $printwide = 1
stop in RTException__NoHandler
alias typeof(r) "print (_types[(*(int *)(r-4))//2]).name"
alias wide "set $printwide = (1-$printwide)"
alias threads "call Thread__DumpEverybody()"
use src ../src /udir/XYZ/pkg/A/src /udir/XYZ/pkg/B/src
```

The first line tells dbx to ignore signal 26 – the thread switching timer. The second line tells dbx that all input is case-sensitive. The third line tells dbx to print folded lines of output for large structures. The fourth line sets a break point in the runtime routine that's called for unhandled exceptions. The fifth line defines a new command that examines runtime data structures and prints the type of a reference. The fifth line defines a new command that toggles the folded output behavior. The sixth line defines a new command that produces a listing of all threads. The last line gives dbx a list of directories to search when it's looking for source files.

### with gdb

Like dbx and everything else, gdb will read a start-up file. It reads the file named .gdbinit in your home directory. In that file you place any commands that you'd like executed each time you start the debugger. Here's a suggested .gdbinit file:

```
dir
dir /udir/steveg/b.e/mg/src
dir /udir/steveg/b.e/zeus/src
dir /udir/steveg/b.e/lego/src

define ss
nexti
x/i $pc
end

define breaks
info breakpoints
```

```
end

break RTException__NoHandler

define threads
call Thread__DumpEverybody()
end
```

The first set of lines gives gdb a search path for locating source files. The next set defines a single step command. The third set defines a simple command to list the active breakpoints. The fourth sets a break point in the runtime routine that catches unhandled exceptions. And the last set of lines defines a threads command to list all threads.

### from gnuemacs or epoch

There are some advantages to debugging Modula-3 programs under gnuemacs or epoch. You get

- Automatic display of the source file with the current line indicated when you stop at a breakpoint or move around in the stack while the program is stopped.
- You can set a breakpoint at the current line in a source file using the ^X-<space> command.
- Special commands take REF or OBJECT variables (or their pointer values) and print their types and the values of the referents. (This feature depends on intimate knowledge of the SRC Modula-3 implementation.) The command ESC-p takes the word containing the current point as the variable or value to print. ESC-r does the same thing with a record value.

These functions are built from gnuemacs' gdb-mode and dbx-mode and are available in the m3-debug.el elisp package. To use them outside of SRC, put these lines in your .emacs file:

```
(autoload 'run-m3-gdb "m3-debug" "" t)
(autoload 'run-m3-dbx "m3-debug" "" t)
```

At SRC these autoloads are part of the default editing environment.

You can then use M-x run-m3-gdb or M-x run-m3-dbx to start gdb or dbx, respectively, in inferior shells in the appropriate modes.

## 7.5 Packages

We use the same package tools that everyone else at SRC is using. There are special variants of the commands that make it a little simpler for Modula-3 users.

To get the Modula-3 package tools to work on your DECstation named foobaz, you must have a .rhosts file in your home directory on bigtop. It should contain the line:

```
foobaz.pa.dec.com
```

To manipulate a Modula-3 package named foo, the last component of your working directory must be named foo.

Briefly, here's the available commands and what they do when issued in a directory named XYZ.

**m3create** – creates a new package named XYZ.

**m3delete** – deletes the package named XYZ.

**m3get** – acquires the lock and updates the current directory with the contents of the package XYZ.

**m3setlock** – acquires the lock on package XYZ.

**m3unlock** – unlocks the package XYZ.

**m3ship** – ships a copy of the current directory as the new contents of package XYZ.

**m3compare** – compares the current directory with the existing version of package XYZ.

For more details, see the man pages

## 7.6 Public Directories

All the basic Modula-3 software lives in packages. These packages live in subdirectories of `/proj/m3/pkg`. The public files are exported to public directories:

| symbol | public directory | decription |
|---|---|---|
| PUB | /proj/m3/pub.*cpu_type* | interfaces |
| LIB | /proj/m3/lib.*cpu_type* | libraries |
| BIN | /proj/{mips,ultrix}/bin | programs |
| CAT*n* | /proj/man/*cpu_type*/man/cat*n* | plain-text man pages |

where *cpu_type* is either `vax` or `mips`, and *n* can vary from `1` to `8`.

The Modula-3 compiler (`m3`) knows about the public directories. By default, it will search the current directory and PUB for interfaces. It will also try to locate libraries specified in the `-l` syntax in LIB. It will systematically link your programs with `-lm3` and `-lm`.

## 7.7 Package Organization

We have four kinds of packages:

- source packages: They contain Modula-3 sources and produce no derived objects. For an example, see the `text` package.
- library packages: They usually contain a small number of source files, export a few interfaces to PUB and export a single library containing all the objects to LIB. For example, the `tcl` package contains the source files for the binding to Tcl. It exports `TclC.i3` to PUB and `libm3tcl.a` to LIB.
- umbrella packages: It is inconvenient to work with a large number of small libraries. An umbrella library collects a number of smaller libraries; it is essentially a list of source packages and it exports a library containing all the objects of the smaller packages. An example is `libm3.a`. This library collects the contents of several source packages into a single large library.
- program packages: They contain a single program, exported to BIN, with its man page exported to CAT1. For an example, see the `solitaire` or `calculator` package.

# Chapter 8

# Internals

This section contains a brief introduction to the internal structure of the compiler and runtime system. This introduction is neither comprehensive nor tutorial; it is merely intended as a stepping stone for the courageous.

## 8.1 A tour of the compiler

The compiler has undergone much evolution. It started as a project to build a simple and easy to maintain compiler. Somewhere along the way we decided to compile Modula-3. Much later we decided to generate C. In hindsight, Modula-3 was a good choice, C was at best mediocre.

The initial observation was that most compilers' data structures were visible and complex. This situation makes it necessary to understand a compiler in its entirety before attempting non-trivial enhancements or bug fixes. By keeping most of the compiler's primary data structures hidden behind opaque interfaces, we hoped to avoid this pitfall. So far, bugs have been easy to find. During early development, it was relatively easy to track the weekly language changes.

The compiler is decomposed by language feature rather than the more traditional compiler passes. We attempted to confine each language feature to a single module. For example, the parsing, name binding, type checking and code production for each statement is in its own module. This separation means that only the `CaseStmt` module needs to know what data structures exist to implement `CASE` statements. Other parts of the compiler need only know that the `CASE` statement is a statement. This fact is captured by the object subtype hierarchy. A `CaseStmt.T` is a subtype of a `Stmt.T`.

The main object types within the compiler are: values, statements, expressions, and types. "Values" is a misnomer; "bindings" would be better. This object class include anything that can be named: modules, procedures, variables, exceptions, constants, types, enumeration elements, record fields, methods, and procedure formals. Statements include all of the Modula-3 statements. Expressions include all the Modula-3 expression forms that have a special syntax. And finally, types include the Modula-3 types.

The compiler retains the traditional separation of input streams, scanner, symbol table, and output stream.

The compilation process retains the usual phases. Symbols are scanned as needed by the parser. A recursive descent parser reads the entire source and builds the internal syntax tree. All remaining passes simply add decorations to this tree. The next phase binds all identifiers to values in scopes. Modula-3 allows arbitrary forward references so it is necessary to accumulate all names within a scope before binding any identifiers to values. The next phase divides the types into structurally equivalent classes. This phase actually occurs in two steps. First, the types are divided into classes such that each class will have a unique C representation.

Then, those classes are refined into what Modula-3 defines as structurally equivalent types. After the types have been partitioned, the entire tree is checked for type errors. Finally, the C code is emitted. C's requirement that declarations precede uses means that the code is generated in several passes. First, the types are generated during type checking. Then, the procedure headers are produced. And finally, the procedure bodies are generated.

The compiler implementation is in the `compiler` directory. Within that directory the following directories exist:

| | |
|---|---|
| builtinOps | `ABS`, `ADR`, `BITSIZE`, ... |
| builtinTypes | `INTEGER`, `CHAR`, `REFANY`, ... |
| builtinWord | `Word.And`, `Word.Or`, ... |
| exprs | `+`, `-`, `[]`, `^`, `AND`, `OR`, ... |
| misc | main program, scanner, symbol tables, ... |
| stmts | `:=`, `IF`, `TRY`, `WHILE`, ... |
| types | `ARRAY`, `BITS FOR`, `RECORD`, ... |
| values | `MODULE`, `PROCEDURE`, `VAR`, ... |

## 8.2 A tour of the runtime

The runtime itself implements the garbage collector, Modula-3 startup code and a few miscellaneous functions. The runtime exists in the `libm3/runtime` directory.

The interface between the compiler and runtime system is embodied (and very sparsely documented) in `M3Runtime.h`, `M3Machine.h` (an architecture-dependent file) and `M3RuntimeDecls.h`. Every C file generated by the compiler includes these files.

The allocator and garbage collector are based on Joel Bartlett's "mostly copying collector". The best description of his collector is in [1]. Since that paper, we've made a few modifications to support a growing heap and to use extra information that the Modula-3 compiler generates.

Exceptions are implemented with `setjmp` and `longjmp`. The jump buffers and scope descriptors are chained together to form a stack. The head of the chain is kept in `ThreadSupport.handlers`. There is a distinct chain for each thread. When an exception is raised, the chain is searched. If a handler for the exception is found, the exception is allowed to unwind the stack, otherwise a runtime error is signaled. To unwind the stack, a `longjmp` is done to the first handler on the stack. It does whatever cleanup is necessary and passes control on up the stack to the next handler until the exception is actually handled.

Reference types are represented at runtime by a "typecell". Due to separate compilation, opaque types and revelations, it is not possible to fully initialize typecells at compile time. Typecell initialization is finished at link time. A typecell contains a type's typecode, a pointer to its parent typecell, the size of the types referent and method list if any, the type's brand, the number of open array dimensions, the type's fingerprint, and procedures to initialize the typecell, initialize new instances of the type, print instances of the type and trace the type for garbage collection.

Link time type elaboration occurs in several steps. First, all types are registered. That is, a global array that points to all typecells is built. Next, the runtime verifies that all opaque types have been given concrete representations. Then, the initialization of typecells is finished. Then, all types with the same brand and fingerprint are identified with the same typecode. Finally, a check is made to ensure that distinct types have distinct brands.

At the beginning of the execution of the program, all global variables are initialized, and the main bodies of the modules are invoked. The skeletal code that ensures that every module is initialized is generated by the linker part of the driver.

Other parts of the runtime, such as threads, are actually implemented in the base library.

Thread switching is implemented with `setjmp` and `longjmp`. A timer interrupt (signal) is used to cause preemptive thread switching. The global variable `ThreadSupport.self` points to the currently running thread. The integer `ThreadSupport.inCritical` is used by the runtime to prevent thread switching during garbage collection and other "atomic" runtime operations.

## 8.3 Porting to another machine

Anyone who is interested in porting this compiler is encouraged! We would like to know how it goes. The primary concerns when doing a port will be the size and alignment constraints of the target machine and the runtime. We tried to avoid suspicious C constructs, but we doubt that we were completely successful.

The directions in this section are somewhat sparse. We tried to make the installation of SRC Modula-3 smooth, but it is another story to make the development of ports smooth. Please bear with us and tell us what we can do to improve this section.

If you want to a port to an unsupported system you should:

- get the `compiler` and `driver` source archives (in addition to `m3make` that came with the boot archive and `libm3` which you had to install anyway).
- decide on the name of the new architecture; in the rest, we assume that it is *new*
- describe the target machine for the compiler
- implement the machine-specific part of the base libraries for the new machine
- build a cross-compiler on a supported machine
- cross-compile (to C) the driver and the compiler
- finish the compilation of the driver and the compiler on the target machine

In the following, all the paths are relative to the directory in which you unpacked the archives (also known as the top-level directory).

**Describing the target machine** The compiler has a small number of parameters that are used to describe the target machine. These parameters are expressed in the interface `compiler/src/`*new*`/Target.i3`. Create the directory `compiler/src/`*new* and build the file `Target.i3`, using the descriptions for the other machines as models. In `compiler/src/m3makefile`, add the lines:

```
#if defined (TARGET_new)
source_dir (../src/new)
#endif
```

**Porting the runtime and base libraries** Some of the Modula-3 code (as well as very little pieces of C) are machine-dependent. Of course, it may be that some code we thought to be machine-independent will turn to have to be changed for your *new* architecture, so we cannot guarantee that the list below is exhaustive. In general, look at what is done for the other machines, and find the most similar as a starting point.

In `libm3/Csupport/src`, add a directory *new* and put in it the files:

- `m3makefile` to describe the contents of the directory

- M3Machine.h which is included in every C file generated by the SRC Modula-3 compiler
- dtoa.c to configure ../generic/dtoa.h; look at that file for the things to configure.
- float.h if your system does not have one. You can build it using a program called enquire, which can be found on the net.

In libm3/C/src, add a directory *new* and put in it the files:

- m3makefile to describe the contents of the directory
- Csetjmp.i3 to describe the interface to setjmp, longjmp, _setjmp and _longjmp. Be careful to get the size of the jmp_buf right.
- Cstdio.i3, essentially a Modula-3 translation of stdio.h

In libm3/thread/src, add a directory *new* and put in it the files:

- m3makefile to describe the contents of the directory
- WildJmp.i3: this interface provides functions that are similar to _setjmp and _longjmp, but that do not impose any restriction on what is possible. The DS3100 version is the simplest, because on that architecture, _setjmp and _longjmp are just fine. The VAX version is the most complex, we had to rewrite our own versions because longjmp requires that the stack be popped (remember the longjmp botch message ?).

In libm3/runtime/src, you can either reuse one of the StackInc-*n* component, or you may have to create a new one (i.e., you need a different value of $n$). The dependency described there is for the benefit of the garbage collector. At the beginning of a collection, the collector must find all the roots, that is, all the heap objects that are referenced from outside the heap itself. The stacks contain such pointers, and the collector scans them to find roots. However, the collector does not know the full structure of the stacks (frames, argument lists and so on); rather, it just looks at the values that are there and make conservative decisions by interpreting these values as possible pointers. For each stack, the collector initializes a pointer $P$ to the bottom of the stack; then it repeatedly tries to interpret the bits pointed by $P$ as a pointer in the heap, marks the root if the interpretation is successfull and advances $P$. The question is by how much $P$ should be advanced; if all entries in the stack are aligned at $n$-bytes boundaries, it is sufficient to increment $P$ by $n$ bytes; a smaller value would be an overkill. We have found that some machines require $n$ to be 2, and that 4 is enough for others.

In libm3/float/src, add a directory *new* and copy the files that are in MODEL in that directory. The routines in these modules provide access the floating point control (to set exceptions and so on). The version in MODEL is a template, and most of the routines will fail (because of an <*ASSERT FALSE*>) if executed. The DS3100 and SPARC directories are examples of implementations for IEEE machines, the VAX directory is an example for non-IEEE machines. It is not essential that you implement the proper procedures right now: the versions in MODEL are good enough for the compiler, the driver and simple test programs. But you will have to take care of that at some point.

In libm3/random/src, you can either reuse one of the directories VAX, IEEE-le or IEEE-be, or create your own on those models. The goal is to describe enough of the floating point representation for the random number generator. There is probably some overlap with the libm3/float stuff, we will take care of that at some point.

In libm3/unix/src, you will find a bunch of interfaces to the procedures of sections 2 and 3 of U**X. Not everything is there, but we sometime dream to have a complete set; in other words, it's quite a bit of work to make sure that you have the proper descriptions, and of course, there is nothing from which these interfaces could be mechanically derived. Fortunately, the driver and the compiler rely on very few of these procedures, and any version is probably good enough for your machine. We suggest that you do the work only when you find some problems (at least, wait until you get a basic port running).

The last thing is to reflect all these changes in `libm3/src/m3makefile`. Add a bunch of lines:

```
#if defined (TARGET_new)
...
#endif
```

similar to those that are already there. You need to make a similar modification to `compiler/src/m3makefile` and `driver/src/m3makefile` (sorry for the duplication, but it is difficult to avoid).

**Creating a cross-compiler** At the top level, type to the shell:

```
$ m3make cross NEW=new
```

After a while, you should get an executable `compiler/cross-`*new*`/m3compiler`.

**Cross-compiling the driver and the compiler** At the top level, type to the shell:

```
$ m3make bootstrap_driver NEW=new
$ m3make bootstrap_compiler NEW=new
```

At this point, you should in the same state as if we had built a boot archive for *new* and you had grabbed it. If you cannot mount the file system that contains all the files on the new machine, create a boot archive:

```
$ m3make pack NEW=new
```

This creates a file `boot_files/boot.`*new-version.tar.Z*, which you need to unpack on the *new* machine.

You can then proceed as for the first installation of SRC Modula-3(see the top level `README`).

Good Luck!

# Bibliography

[1] Joel F. Bartlett.
Compacting garbage collection with ambiguous roots.
WRL Research Report 88/2, Western Research Laboratory, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, February 1988.

[2] A. D. Birrell, J. V. Guttag, J. J. Horning, and R. Levin.
Synchronization primitives for a multiprocessor: A formal specification.
SRC report 20, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, August 1987.

[3] Andrew D. Birrell.
An introduction to programming with threads.
SRC report 35, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, January 1989.

[4] Gilad Bracha and William Cook.
Mixin-based inheritance.
In *Proceedings of the Conference on Object-Oriented Programming: Systems, Languages, and Applications; European Conference on Object-Oriented Programming*, pages 303–311, October 1990.

[5] Marc H. Brown and James R. Meehan.
The formsvbt reference manual.
SRC report ??, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, July 1992.

[6] Mark R. Brown and Greg Nelson.
IO streams: Abstract types, real programs.
SRC report 53, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, November 1989.

[7] Luca Cardelli, James Donahue, Lucille Glassman, Mick Jordan, Bill Kalsow, and Greg Nelson.
Modula-3 report (revised).
SRC report 52, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, November 1989.

[8] Luca Cardelli, James Donahue, Mick Jordan, Bill Kalsow, and Greg Nelson.
The modula-3 type system.
In *Conference Record of the Sixteenth Annual ACM Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL)*, pages 202–212, January 1989.

[9] Sam Harbison.
Modula-3.
*Byte*, 15(12):385–392, November 1990.

[10] Sam Harbison.
Safe programming with modula-3.
*Dr. Dobb's Journal*, 17(10):88–96, October 1992.

[11] Samuel P. Harbison.
*Modula-3*.
Prentice Hall, 1992.

[12] Mark S. Manasse and Greg Nelson.
Trestle reference manual.
SRC report 68, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, December 1991.

[13] Mark S. Manasse and Greg Nelson.
Trestle tutorial.
SRC report 69, System Research Center, Digital Equipment Corporation, Palo Alto, May 1992.

[14] Greg Nelson, editor.
*System Programming with Modula-3.*
Prentice Hall, 1991.

# Index