

Re: How to decipher a large program.

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- *From:* "Chad" <cdalten@xxxxxxxxxx>
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Rob Thorpe wrote:

Chad wrote:

I recently downloaded a program that inserts captions in .jpeg files. However, I'm sort of at a loss on where to start to see how it works. The program has 3 c files and 4 header files. In the header files, the person comments on what function is supposed to do.

The question is, how do I figure out how each of these functions interact with each other? Do I just get a pen/paper and start jotting down notes? I was maybe thinking of constructing some kind of flow diagram to see how these functions interact. Any ideas?

Starting from "main" can be useful, so can starting by debugging. Often in a C program there is an include file with the same name as the program which contains the most central definitions. This can also be a good place to start.

I took a closer look at the files. There is an include file with the same name as one of the c programs. However, this c file doesn't have "main". The "main" is in another file. I'll start debugging this when I get home from work later on today.

Chad

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