

CMPT 373  
Software Development Methods

# Building Software

Nick Sumner  
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# What does it take to build software?

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- Build Engineering?
- Release Engineering?
- Build Configuration?
- Build Automation?
- Dependency Management?
- Continuous Integration?

A lot more.

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Just getting something to compile reproducibly can be nontrivial



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- It is the foundation of getting anything done.

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Grunt? Gulp? Cmake? Bazel? Gradle? Maven? Scons?  
Incredibuild? CloudBuild?  
Travis? Jenkins? CircleCI?  
Junit? Cucumber? Pytest? Gtest?  
Coverity? Clang Static Analyzer?  
OpenTelemetry? Prometheus? Jaeger?

...

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  - **What workflow?**
  - What are the painful points?
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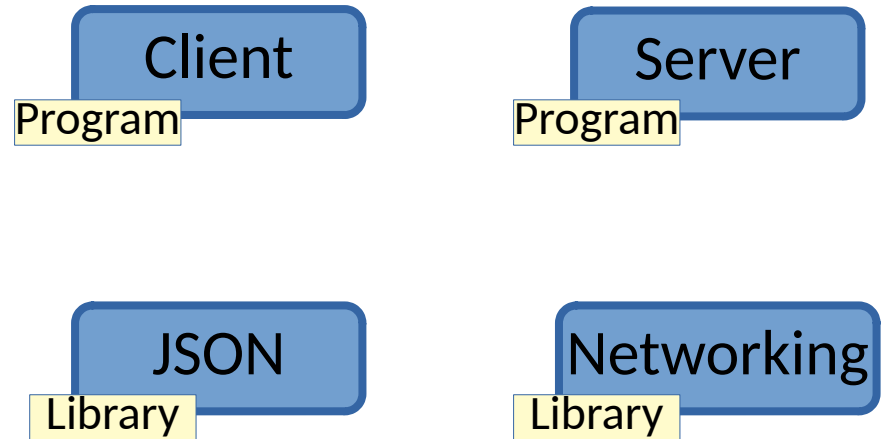
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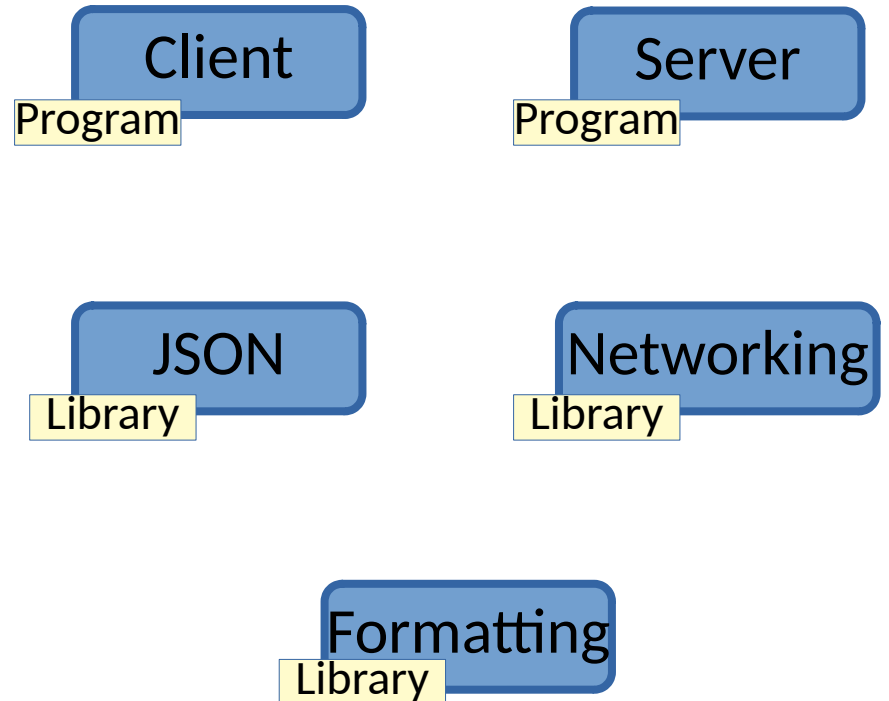
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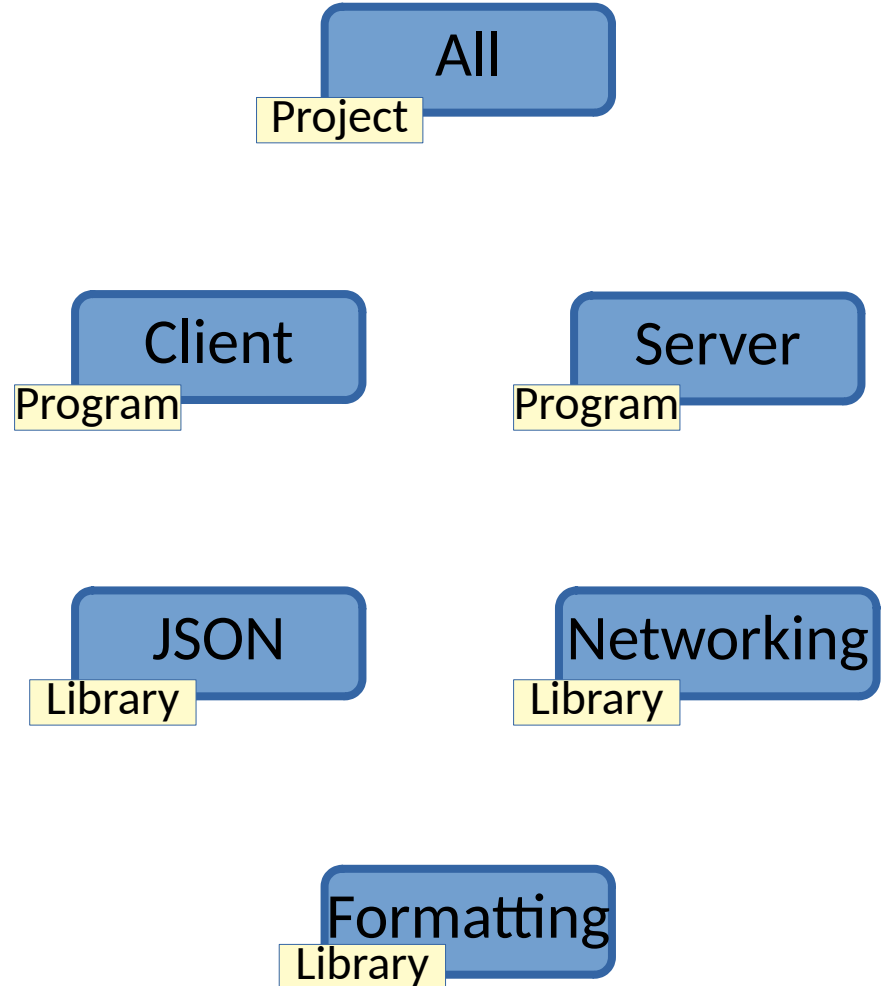
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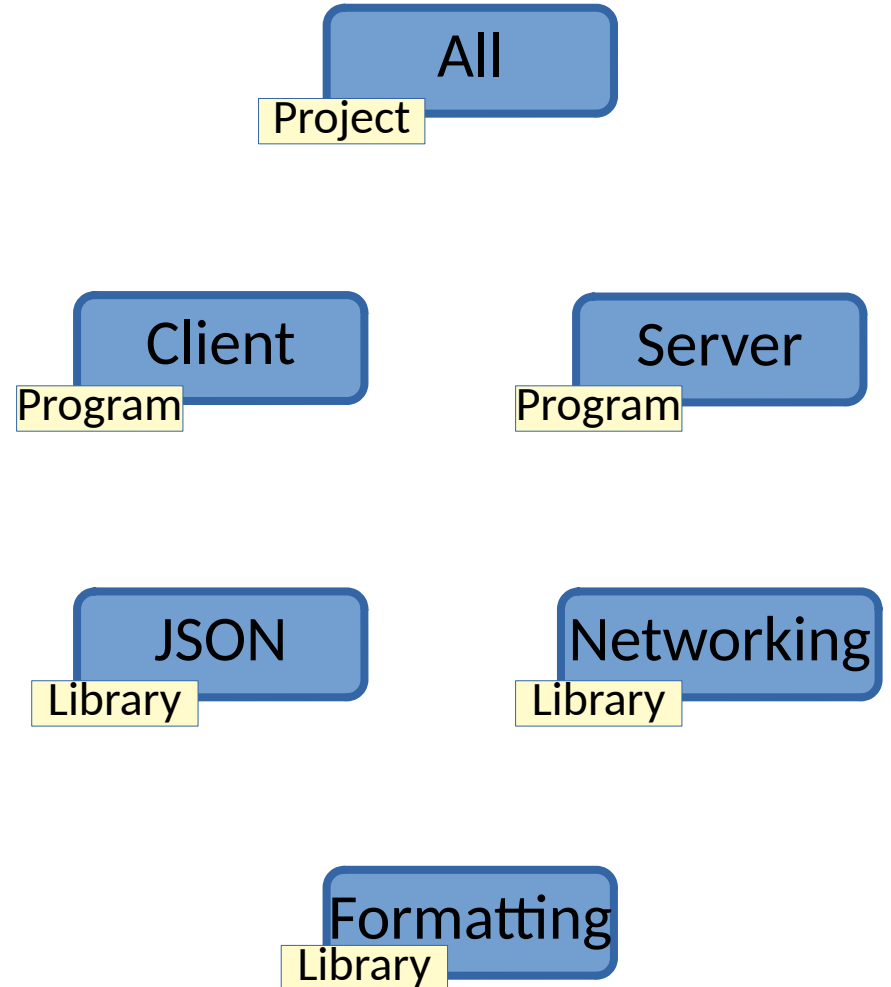




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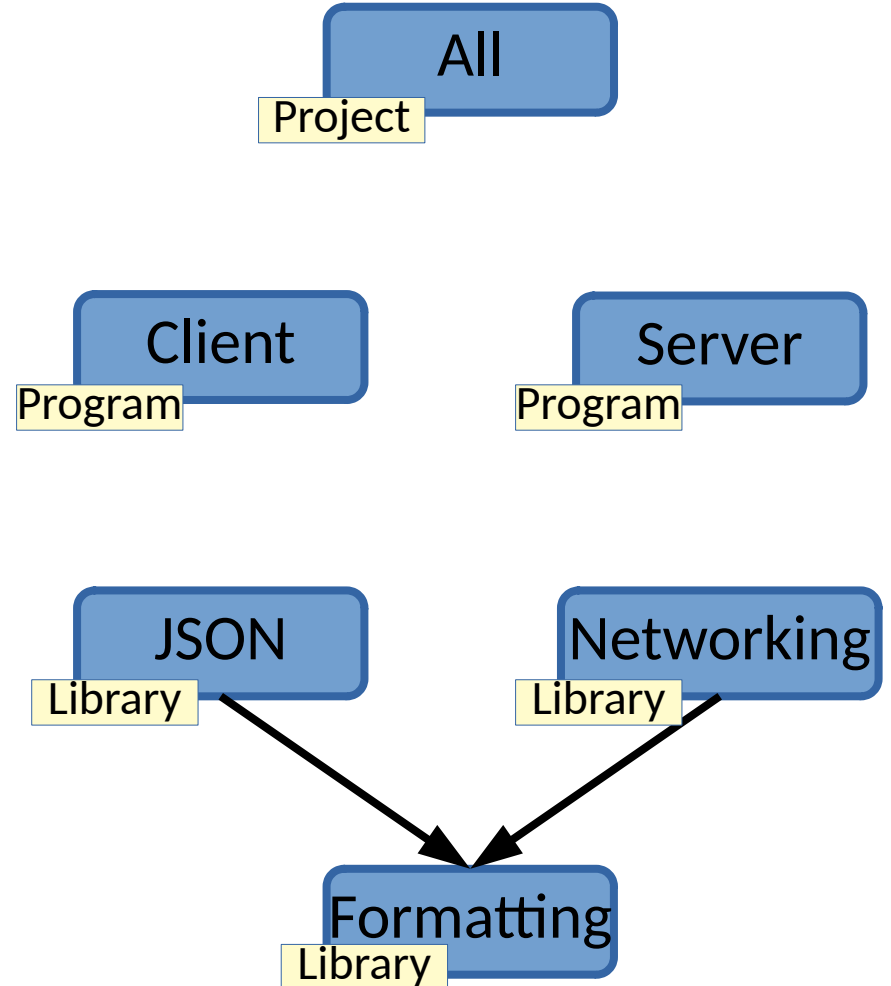
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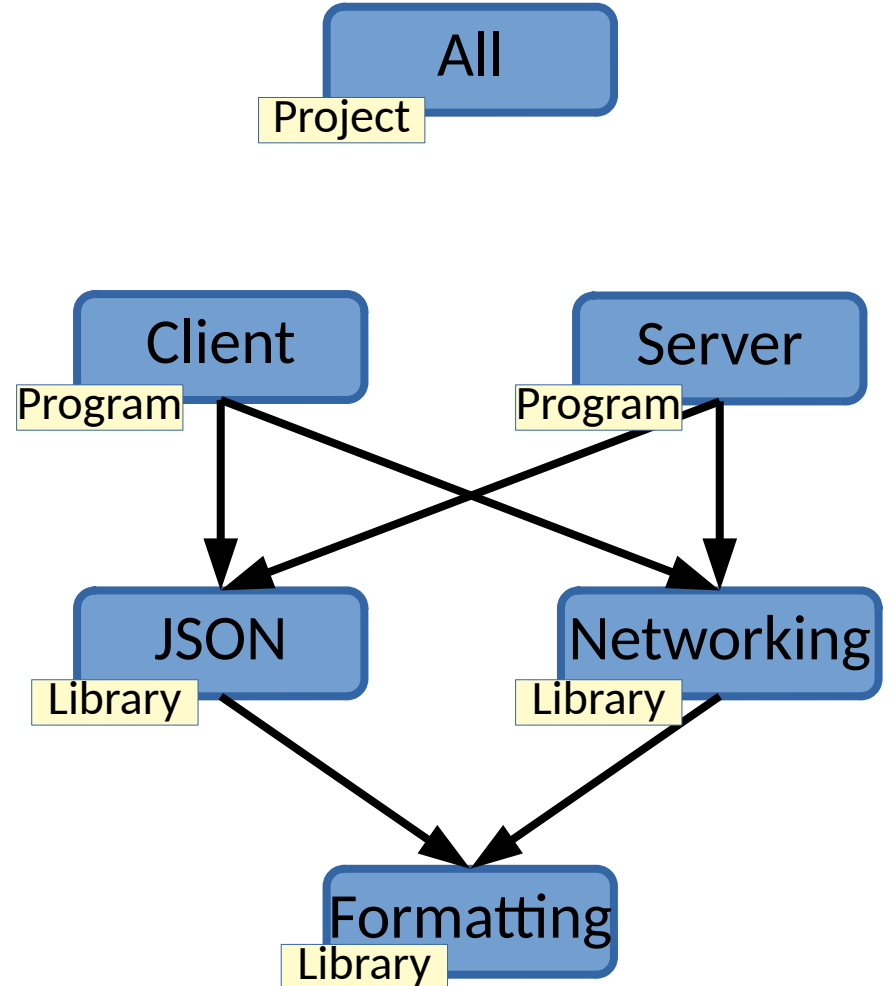
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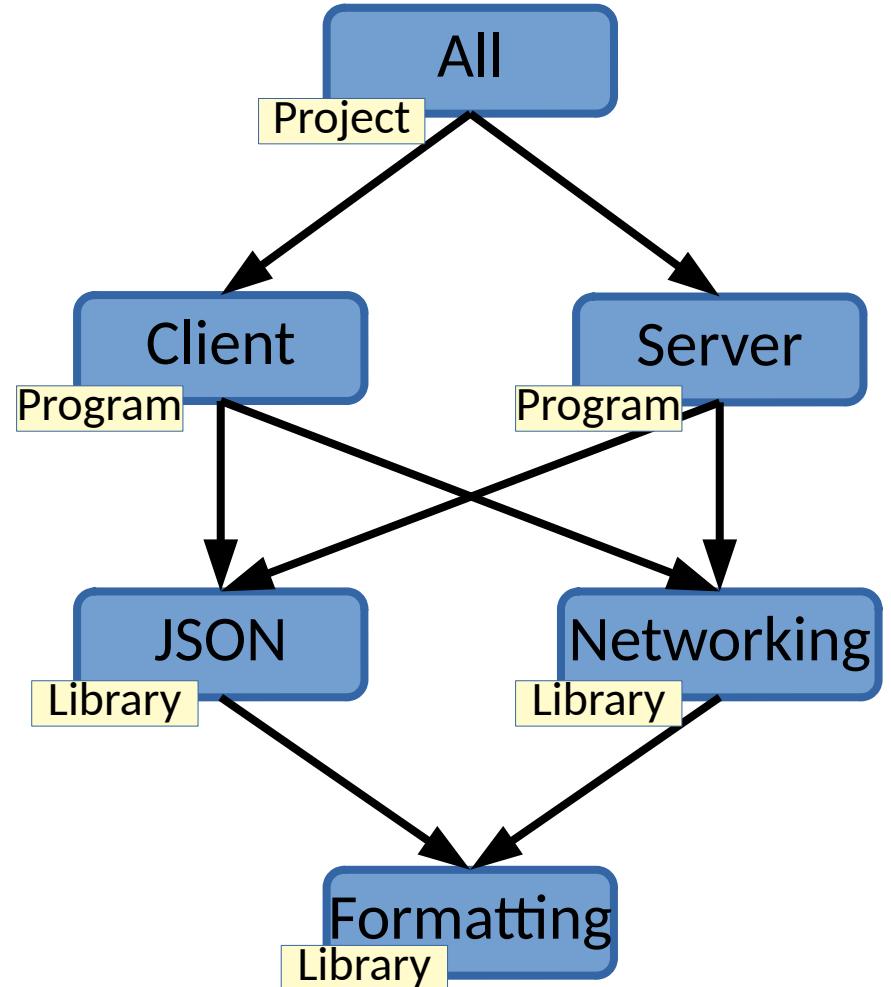
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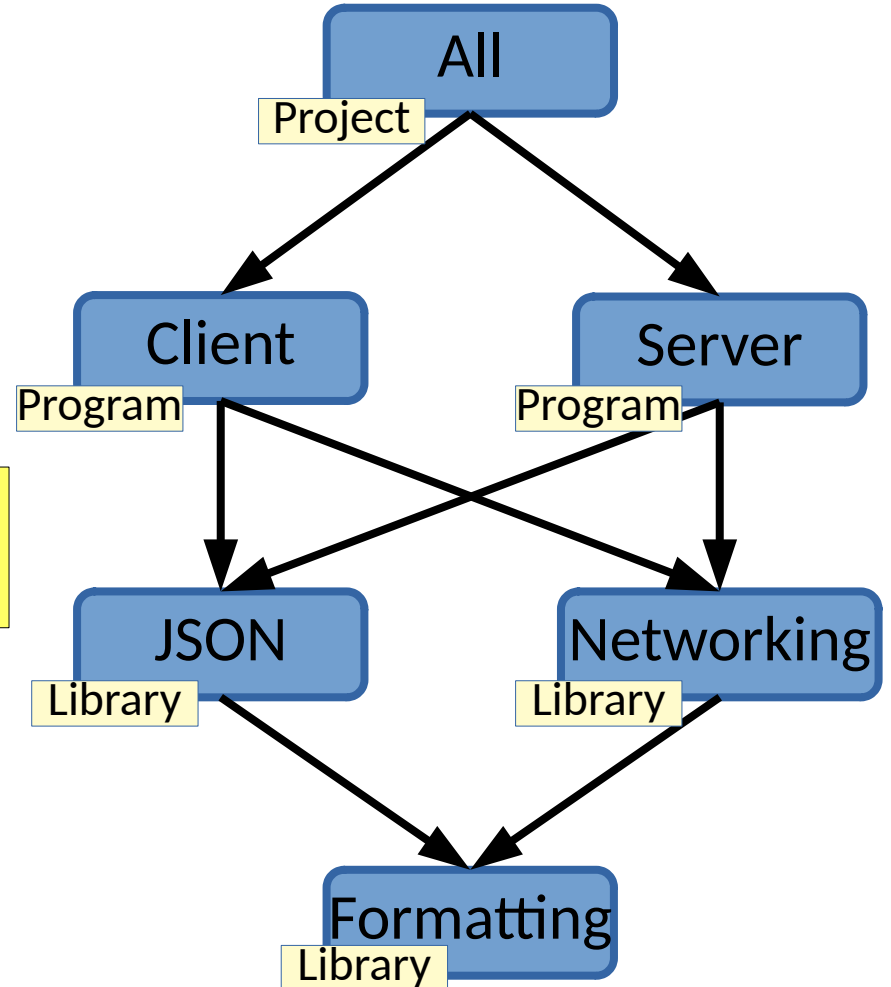


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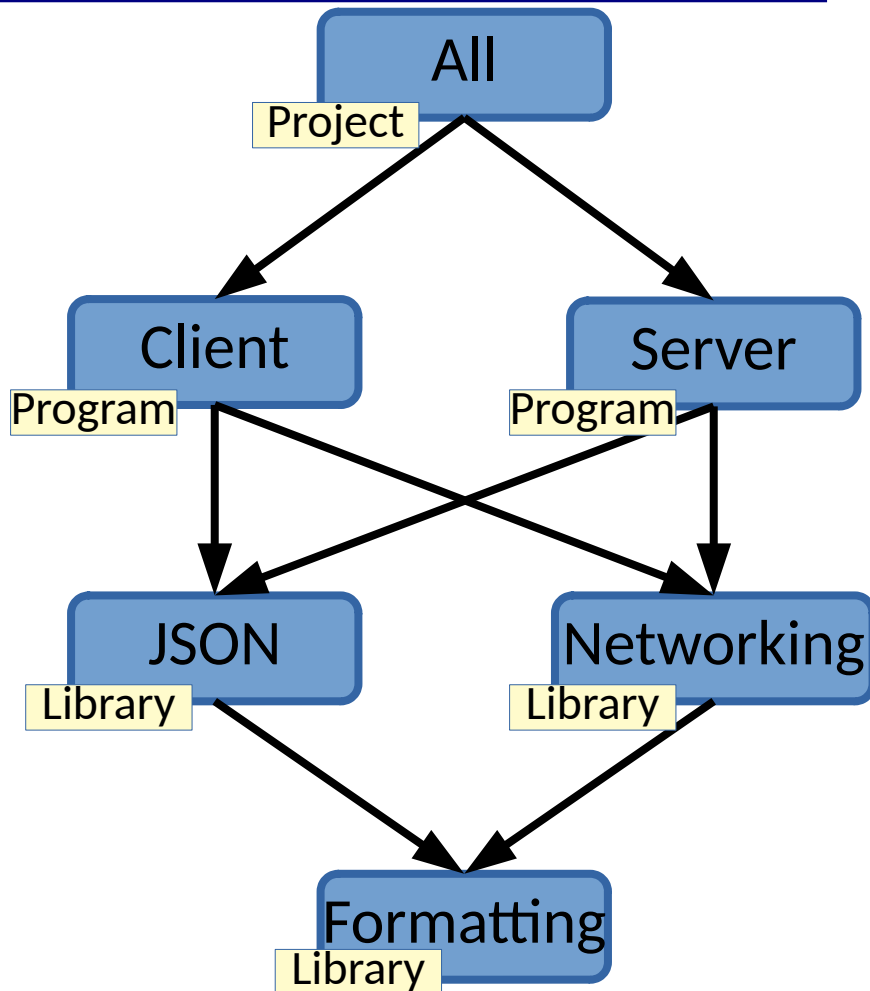
This defines the *dependency graph* of a project.



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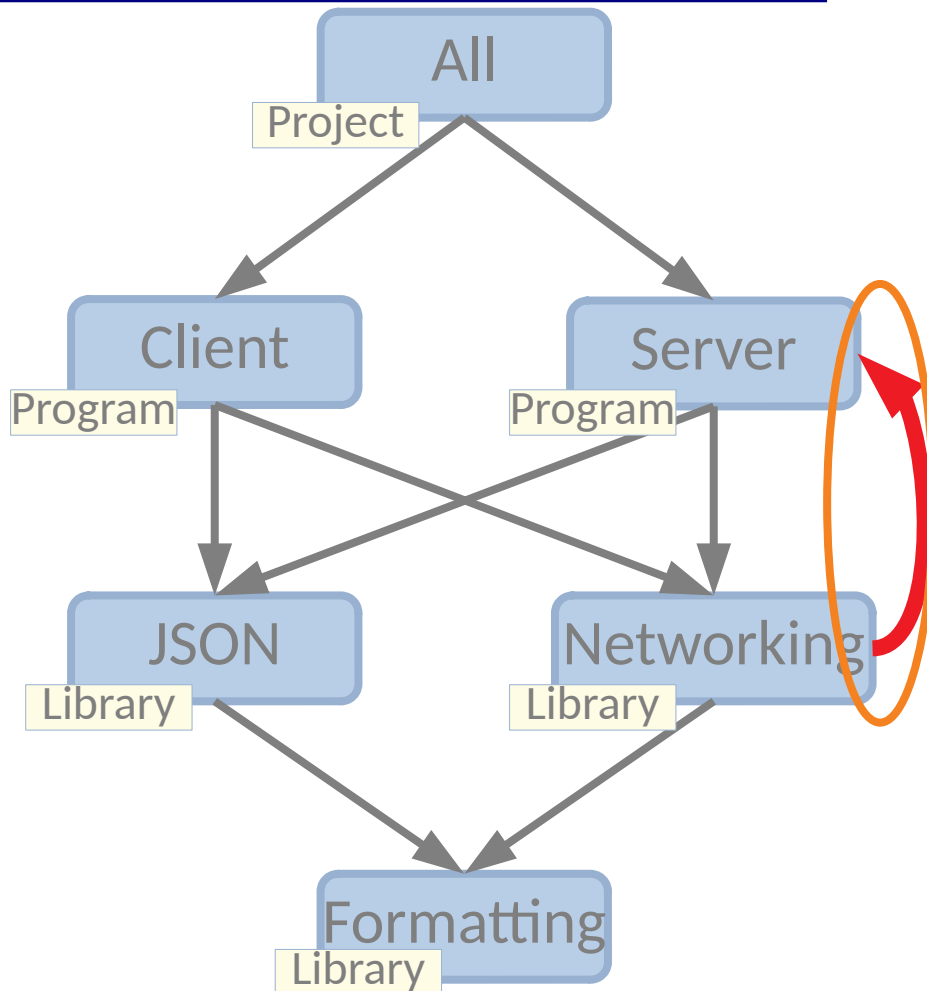
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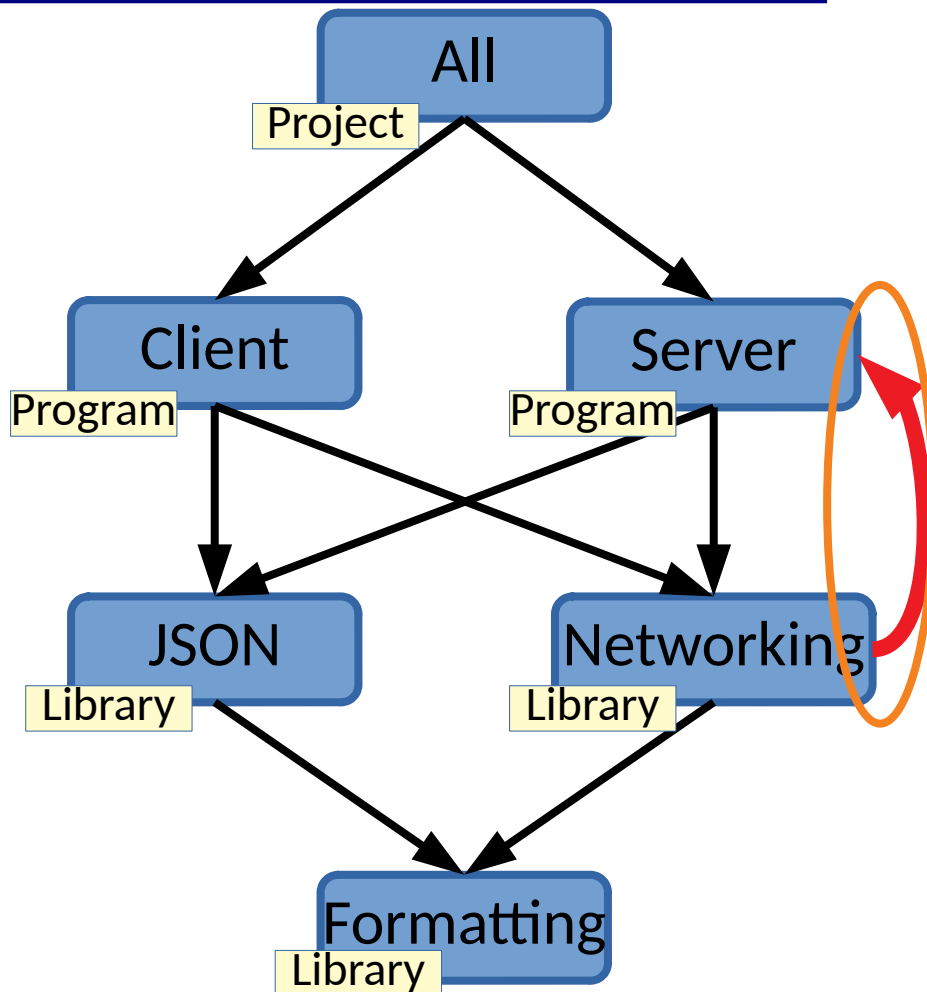
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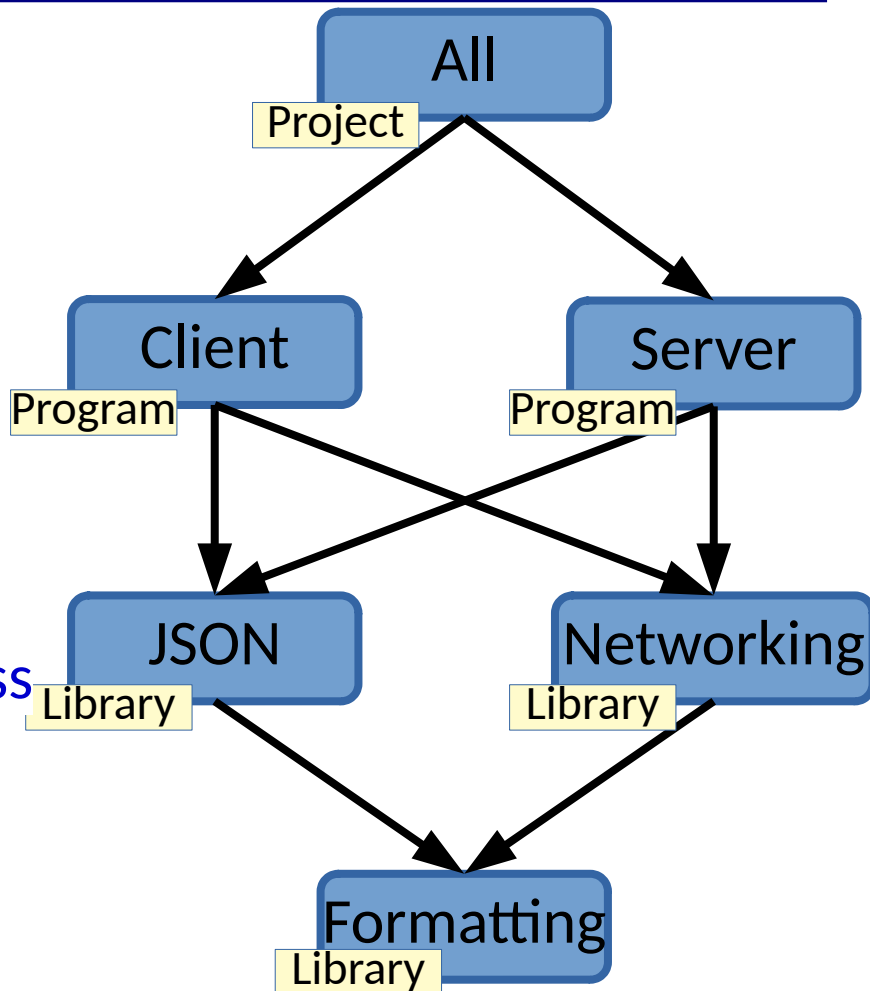




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- **Modern build management uses the dependency DAG to drive build process**



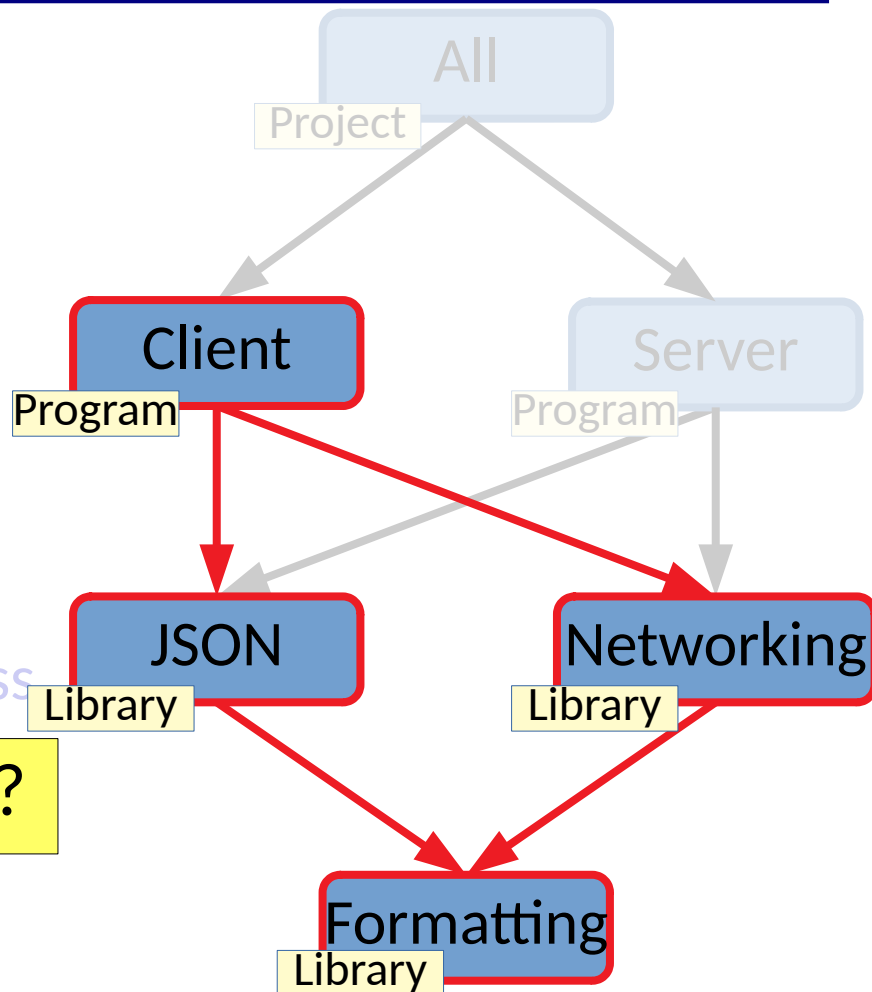
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We can consider C++, but it applies in general (even for many dynamic languages)

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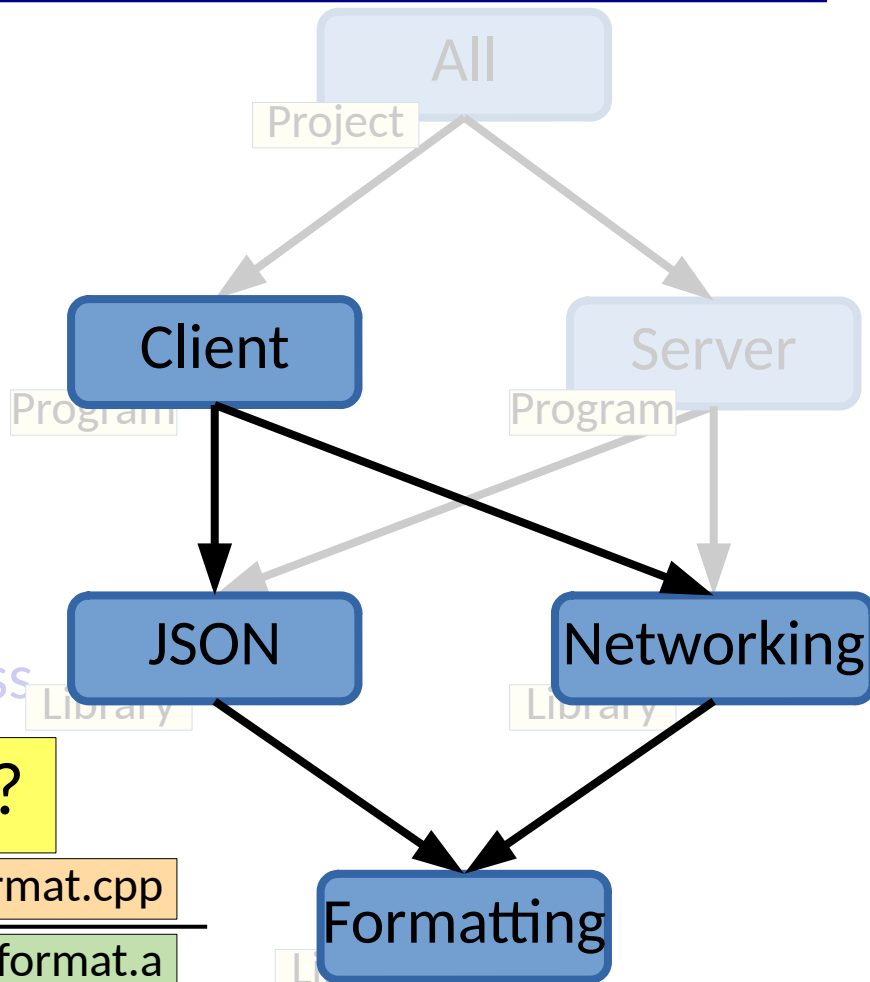


What must the build system perform?

used / required  
generated

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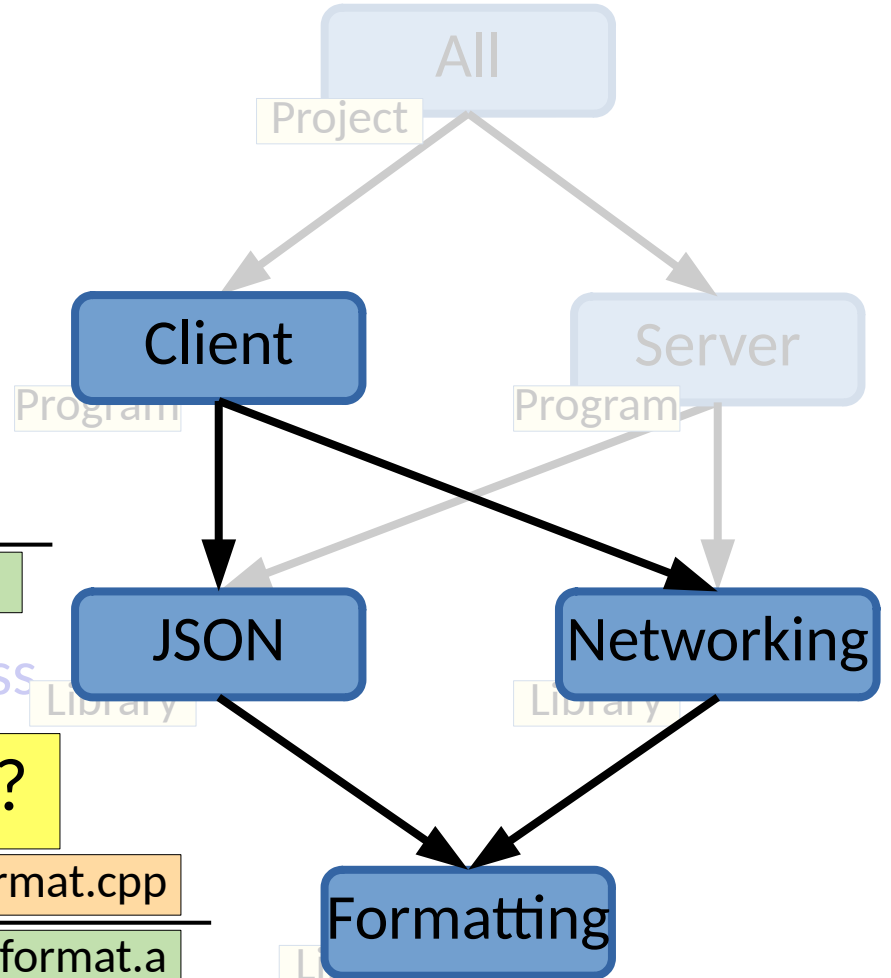
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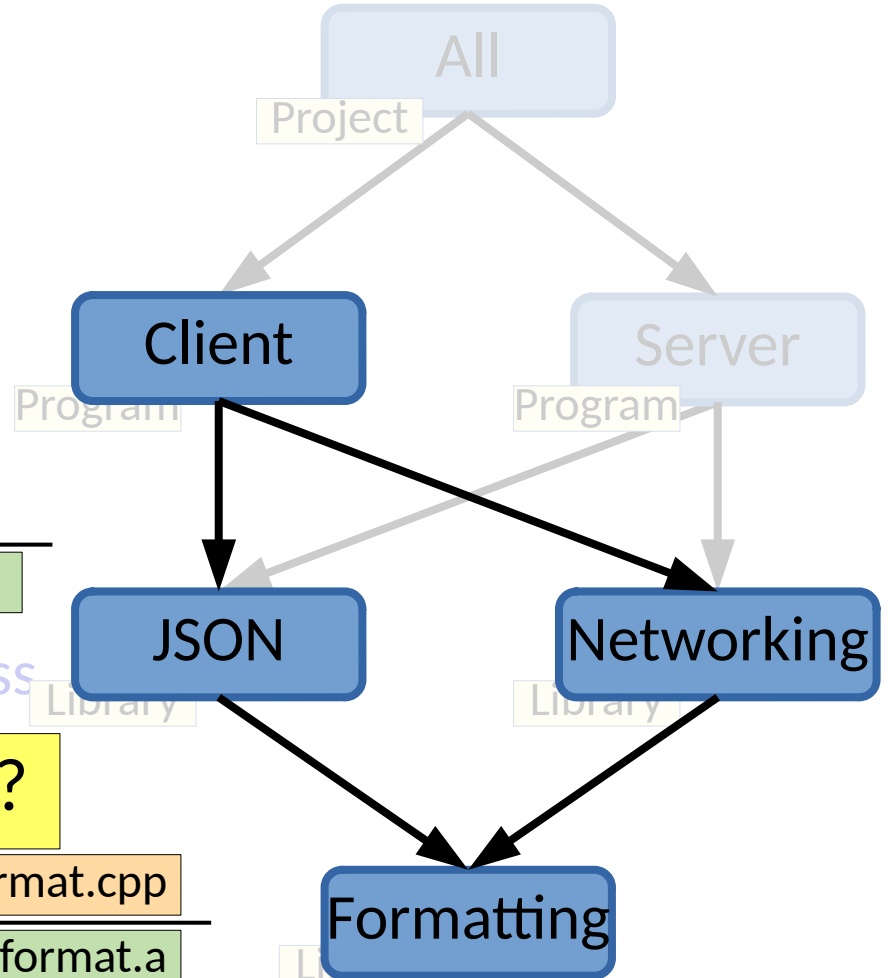


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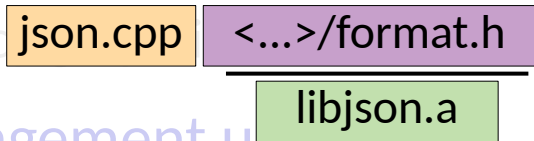
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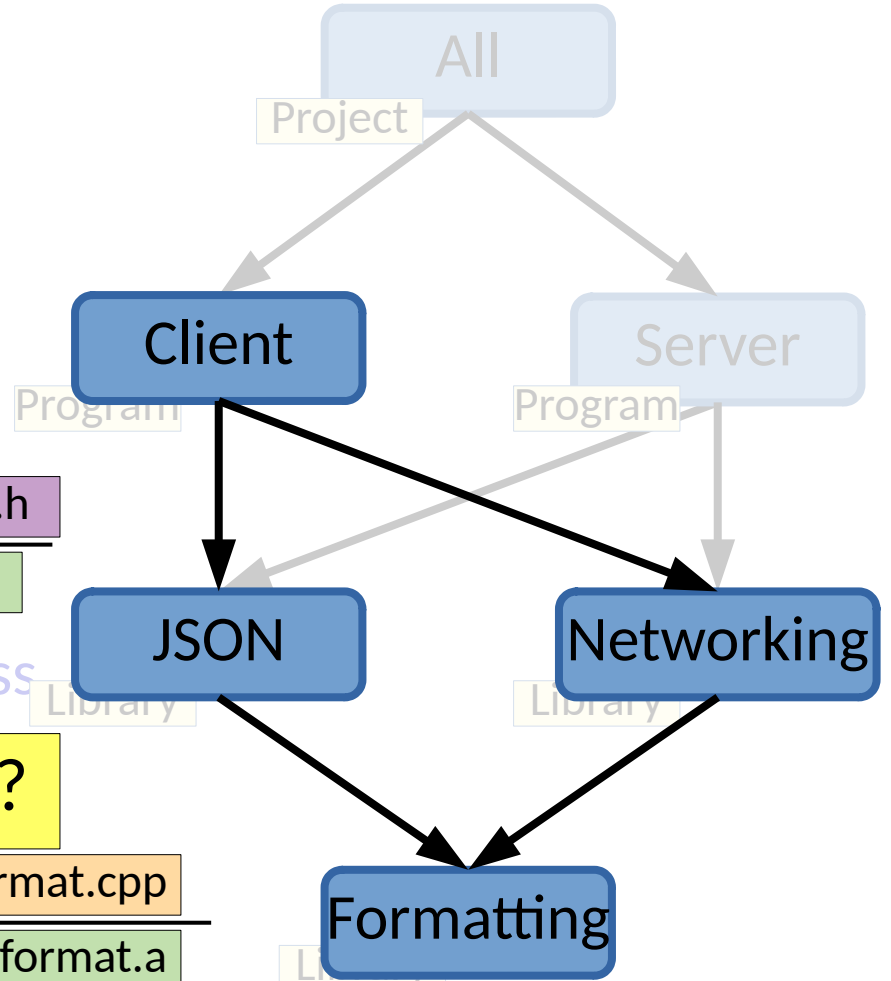
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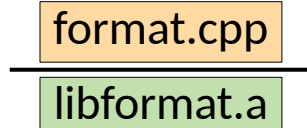


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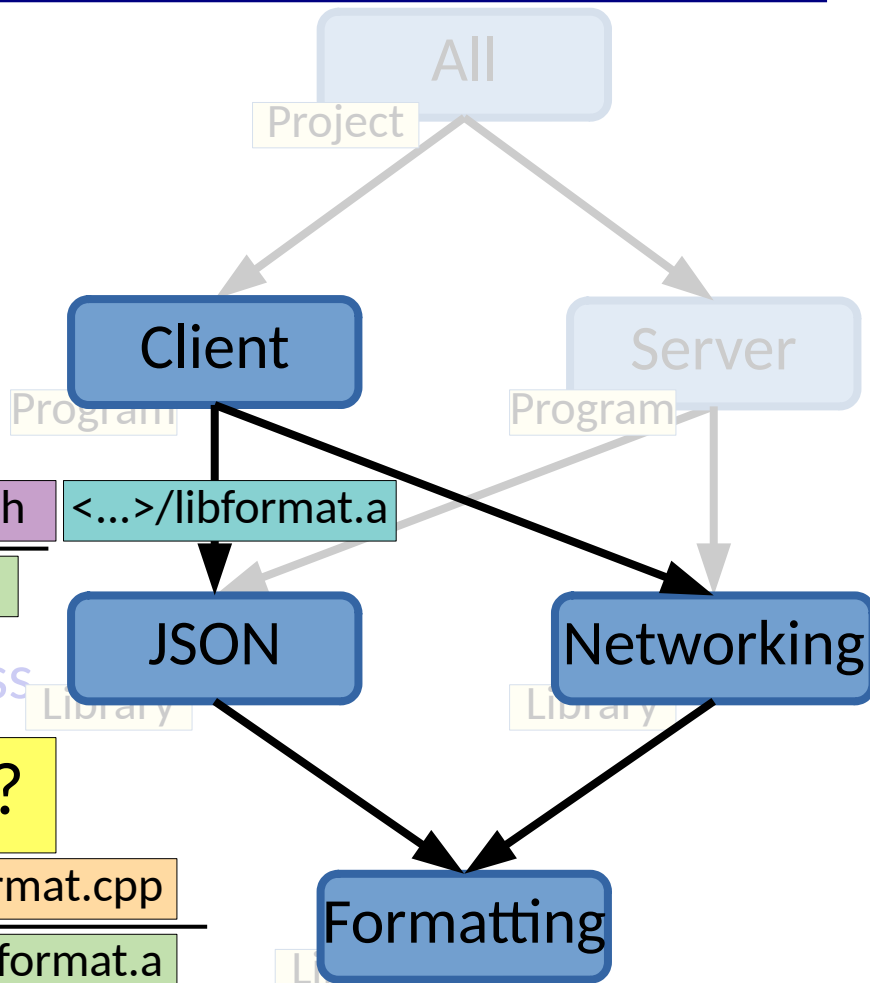
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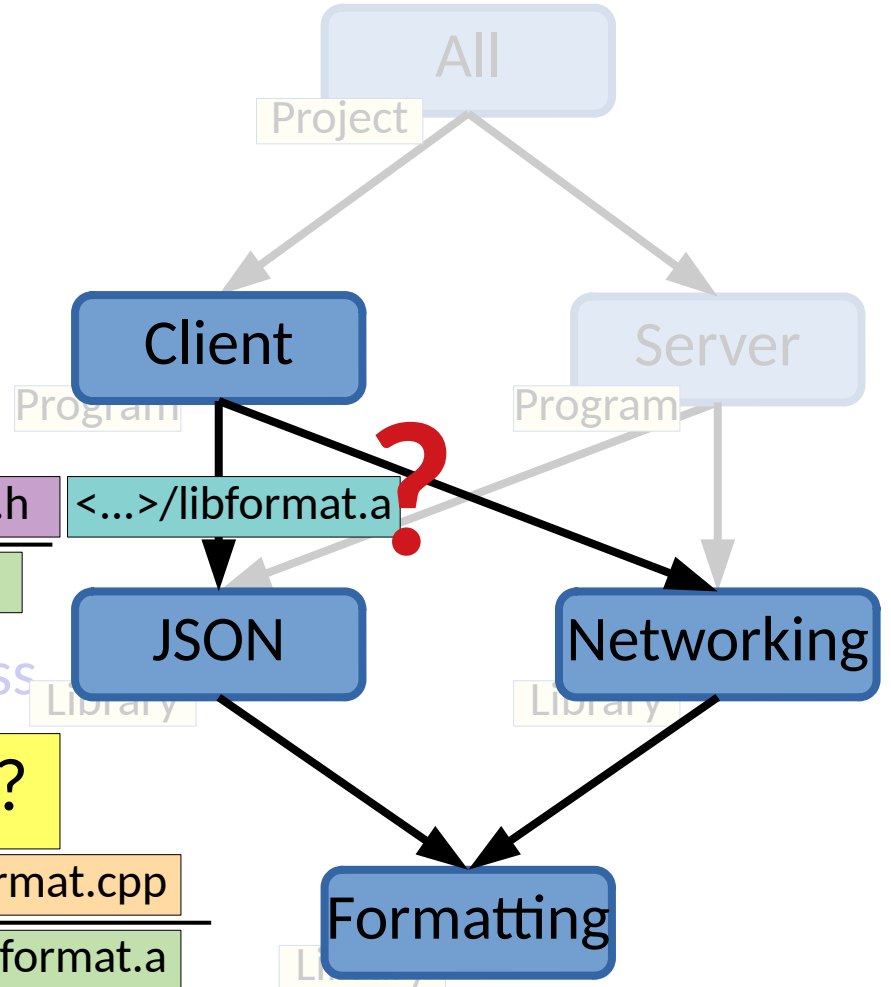
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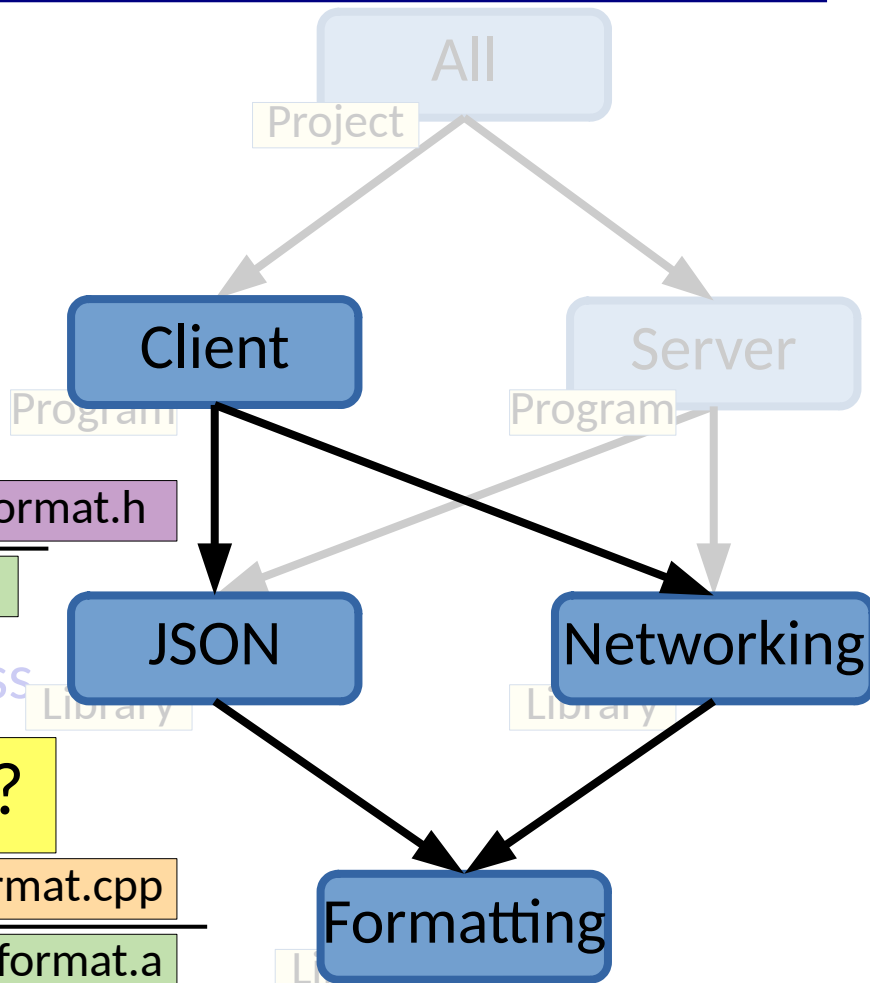
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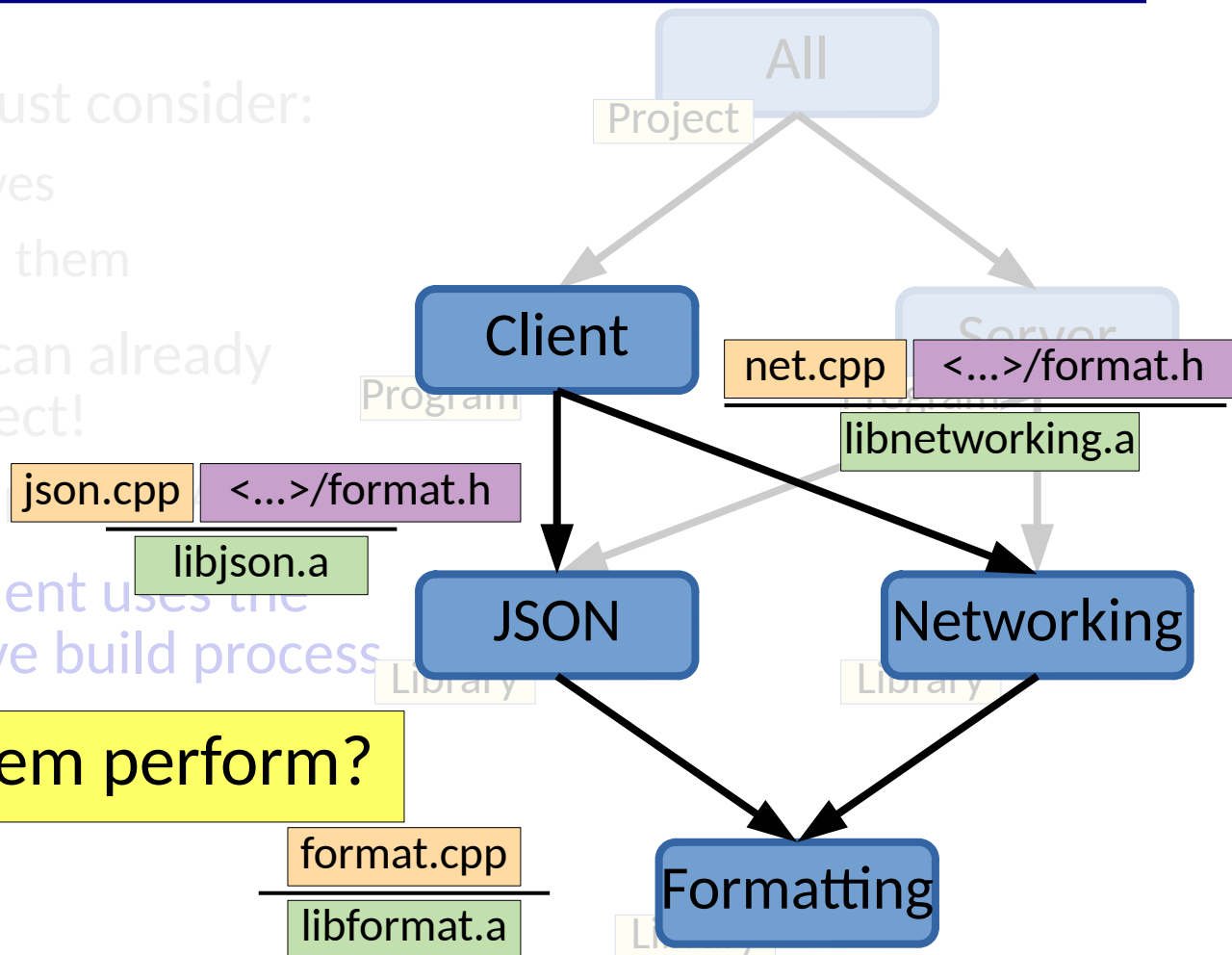
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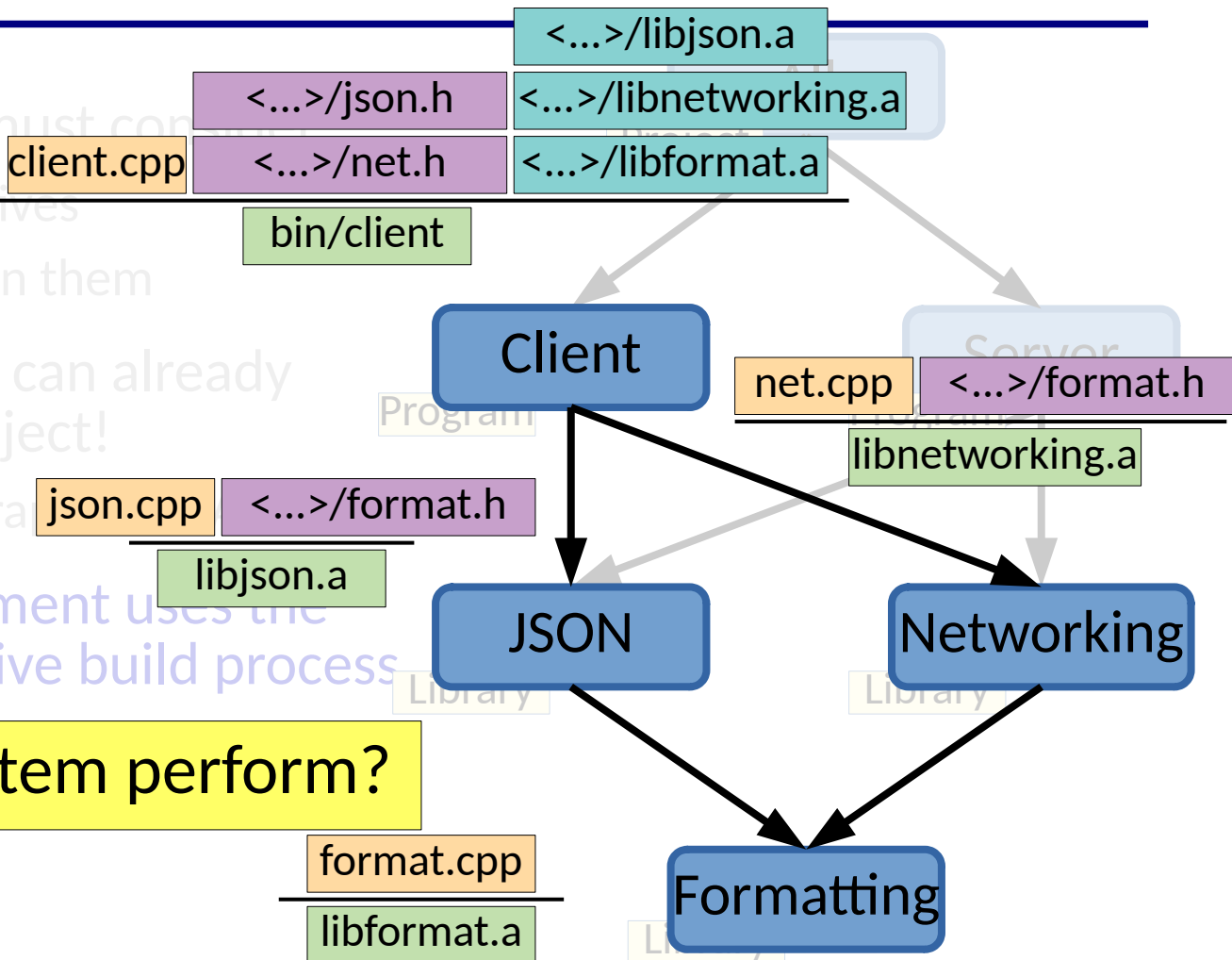
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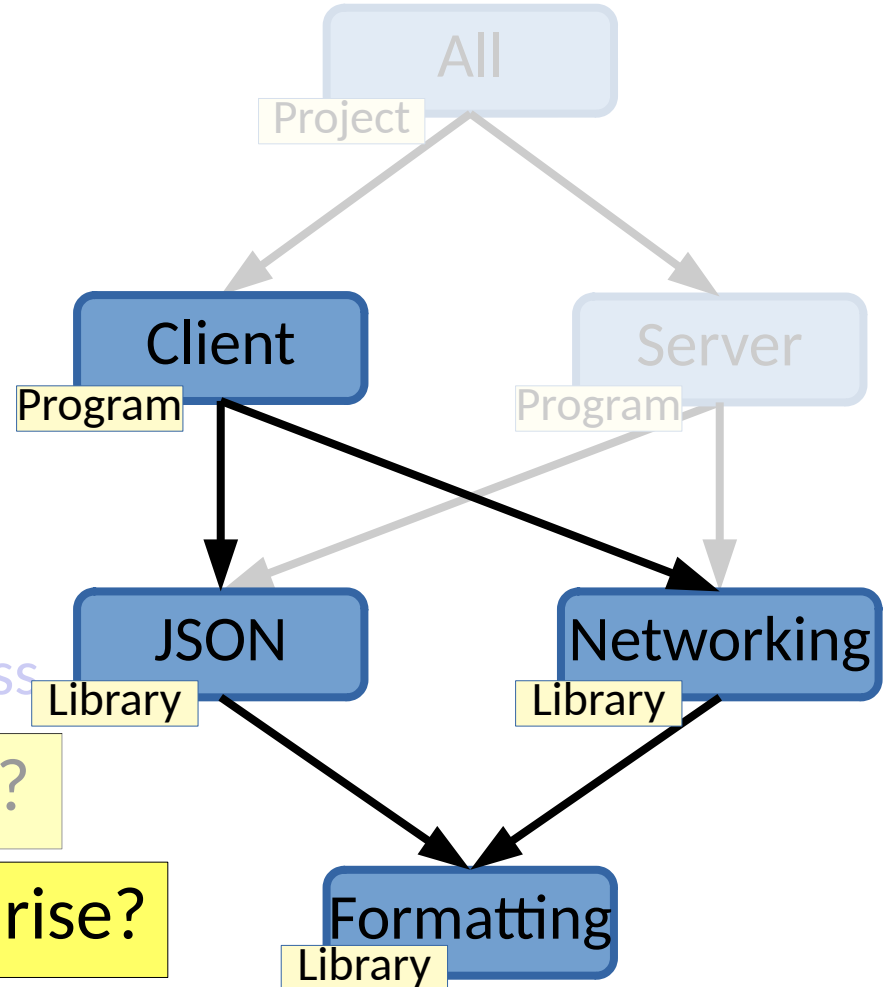
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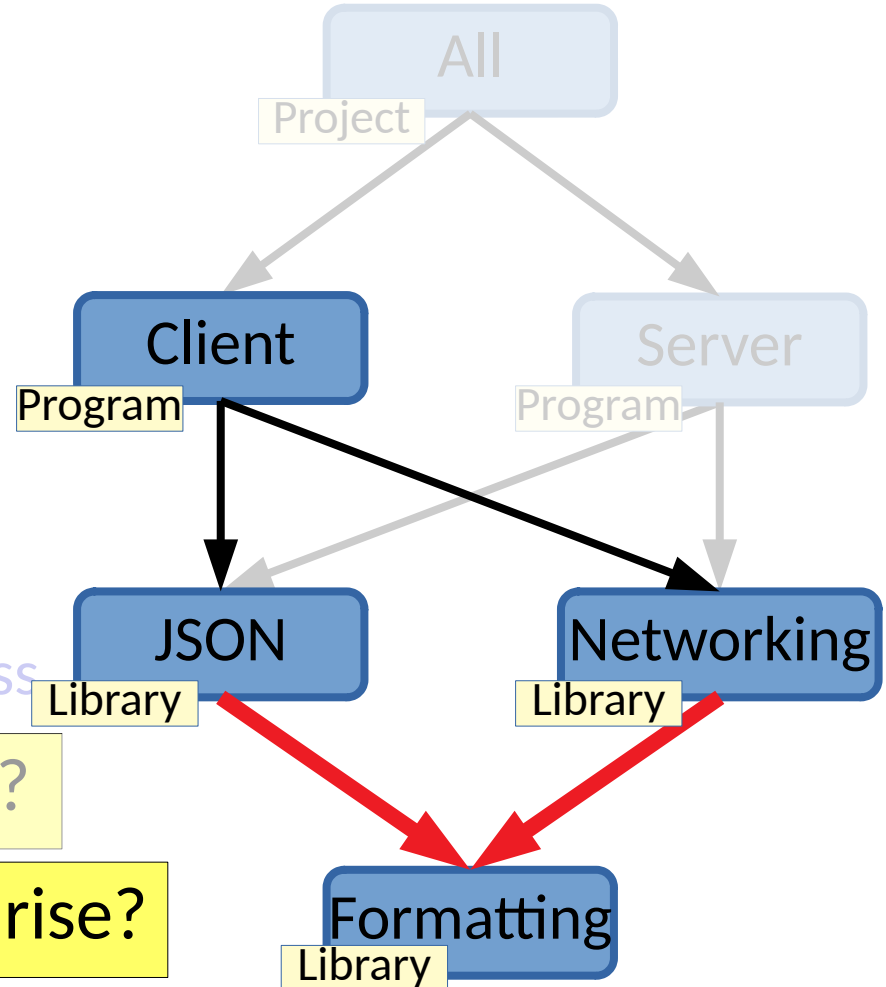


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Can you think of problems that may arise?

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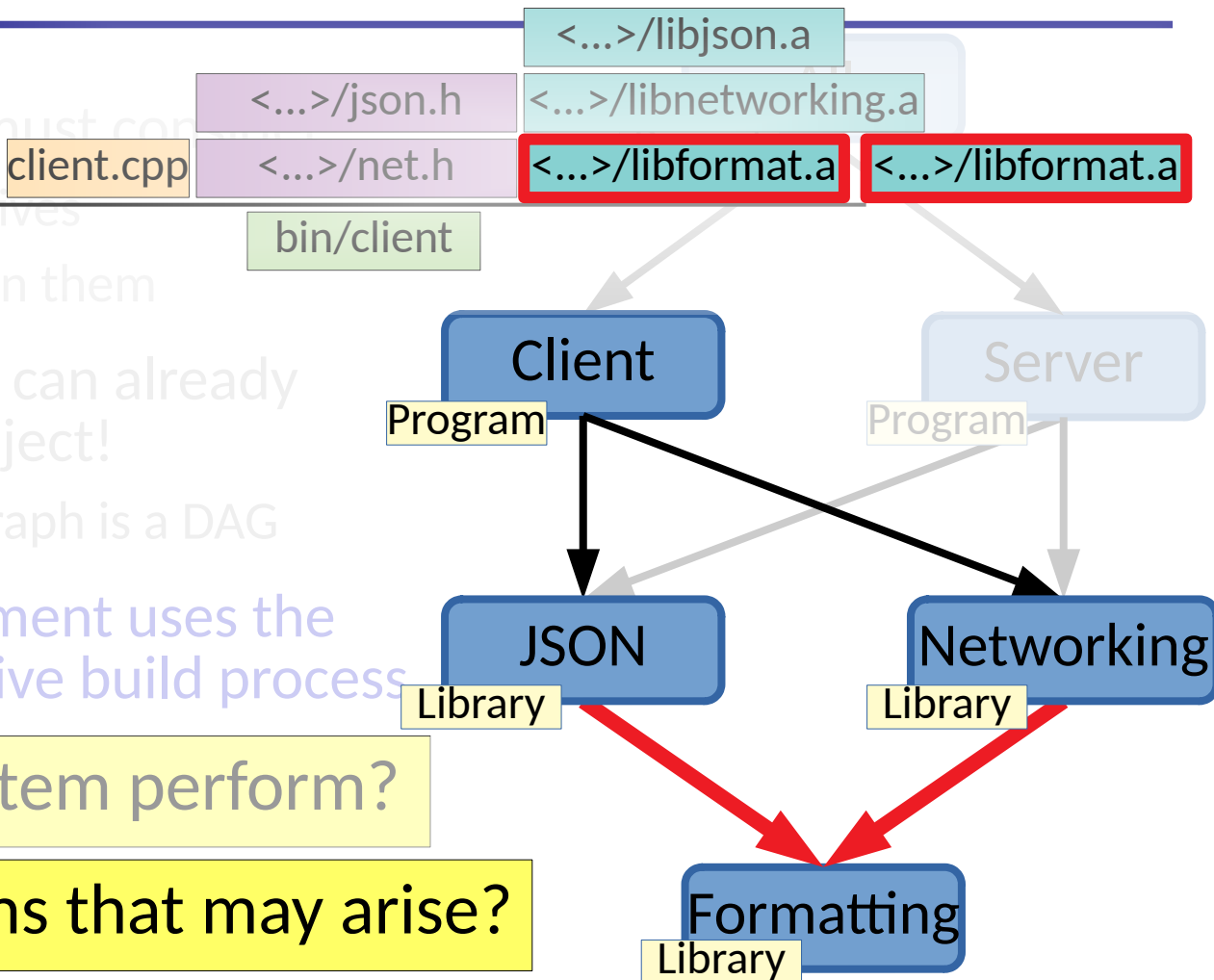


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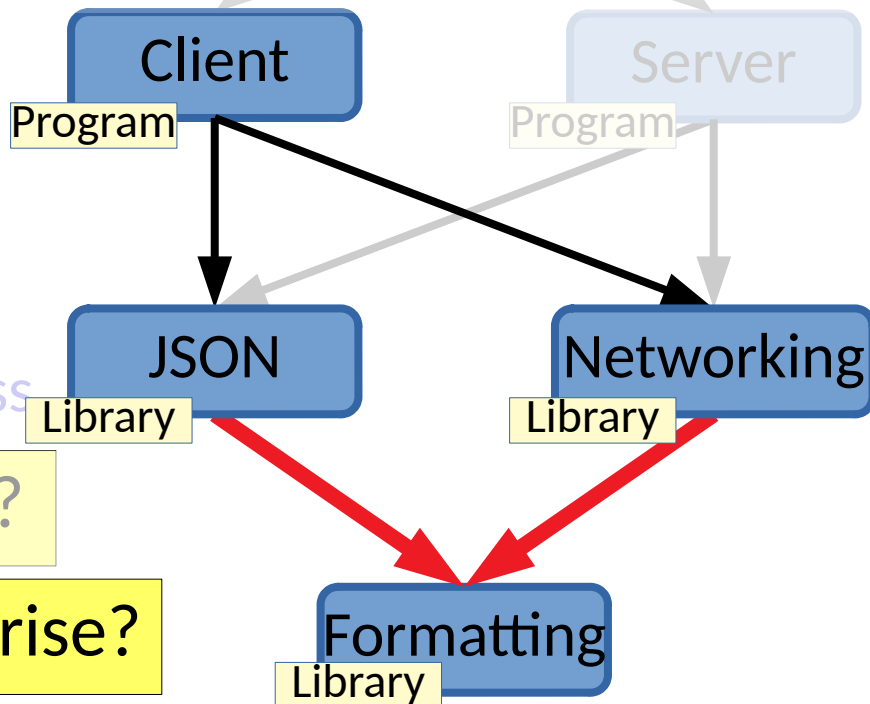
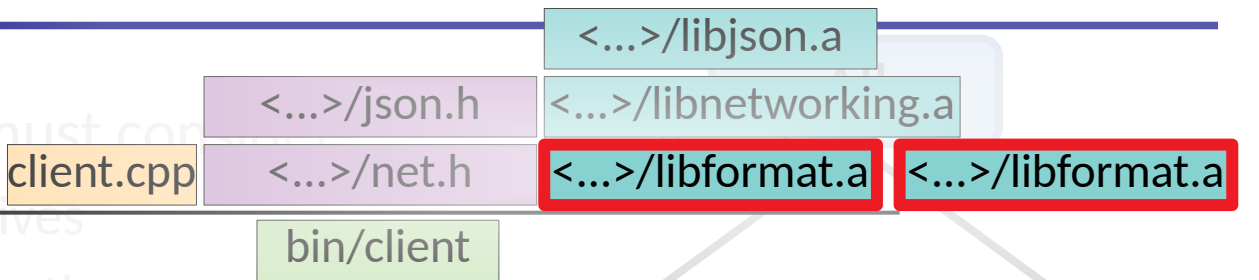
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## Conflicts

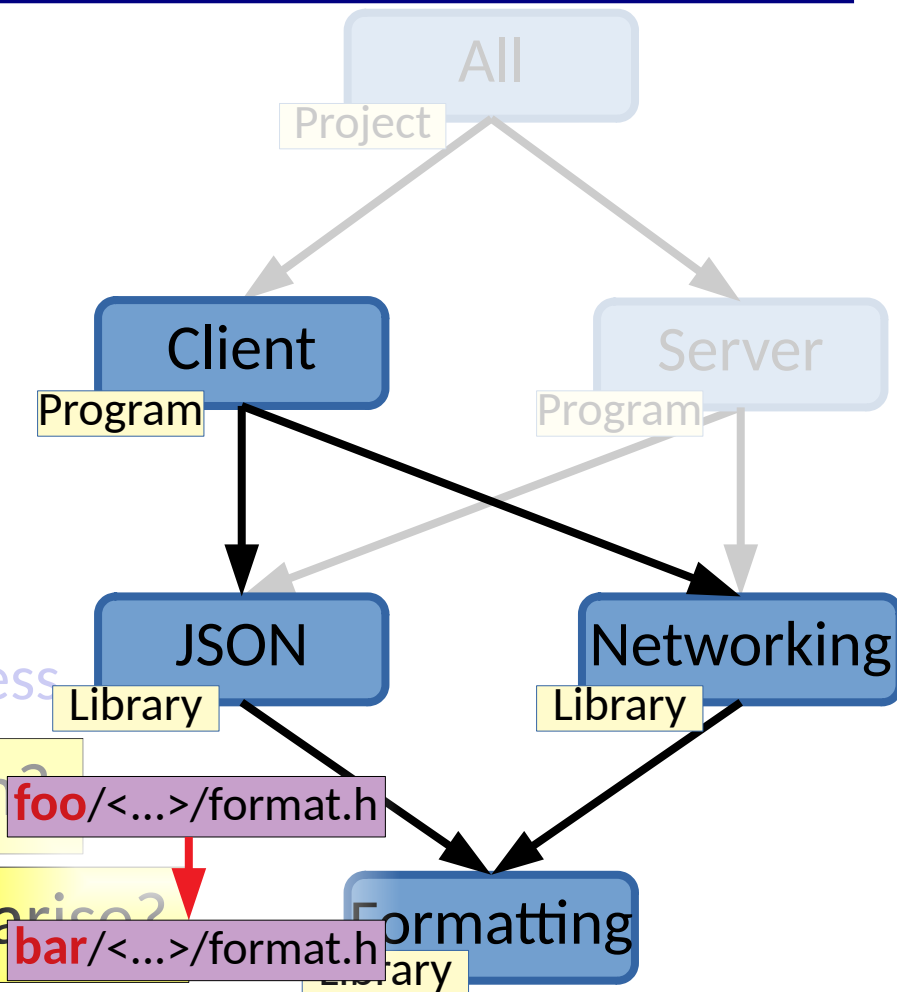


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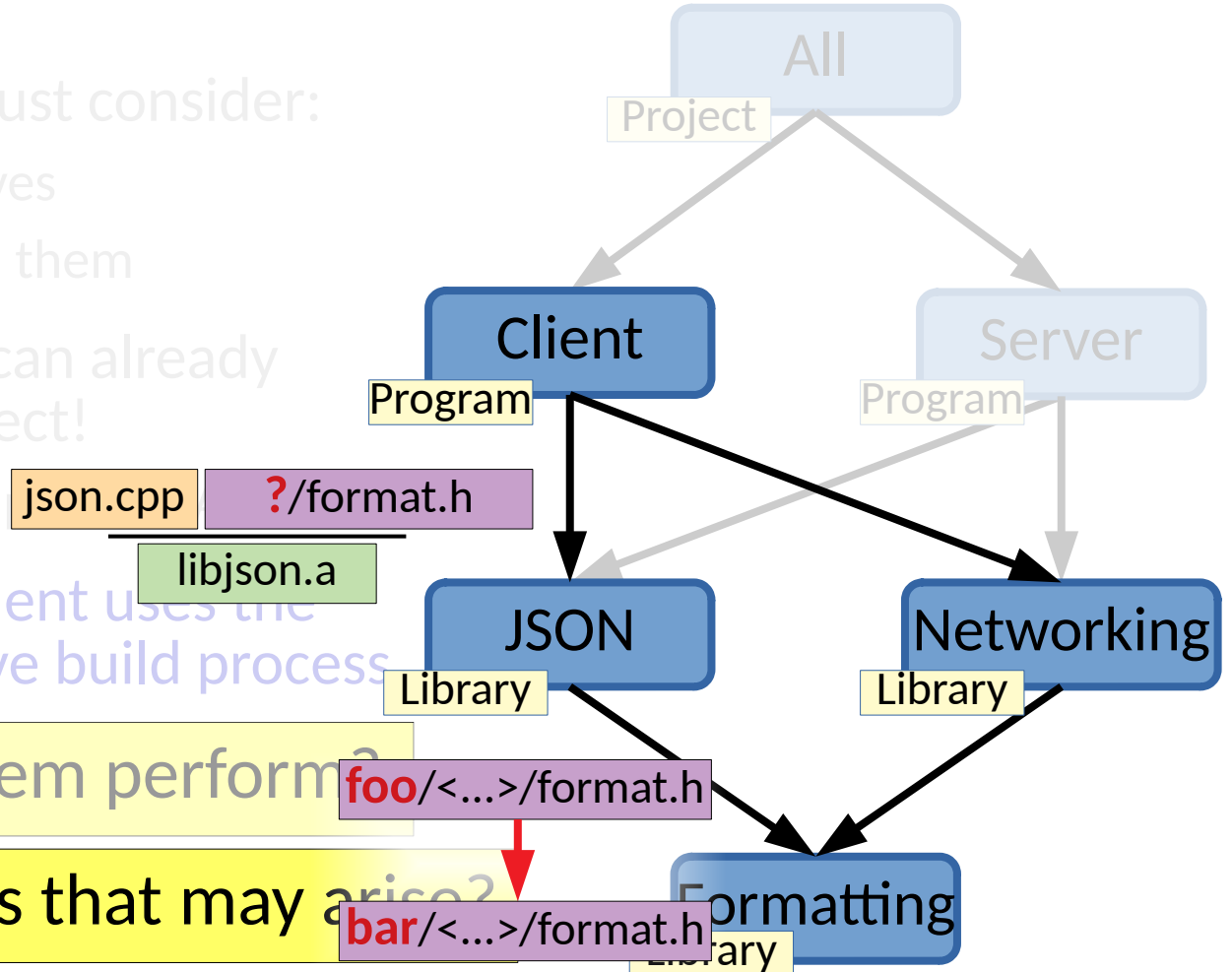
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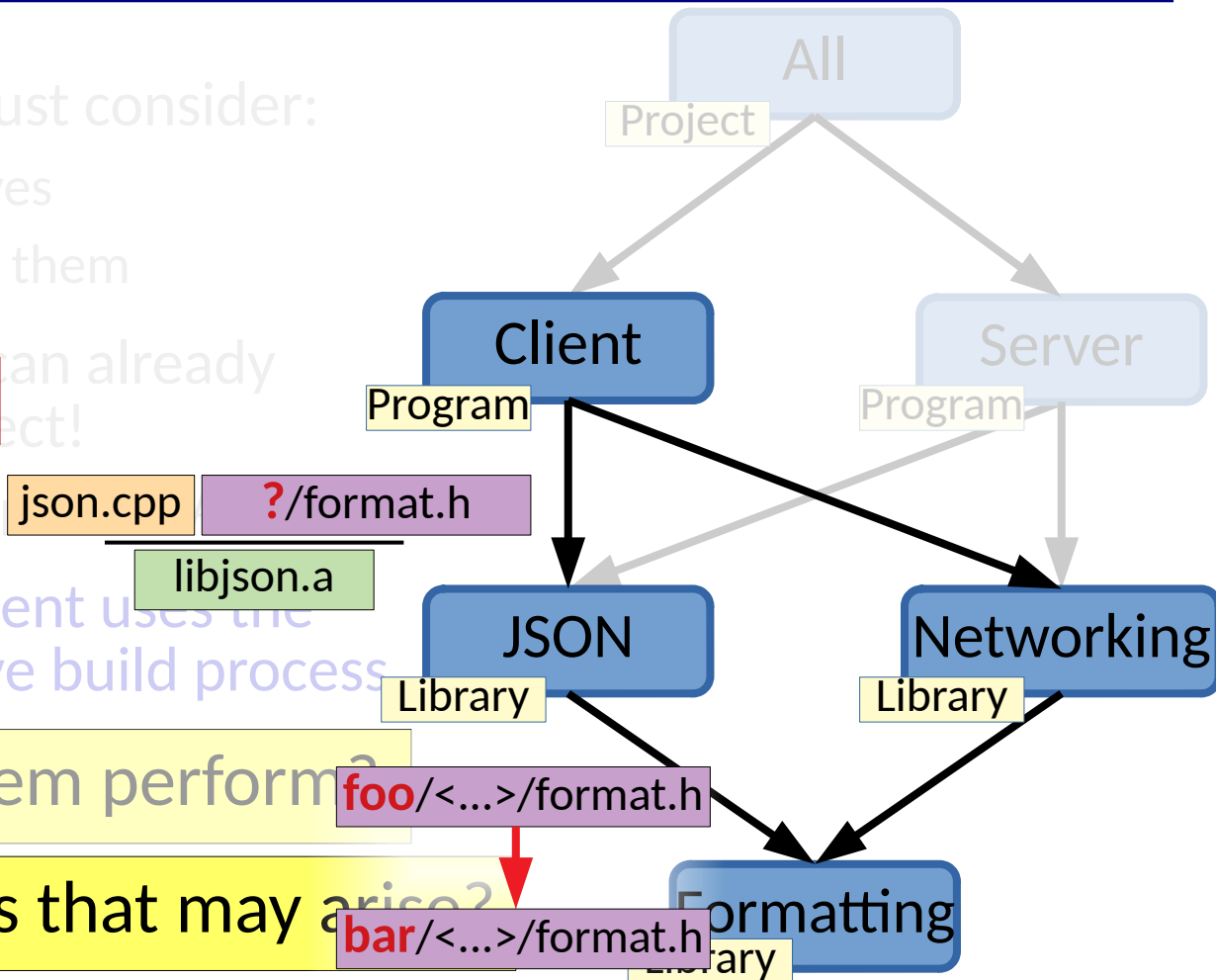
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## Decoupled Evolution

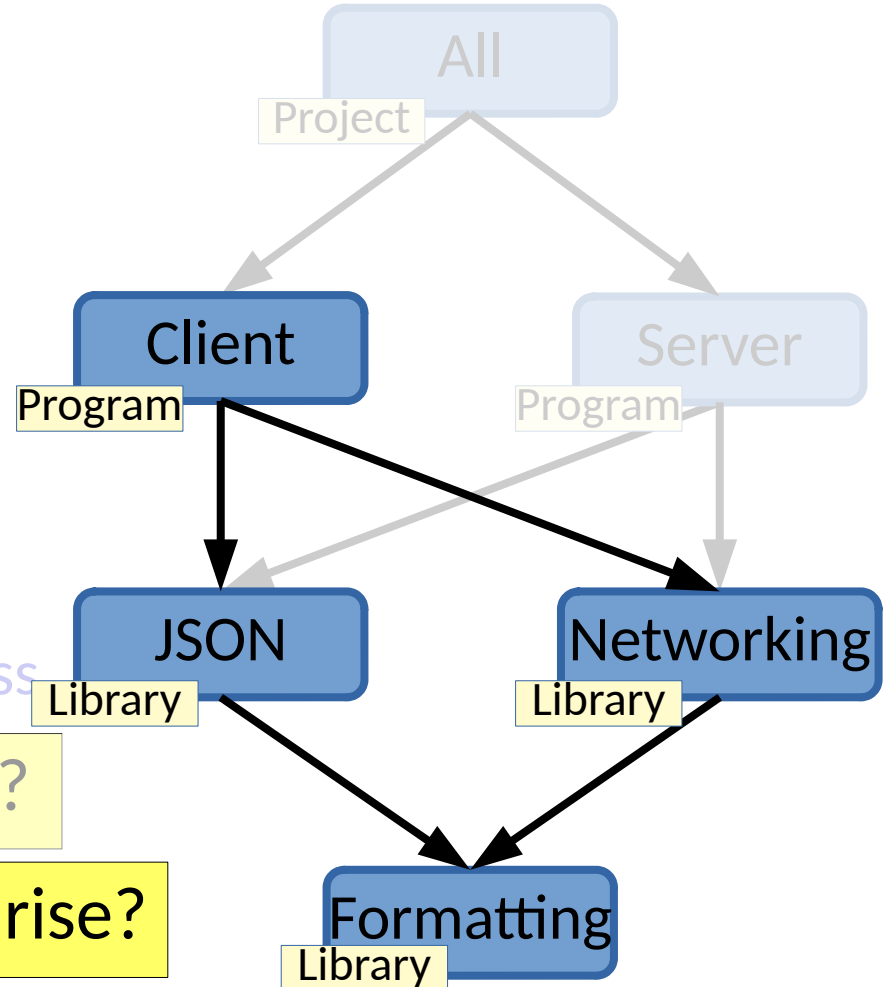


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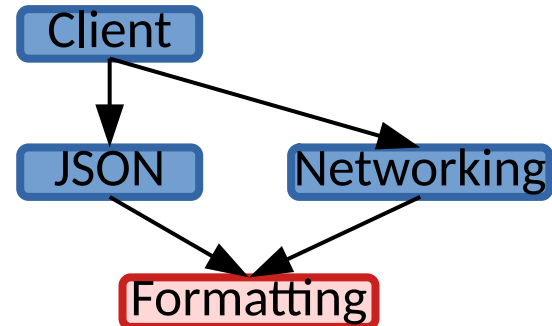
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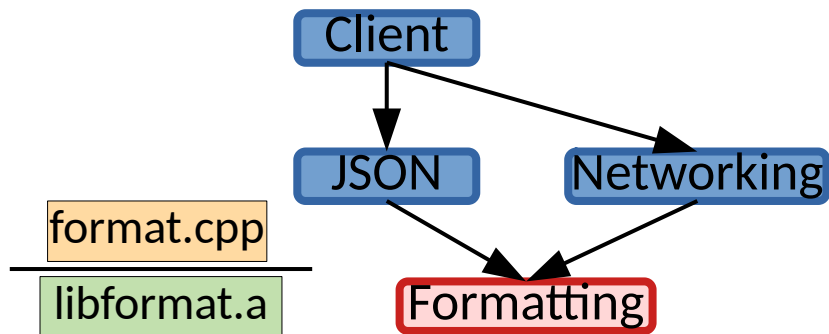
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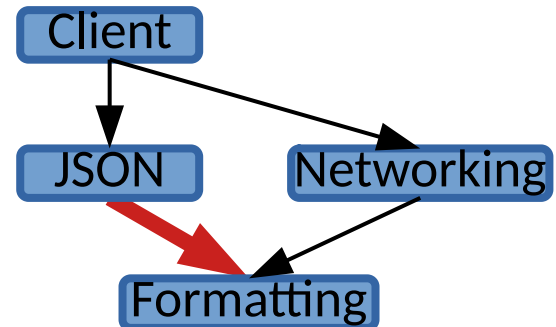
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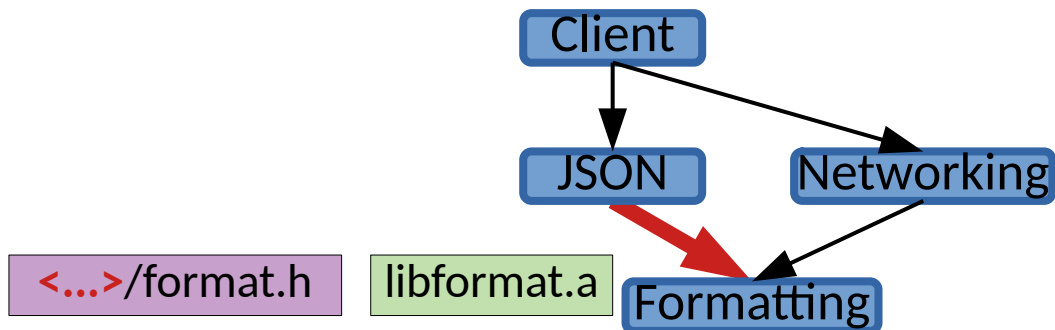
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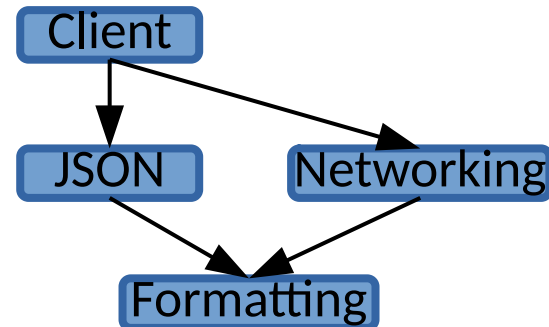
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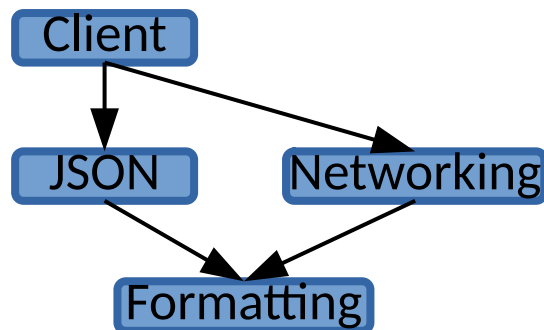




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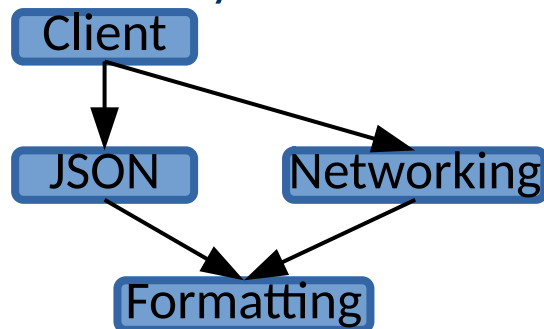
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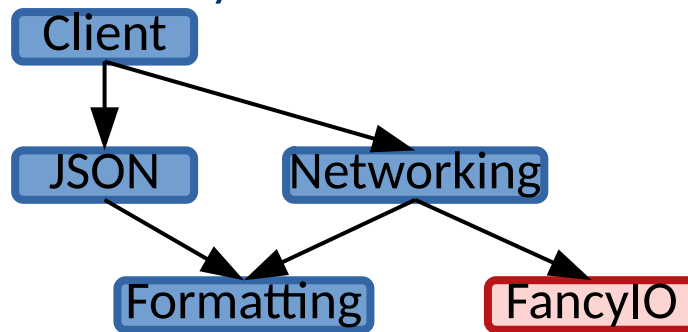
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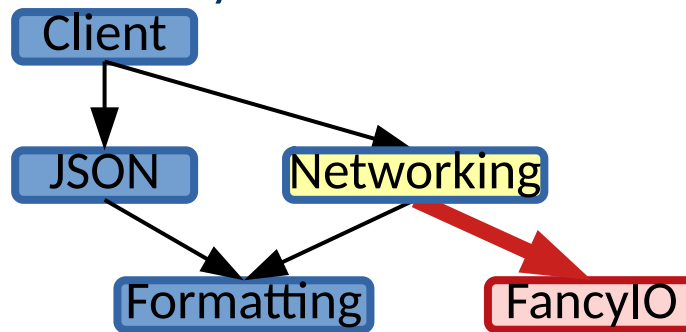


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Include directories for Networking should change

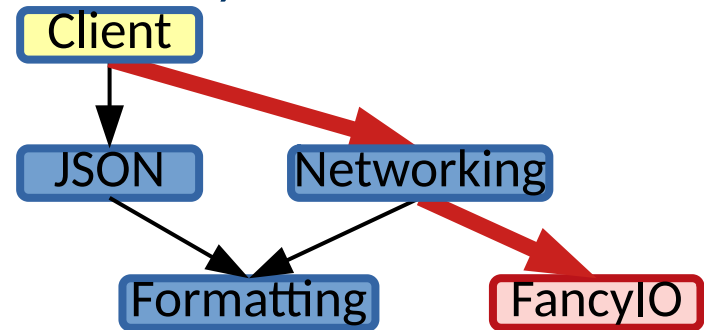


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Include directories for Networking should change  
Linked libraries for Client should change



# Modeling a Build

---

- For each component, build management requires
  - Direct build requirements
  - Transitive usage requirements
  - Note, these just separate *interfaces* from *implementation*
- The dependency graph allows us to use these to infer how to build a component correctly based on its dependencies
  - NOTE:  
Even if a dependency uses a new library, the build system should detect it.
- Let's dive into one specific system to see how this is done....

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  - Used by large projects like KDE, Wireshark, LLVM, ...

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You describe the dependency graph.  
It figures out how to build the software.

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[DEMO]

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    - Operating Systems
    - Compilers
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    - ...
  - May need different source files for different “”
  - **Specification can clearly capture**
    - Libraries, versions, & even how to download them automatically
    - Semantics of compilation & how to use in analysis tools

# What does this add?

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- Scalability
  - Replace “make” with analogous scalable tools (“ninja”)



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  - Why is this bad?
  - May need multiple builds at once: debug, release, ...
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- Use “out of source” builds instead

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  - A script in every directory of your project that controls how to build “things” in that directory
- Simple syntax
  - Case insensitive commands
    - `command( argument1 argument2 argument3 ...)`
  - Let's revisit demo 1!



# Targets & Commands

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  - Executables, libraries, “objects”

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- And commands that can describe how to build those targets
  - Automatic for executable & library
  - `add_custom_command` can build others
    - Documentation
    - Media

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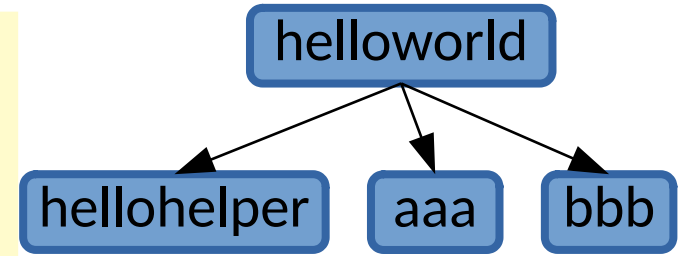
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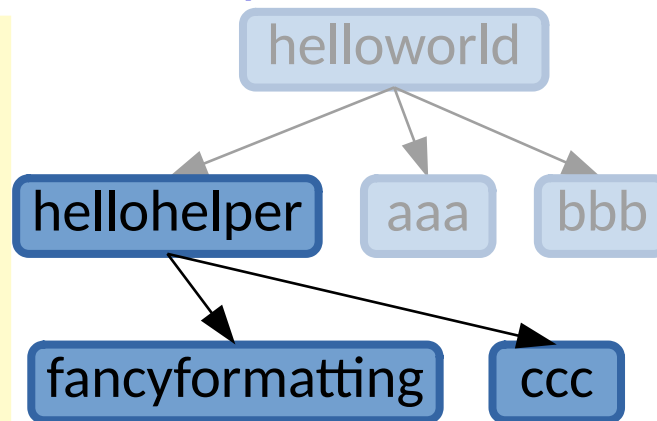


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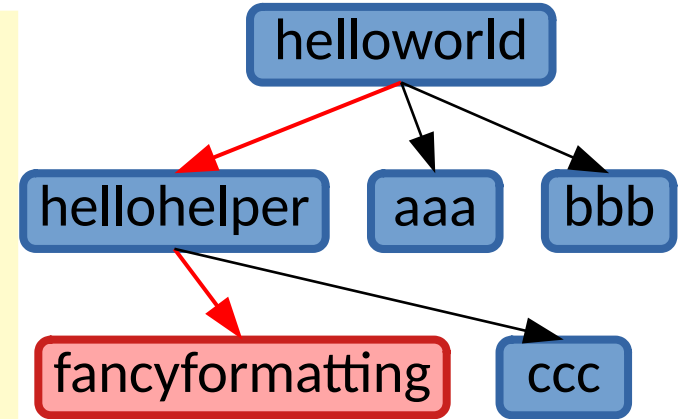


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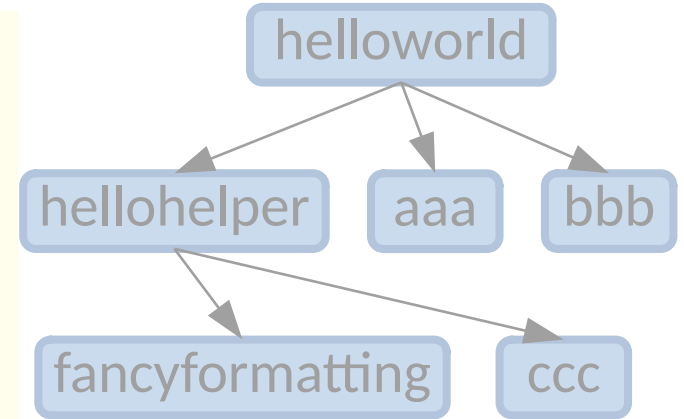
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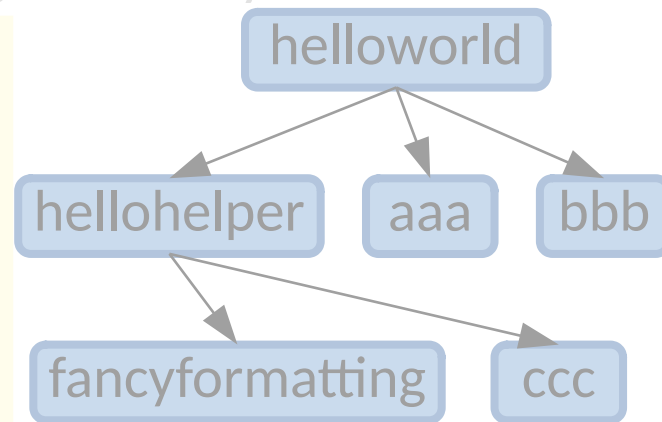
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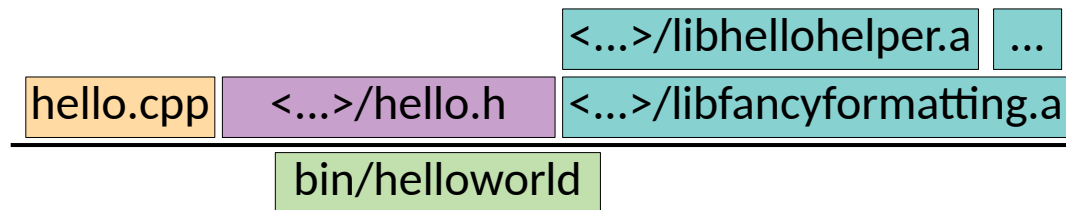
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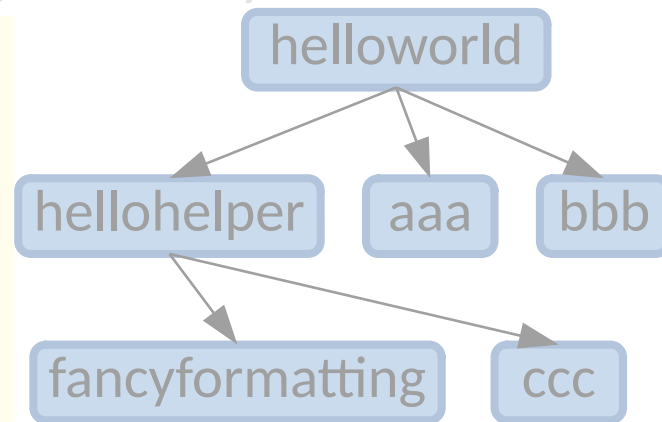


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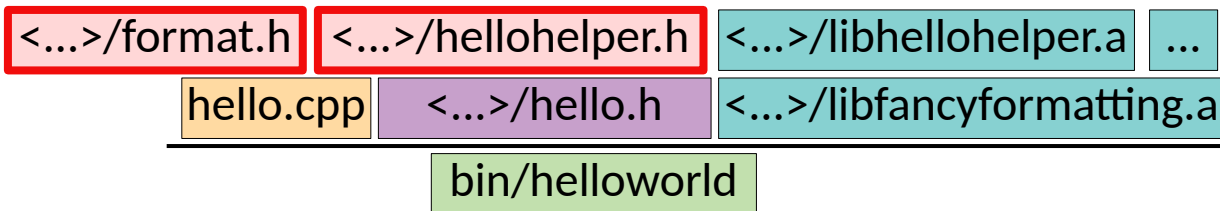
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Consider how this relates to SOA  
and microservices as well!

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CMake has several other mundane build system facilities...

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- Specifying project properties
  - Define a project to access variables that control that project  
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`project (projectname)`
- Print information out during the build process  
`message("Built with flags: ${CMAKE_CXX_FLAGS}")`
- Controlling where things are built

```
set(CMAKE_RUNTIME_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY  
    "${PROJECT_BINARY_DIR}/bin")  
set(CMAKE_LIBRARY_OUTPUT_DIRECTORY  
    "${PROJECT_BINARY_DIR}/lib")
```

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- Finding a resource that you need to use

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- Installation

```
install(TARGETS target1 target2 ...
        DESTINATION /tmp/
)
```

# Control structures

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- IF

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Why might you want conditionals in a build process?

# Control structures

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- Looping

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  foreach(loop_var arg1 arg2 ...)  
    command(${loop_var})  
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  while(condition) ...  
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- Functions 

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  function(function_name arg1 arg2 ...)  
    command(${arg1})  
endFunction(function_name)
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# Pulling Remote Dependencies

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- Managing dependencies (e.g. with CPM)

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What are the tradeoffs of this?

# Analyzing Project Structure

---

- CMake can dump out the dependence graph in graphviz format

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cmake -graphviz=deps.gv <path to project>
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```
dot -Tpng deps.gv -o deps.svg
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CMake has extensive documentation,  
and you can find additional CMake specific information online

# More Advanced Build Issues

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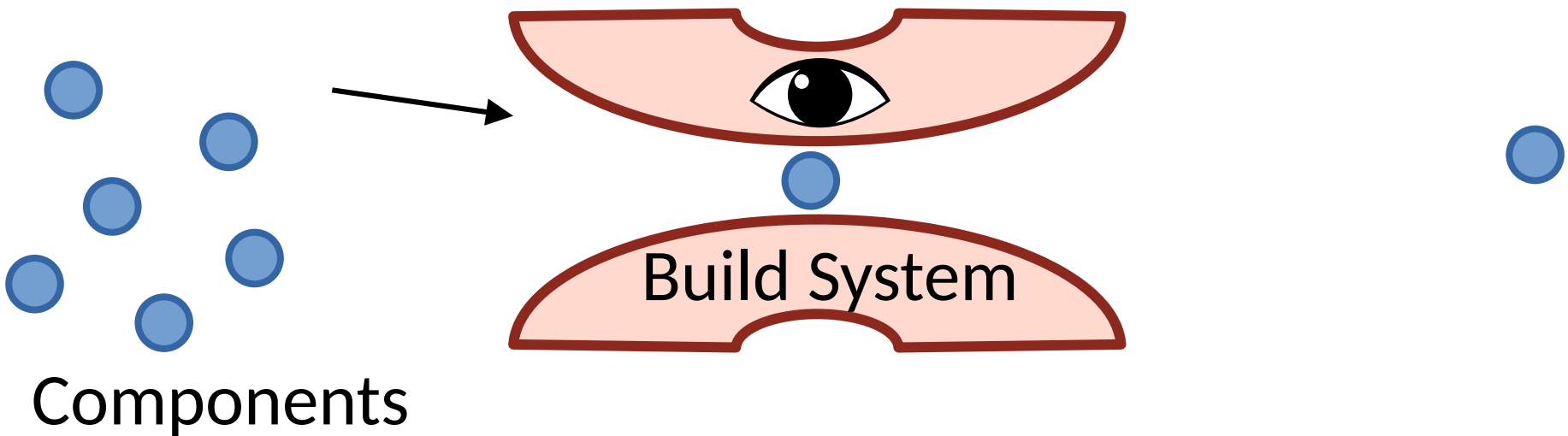
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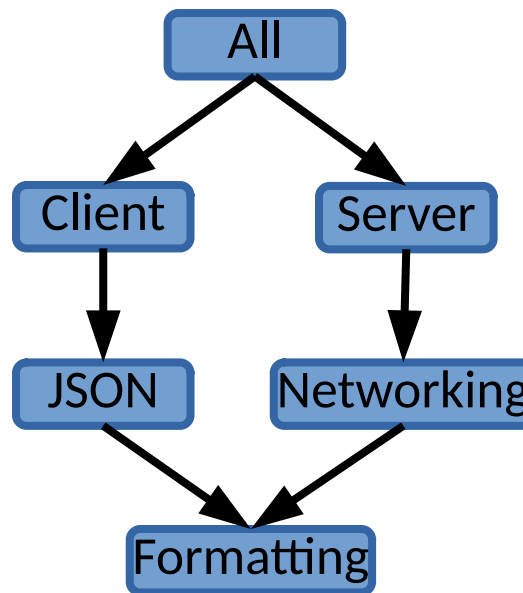
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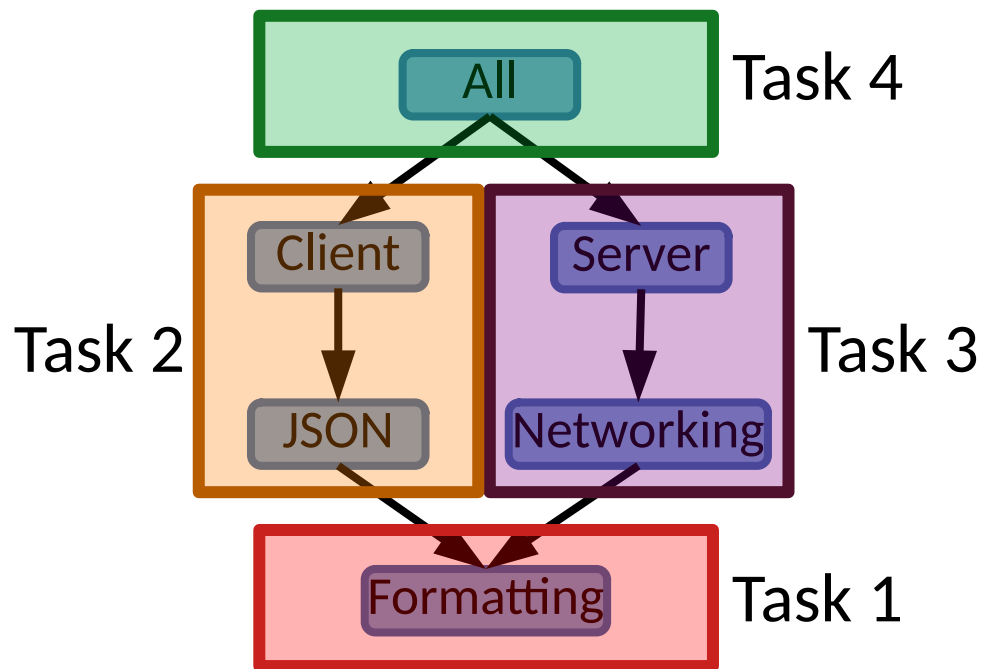
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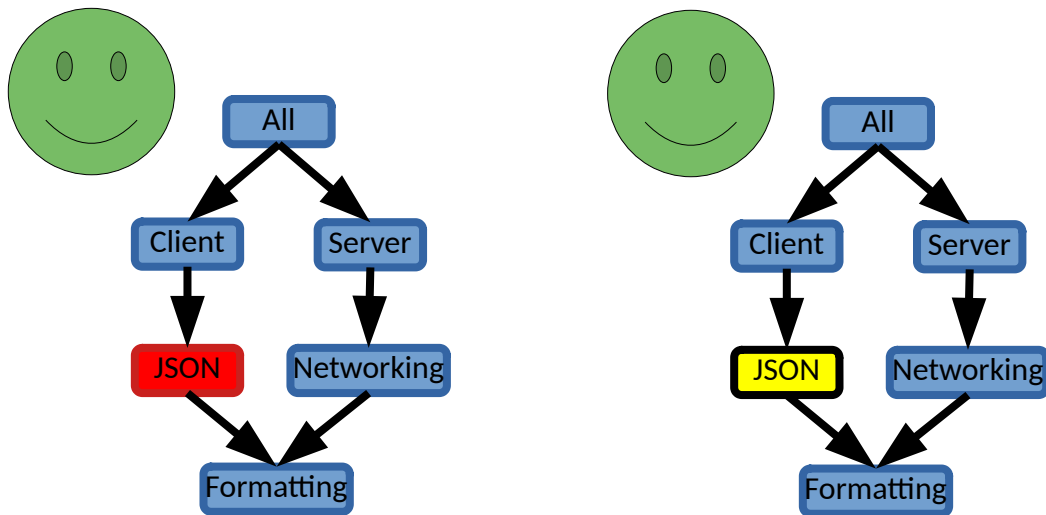
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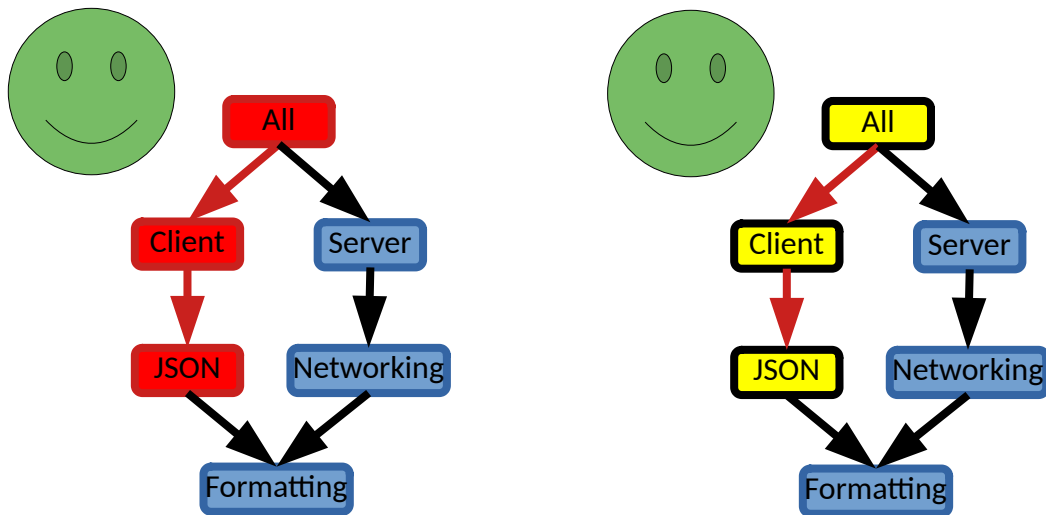
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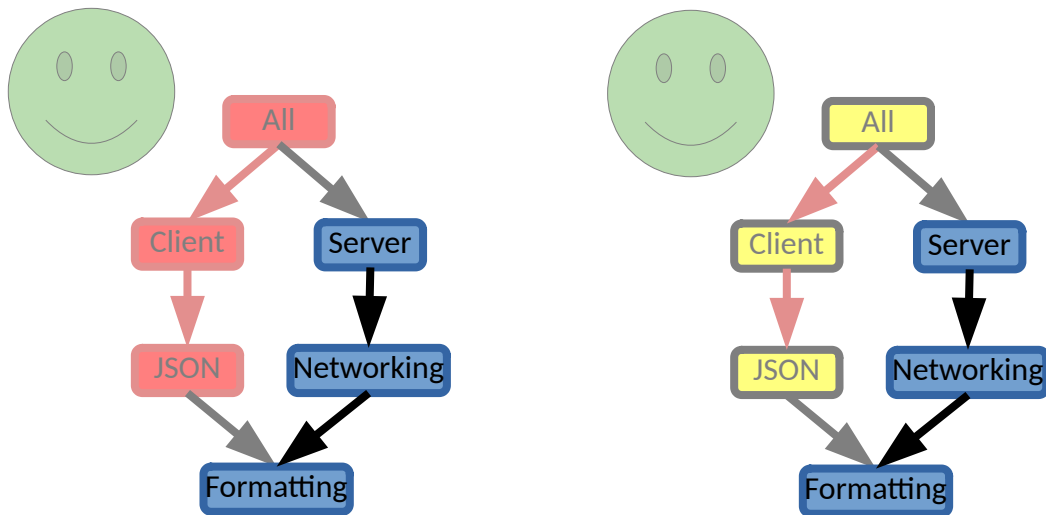
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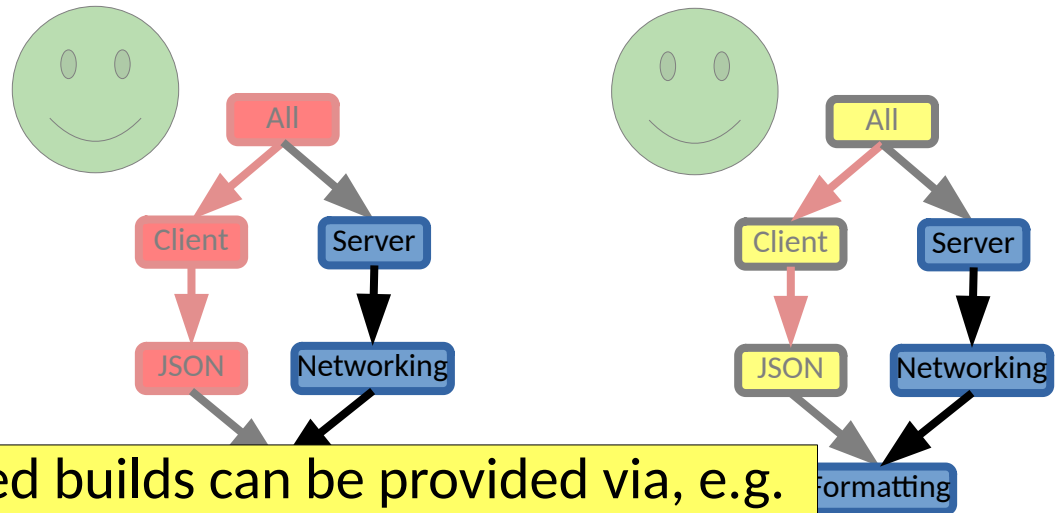
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Distributed & cached builds can be provided via, e.g. MS CloudBuild & IncrediBuild  
Larger companies like Google have their own.

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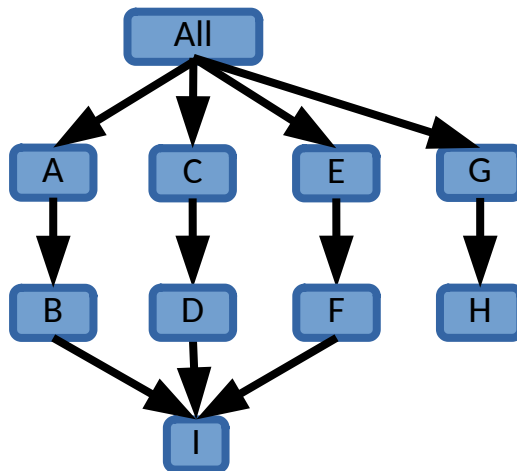
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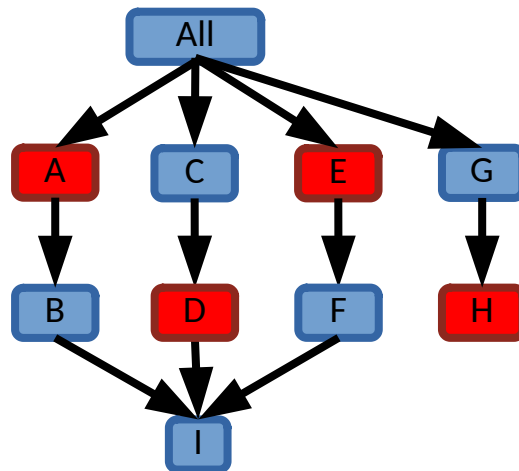
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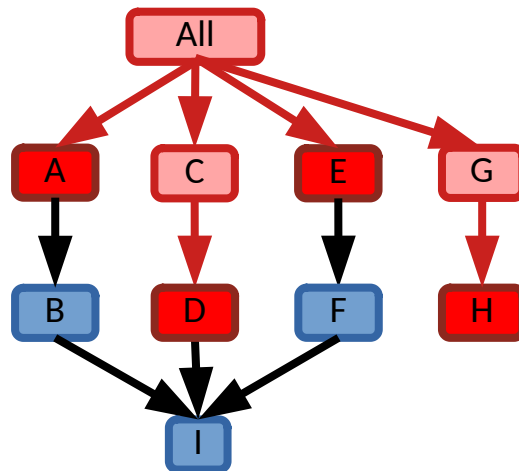
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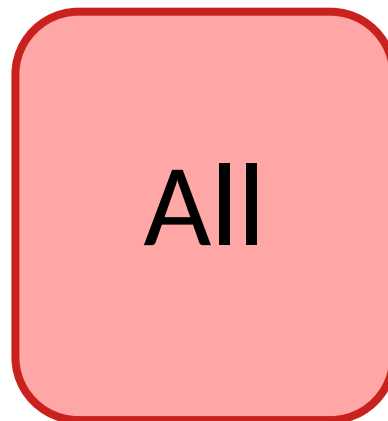
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Just inline everything  
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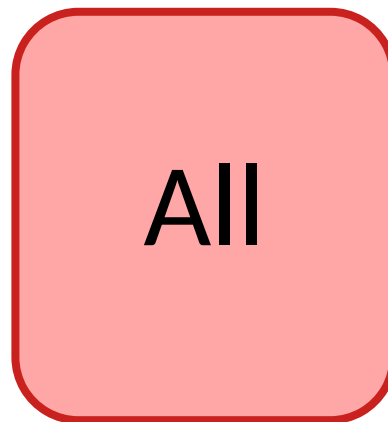
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- Parallel & distributed
- Caching
- **Unification**



↓ value of incremental  
↑ cost of parsing + dependencies

Just inline everything  
into one file!

“Unity builds” can be  
popular in game dev.

# In Summary

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- A modern build system leverages the dependency graph of a project
- Dependency graphs enable
  - 1) inference of build and usage requirements
  - 2) compositional reasoning about modules and build management
- One dominant system for C and C++ is Cmake
- You will get more personal experience with it over the semester if you have not already