Autotools
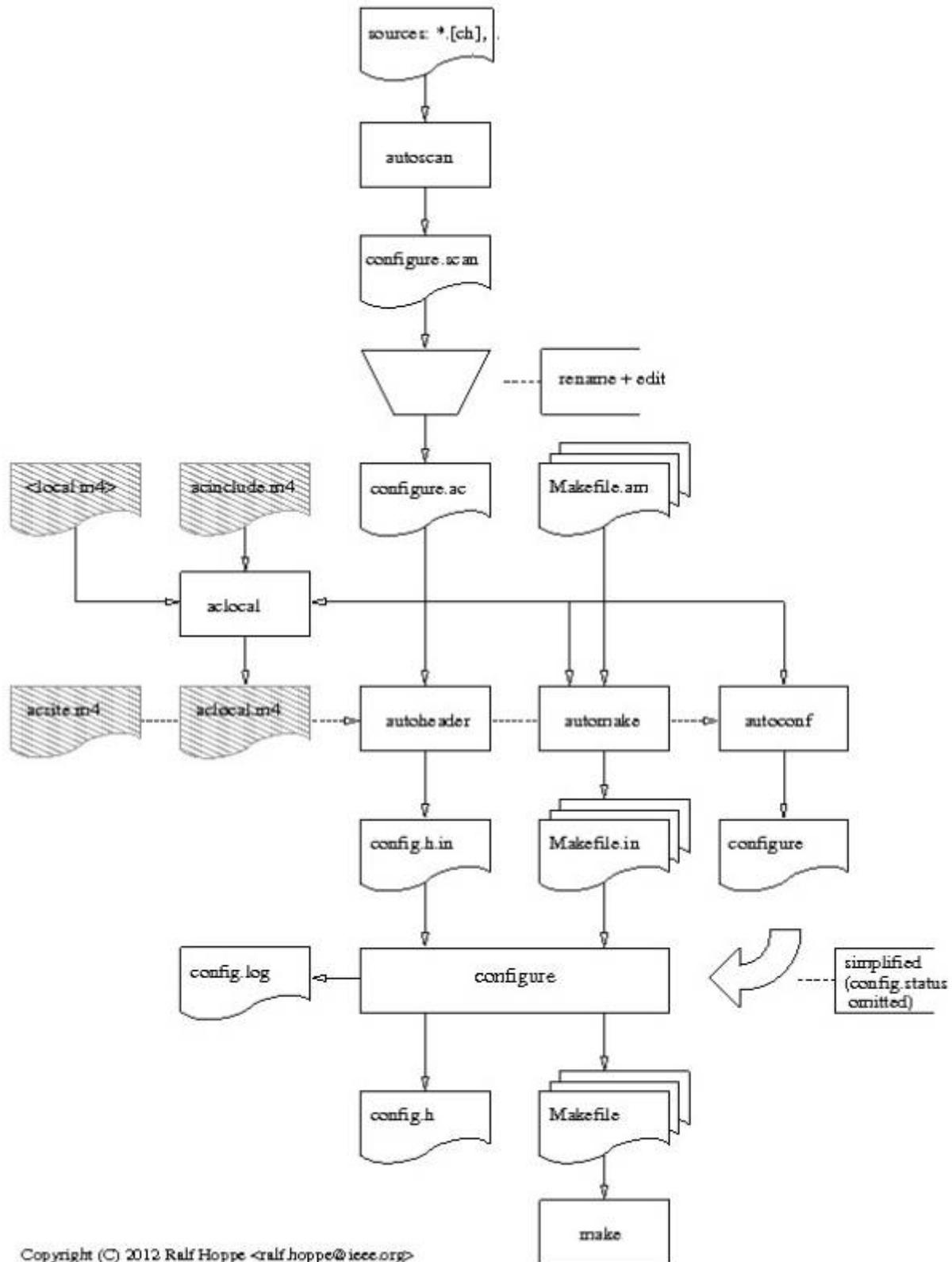
Links

- [GNU Automake Documentation](#)

Overview

autoflow.pdf

Upgrading Automake

When upgrading from one *Automake* version to another, the following steps are (typically) required:

1. force an update of *Automake* configuration files and install helper files `build/config.guess`, `build/config.sub`, `build/install-sh`, `build/missing` and `build/depcomp`

   ```
   autoreconf --install --force
   ```

2. copy/update standard files for package

   ```
   automake --add-missing --force-missing
   ```

3. copy/update *gettext* M4 files to `m4/`, `po/` and `build/`

   ```
   [glib-]gettextize -f
   ```

4. copy/update *Libtool* files to package[1]

   ```
   libtoolize -c
   ```

5. (optional) update `configure.ac` to a new *Autoconf* version

   ```
   autoupdate
   ```

> Command `autoupdate` directly modifies your `configure.ac`.
>
> Nevertheless the command is very helpful, because it updates (for example):
>
> - AC_PREREQ
> - AC_INIT
> - AM_GNU_GETTEXT_VERSION

Which files to put under version control is a kind of religious question, see the links below:

- GNU gettext utilities
- Stack Overflow #3290908
- Stack Overflow #33675547

> An idea might be to put such files under version control which persist after execution of `make maintainer-clean` **or** are included in the package after execution of `make dist` (see GNU Coding Standards for details).

Cross Compile

Build for example with:

```
./configure --build=i686-pc-linux-gnu --host=arm-angstrom-linux-gnueabi
```

[1]

The files `m4/libtool.m4`, `m4/ltoptions.m4`, `m4/ltsugar.m4`, `m4/ltversion.m4` and `m4/lt~obsolete.m4` are only needed for projects, which have a library as target.

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