



## ***Rocky Enterprise Linux 9.2 Manual Pages on command 'makecontext.3'***

**C:\>man makecontext.3**

MAKECONTEXT(3)                      Linux Programmer's Manual                      MAKECONTEXT(3)

### NAME

makecontext, swapcontext - manipulate user context

### SYNOPSIS

```
#include <ucontext.h>

void makecontext(ucontext_t *ucp, void (*func)(), int argc, ...);

int swapcontext(ucontext_t *oucp, const ucontext_t *ucp);
```

### DESCRIPTION

In a System V-like environment, one has the type `ucontext_t` defined in `<ucontext.h>` and the four functions `getcontext(3)`, `setcontext(3)`, `makecontext()` and `swapcontext(3)` that allow user-level context switching between multiple threads of control within a process.

For the type and the first two functions, see `getcontext(3)`.

The `makecontext()` function modifies the context pointed to by `ucp` (which was obtained from a call to `getcontext(3)`). Before invoking `makecontext()`, the caller must allocate a new stack for this context and assign its address to `ucp->uc_stack`, and define a successor context and assign its address to `ucp->uc_link`.

When this context is later activated (using `setcontext(3)` or `swapcontext(3)`) the function `func` is called, and passed the series of integer (`int`) arguments that follow `argc`; the caller must specify the number of these arguments in `argc`. When this function returns, the successor context is activated. If the successor context

pointer is NULL, the thread exits.

The swapcontext() function saves the current context in the structure pointed to by oucp, and then activates the context pointed to by ucp.

#### RETURN VALUE

When successful, swapcontext() does not return. (But we may return later, in case oucp is activated, in which case it looks like swapcontext() returns 0.) On error, swapcontext() returns -1 and sets errno appropriately.

#### ERRORS

ENOMEM Insufficient stack space left.

#### VERSIONS

makecontext() and swapcontext() are provided in glibc since version 2.1.

#### ATTRIBUTES

For an explanation of the terms used in this section, see attributes(7).

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?Interface ? Attribute ? Value ?

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?makecontext() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe race:ucp ?

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?swapcontext() ? Thread safety ? MT-Safe race:oucp race:ucp ?

??

#### CONFORMING TO

SUSv2, POSIX.1-2001. POSIX.1-2008 removes the specifications of makecontext() and swapcontext(), citing portability issues, and recommending that applications be rewritten to use POSIX threads instead.

#### NOTES

The interpretation of ucp->uc\_stack is just as in sigaltstack(2), namely, this struct contains the start and length of a memory area to be used as the stack, regardless of the direction of growth of the stack. Thus, it is not necessary for the user program to worry about this direction.

On architectures where int and pointer types are the same size (e.g., x86-32, where both types are 32 bits), you may be able to get away with passing pointers as arguments to makecontext() following argc. However, doing this is not guaranteed to be portable, is undefined according to the standards, and won't work on architectures

where pointers are larger than ints. Nevertheless, starting with version 2.8, glibc makes some changes to `makecontext()`, to permit this on some 64-bit architectures (e.g., x86-64).

#### EXAMPLE

The example program below demonstrates the use of `getcontext(3)`, `makecontext()`, and `swapcontext()`. Running the program produces the following output:

```
$ ./a.out
main: swapcontext(&uctx_main, &uctx_func2)
func2: started
func2: swapcontext(&uctx_func2, &uctx_func1)
func1: started
func1: swapcontext(&uctx_func1, &uctx_func2)
func2: returning
func1: returning
main: exiting
```

#### Program source

```
#include <ucontext.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

static ucontext_t uctx_main, uctx_func1, uctx_func2;
#define handle_error(msg) \
    do { perror(msg); exit(EXIT_FAILURE); } while (0)

static void
func1(void)
{
    printf("func1: started\n");
    printf("func1: swapcontext(&uctx_func1, &uctx_func2)\n");
    if (swapcontext(&uctx_func1, &uctx_func2) == -1)
        handle_error("swapcontext");
    printf("func1: returning\n");
}

static void
func2(void)
```

```

{
    printf("func2: started\n");
    printf("func2: swapcontext(&uctx_func2, &uctx_func1)\n");
    if (swapcontext(&uctx_func2, &uctx_func1) == -1)
        handle_error("swapcontext");
    printf("func2: returning\n");
}

int
main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    char func1_stack[16384];
    char func2_stack[16384];
    if (getcontext(&uctx_func1) == -1)
        handle_error("getcontext");
    uctx_func1.uc_stack.ss_sp = func1_stack;
    uctx_func1.uc_stack.ss_size = sizeof(func1_stack);
    uctx_func1.uc_link = &uctx_main;
    makecontext(&uctx_func1, func1, 0);
    if (getcontext(&uctx_func2) == -1)
        handle_error("getcontext");
    uctx_func2.uc_stack.ss_sp = func2_stack;
    uctx_func2.uc_stack.ss_size = sizeof(func2_stack);
    /* Successor context is f1(), unless argc > 1 */
    uctx_func2.uc_link = (argc > 1) ? NULL : &uctx_func1;
    makecontext(&uctx_func2, func2, 0);
    printf("main: swapcontext(&uctx_main, &uctx_func2)\n");
    if (swapcontext(&uctx_main, &uctx_func2) == -1)
        handle_error("swapcontext");
    printf("main: exiting\n");
    exit(EXIT_SUCCESS);
}

```

SEE ALSO

sigaction(2), sigaltstack(2), sigprocmask(2), getcontext(3), sigsetjmp(3)

## COLOPHON

This page is part of release 5.05 of the Linux man-pages project. A description of the project, information about reporting bugs, and the latest version of this page, can be found at <https://www.kernel.org/doc/man-pages/>.

GNU

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