

GROMACS - Bug #228

Various groff error fixes and minor improvements to man pages

10/15/2008 01:44 AM - Nicholas Breen

Status: Closed	
Priority: Normal	
Assignee: David van der Spoel	
Category: documentation	
Target version: 4.0_rc1	
Affected version - extra info:	Difficulty: uncategorized
Affected version:	
Description	
Created an attachment (id=298) section 1 man pages patch	
<p>There are a number of places in the man pages where lines start with a period that aren't groff commands, which causes rendering errors (the line in question disappears from the output). Additionally, while minor, there are a lot of bare "-"s in CLI arguments that get interpreted as hyphens in Unicode environments, which should actually be dashes, "\-"; otherwise it causes problems if you copy-and-paste examples straight to the command line.</p> <p>The attached patch fixes all of those. It <i>also</i> expands the .TH header/footer, adds a brief description of every command to the .SH NAME section (allowing tools like apropos(1) to work), and - this is the messy one - adds a SEE ALSO for gromacs(7) to every man page, to help tie the whole bundle together and make it clear where any given binary came from.</p> <p>Attached separately is a possible gromacs.7 man page listing every binary in the suite. It starts with some fairly hideous auto-generated code yanked from Perl's POD setup to assist with the formatting further down. I expect you might want to adjust the text at the bottom, after the command list.</p>	

History

#1 - 10/15/2008 01:45 AM - Nicholas Breen

Created an attachment (id=299)
gromacs.7

#2 - 10/15/2008 01:22 PM - David van der Spoel

Thanks for that. Is there any reason not to mv the gromacs.7 into a gromacs.1 except that it is not an executable? It would make it a bit easier to handle. On the other hand maybe we will once have developer (3) man pages as well.

As regards your other fixes: these files are generated from the source code. (src/gmxlib/wman.c). There may be a bug in the code which generates erroneous man pages, but when I do man anadock or man mdrun it looks ok. Could you please point out where exactly the error is?

I found one in grompp.1 on line 108, is that what you mean?

#3 - 10/15/2008 08:58 PM - Nicholas Breen

Section for gromacs: Yeah, 7 just because it's not an executable; "miscellaneous" seems like the right place to put it.

Man page errors:

```
do_dssp.1.gz 79: warning: `Together' not defined
editconf.1.gz 55: warning: `Both' not defined
g_anaeig.1.gz 141: warning: `The' not defined
g_analyze.1.gz 169: warning: `The' not defined
g_enemat.1.gz 62: warning: `LJ:Protein-SOL" not defined
g_hbond.1.gz 59: warning: `Dummy' not defined
g_msd.1.gz 45: warning: `An' not defined
g_nmeig.1.gz 34: warning: `When' not defined
g_traj.1.gz 88: warning: `To' not defined
g_vanhove.1.gz 63: warning: `The' not defined
g_wham.1.gz 23: warning: `pdo' not defined
genbox.1.gz 83: warning: `Other' not defined
grompp.1.gz 126: warning: `Additionally,' not defined
mdrun.1.gz 118: warning: `By' not defined
```

protonate.1.gz 22: warning: `lf' not defined
trjconv.1.gz 176: warning: `gro,' not defined
xpm2ps.1.gz 45: warning: `Reasonable' not defined

It may be an implementation-dependent detail; on my fairly current Linux box, man simply fails to display the offending lines. Using do_dssp as an example, it goes from these line of C source:

```
"[TT]ssdump.dat[tt] for usage in the program [TT]g_chi[tt]. Together",  
  "these two programs can be used to analyze dihedral properties as a",
```

...to these lines of groff:

```
for usage in the program  
  .B g_chi  
  . Together  
  these two programs can be used to analyze dihedral properties as a
```

...to this output from man:

```
Finally, this program can dump the secondary structure in a special file  
  ssdump.dat for usage in the program g_chi these two programs can be used
```

The ". Together" gets silently dropped. Converting it to "\&. Together" returns it to normal display. It **might** be easiest to change the first four entries of wman.c's sandrNROFF[] to output \fB and \fR instead of newlines and .B, which sidesteps the problem entirely. I can work up a patch for wman.c that would do most of the work from the man page patch, if you'd like - though I don't see any way to autogenerate one-liner descriptions in .SH NAME, that info isn't in the source files?

#4 - 10/15/2008 09:20 PM - David van der Spoel

It would be great if you could fix wman.c. The one-liner info is in admin/programs.txt which is processed with the mknroff script in the same directory.

#5 - 10/16/2008 01:25 AM - Nicholas Breen

Created an attachment (id=303)
updated patches

Thanks, I'd never looked in admin.

Attached tarball contains (1) patch to wman.c that renders all dashes* and leading-periods safe*; (2) patch to mknroff that parses programs.txt (path/filename given as the second argument) for short descriptions and adds a few missing entries to programs.txt; and (3) pared-down man pages patch that covers everything *not* generated by mknroff - mostly for the binaries from src/kernel.

(Unfortunately, it also converts things that really *were* hyphens to dashes, since they're not readily distinguishable in a regexp, but that seems acceptable - and it still copy/pastes more readily from Unicode to non-Unicode environments.)

#6 - 10/16/2008 10:14 AM - David van der Spoel

Thanks for that Nicholas. The wman.c and mknroff patches applied cleanly. I am somewhat hesitant about the other patch though. The programs gmxcheck and gmxdump, grompp, mdrun, ngmx, pdb2gmx, protonate, tpbconv, x2top and so should all be able to generate man pages. I will look into it.

#7 - 10/16/2008 04:24 PM - David van der Spoel

This has been fixed now with full support for man7 man pages. the mknroff script has been replaced by a mknroff.pl script.

Files

manpages-reformat.patch	433 KB	10/14/2008	Nicholas Breen
gromacs.7	13.9 KB	10/14/2008	Nicholas Breen
bug228.tar.gz	14.4 KB	10/15/2008	Nicholas Breen