Debuggers

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- View disassembly
- ► Check the call stack

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- gdb Command-line debugger
- kdbg GUI frontend for gdb

Using gdb

- gdb your-program launches the debugger
- ▶ Note: You will want to compile with g++ -g
- run arg1 arg2 ... runs the command with command line arguments
- backtrace or bt shows the call stack

Looking at variables with gdb

- p variable prints the contents of 'variable'.
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- p also works with expressions of just about any sort.
- x address examines one word memory at a given address.
- x/2 address examines two words of memory.
- More on examining memory

Setting breakpoints with gdb

- break filename.cpp:10 will stop execution whenever line 10 in 'filename.cpp' is reached.
- continue resumes running as normal.
- step runs one more line of code.
- next runs until execution is on the next line.
- finish runs until the current function returns.
- delete removes all breakpoints.
- More on breakpoints

Using kdbg

- ▶ Remember to enable X forwarding
- kdbg your-program launches the debugger
- 'Stack' window: the function call stack
- 'Locals' window: variables currently in scope
- 'Watches' window: list of expressions (like 'print')
- ▶ f2 or right-click to edit the value of a local or watch!

Breakpoints in kdbg

- ▶ Set a breakpoint by clicking in the margin left of the code
- ▶ f5 Run (combination of 'run' and 'continue')
- ▶ f8 Step Into (like 'step')
- ▶ [f10] Step Over (like 'next')
- ▶ [f6] Step Out (like 'finish')

Breakpoints in kdbg

- ▶ Set a breakpoint by clicking in the margin left of the code
- ▶ f5 Run (combination of 'run' and 'continue')
- ▶ f8 Step Into (like 'step')
- f10 Step Over (like 'next')
- ▶ f6 Step Out (like 'finish')
- 'Breakpoints' window: list of breakpoints
- Conditional Breakpoints: Set a condition on the breakpoints tab

Looking at program internals with kdbg

- ► Click the '+' to see disassembly!
- 'Memory' tab: View memory at a specific address (right-click for display options)
- 'Registers' tab: View contents of CPU registers
- 'Step into by instruction' and 'Step over by instruction'