## Advanced Programming in the UNIX Environment

Week 05, Segment 10: Unix Development Tools: Using gdb(1), Part II

Department of Computer Science Stevens Institute of Technology

Jan Schaumann

jschauma@stevens.edu https://stevens.netmeister.org/631/

```
Terminal — 80×24
a 19
  20
                  printf("%d\n", fib(atoi(argv[1])));
  21
 (gdb) br 21
  Breakpoint 1 at 0x400a36: file fib.c, line 21.
  (gdb) apue$
  [apue$ vim fib.c
  [apue$ cc -g fib.c
  apue$ ./a.out 7
  13
  [apue$ for i in `seq 10`; do
  > ./a.out $i
  > done
                                                         Ctrl-X o
  3
  5
  8
  13
  21
  34
  55
  apue$
```

## Using a debugger

The purpose of a debugger such as gdb(1) is to allow you to see what is going on "inside" another program while it executes or what it was doing at the moment it crashed.

- we can "pause" program execution at a specific point in our code by setting a "breakpoint"
- we can advance through our code via e.g., the "next" and "step" commands
- we can watch as the program runs line by line alongside our code