

Automated Debugging

WS 2022/2023

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Exercise 2 (10 Points)

Due: 30. November 2022

Submit your solutions as a Zip file on your status page in the CMS.

We will provide you a structure to submit your solutions where each task has a dedicated file. You can add new files and scripts if you want, but you must not delete any provided ones. You can verify whether your submission is valid by calling python3.

python3 verify.py

The output provides an overview if a required file, variable, or function is missing and if a function pattern was altered. If you do not follow this structure or change it, we cannot evaluate your submission. A non evaluable exercise will result in 0 points, so make sure to verify your work before submitting it. Note that the script does not reveal if your solutions are correct.

Exercise 2-1: Can A Monkey use Our Debugger? (4 Points)

Monkey testing is a technique where the user tests the application or system by providing random inputs and checking the behavior, or seeing whether the application or system will crash. For interactive CLI tools such as debuggers, the user can provide arbitrary input -- imagine a monkey is now using our debugger and he can type anything from the command line -- so robustness should be a great concern.

Unfortunately, the Debugger introduced in this chapter is not robust enough (you may already realize it). In this exercise, let's improve the Debugger with the following user input checking:

- 1. for break {arg} and delete {arg}: report the error message Expect a line number, but found '{arg}' if the argument is not a valid Python integer, i.e., int({arg}) raises ValueError
- 2. for break {arg}: report the error message Line number {arg} out of bound ({start}-{end}) if the argument is outside the valid line numbers of the current function; also print the valid line number range (both inclusive)
- 3. for assign {var}={value} : report the error message SyntaxError: '{var}' is not an identifier if the input variable is not a valid Python identifier, i.e., {var}.isidentifier() evaluates to False
- 4. for assign {var}={value} : report a warning Warning: a new variable '{var}' is created if the input variable does not exist in the current frame

Override the corresponding methods (i.e., break_command, delete_command, and assign_command) of the Debugger class in idb.py . This Python file also comes with a convenient command line usage: python3 idb.py <File> -- executing the debug_main() function of <File> in the debugging mode.

To better demonstrate the desired behavior of your implementation, in the following, we provide a sample interaction on the test program test.py . Launch your debugger in command line: python3 idb.py test.py . The commands after the (debugger) prompt are input by the user.

Calling debug_main()
(debugger) break foo
Expect a line number, but found 'foo'
Breakpoints: set()
(debugger) delete foo
Expect a line number, but found 'foo'

```
Breakpoints: set()
(debugger) break −1
Line number -1 out of bound (1-10)
Breakpoints: set()
(debugger) step
      def fib(n: int) -> int:
(debugger) step
                                          # fib = <function debug main.<locals>.fib at
0x1067851b0>
     x = fib(2)
(debugger) assign @ = 0
SyntaxError: '@' is not an identifier
(debugger) assign x=1
Warning: a new variable 'x' is created
(debugger) step
Calling fib(n = 2)
(debugger) assign n = 1
(debugger) list
          def fib(n: int) -> int:
   3
              if n == 0:
   4
                  return 0
   5
              if n == 1:
   6
                  return 1
              return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
   7
(debugger) break 8
Line number 8 out of bound (2-7)
Breakpoints: set()
(debugger) quit
```

Exercise 2-2: Where am I? (6 Points)

This one, however, steps into the call of fib(2):

Knowing where the program has been executed so far is useful in debugging. Call stack is a data structure the keeps track of function calls. In this exercise you will continue extending the **Debugger** class (done in exercise 2-1) with the following commands (none of them take arguments):

- 1. where : print the stack trace (following the Python style, see the example below for the format)
- 2. finish: resume execution until the current function returns
- 3. next: resume execution until the next line (if the next line exists and is reachable in this execution) or the current function returns (if the current function returns at this line, including the case where this line is the last so the function has to return here)

Implement new methods (where_command , finish_command , and next_command) and other auxiliary methods/fields if necessary in class Debugger in file idb.py to achieve the above functionalities. Make sure you don't break anything already built for exercise 2-1. Hint: the Python interpreter internally maintains a call stack while running user programs, so you may find it helpful to reconstruct the call stack from frames (check the Python document for the FrameType class).

Again, we provide sample interactions on the test program test.py to better demonstrate the desired behavior of your implementation. The following one only steps through debug_main():

```
Calling debug_main()
(debugger) next
      def fib(n: int) -> int:
(debugger) next
                                             # fib = <function debug_main.<locals>.fib at
0x1003d9000>
     x = fib(2)
(debugger) next
                                             \# \times = 1
10
       fib(x)
(debugger) next
debug_main() returns None
(debugger) next
As you can see, the next command steps over function calls fib(2) and fib(x), which behaves differently
from step which will step into the called functions.
```

```
Calling debug_main()
(debugger) step
      def fib(n: int) -> int:
2
(debugger) step
                                            # fib = <function debug main.<locals>.fib at
0x106abd1b0>
     x = fib(2)
(debugger) where
Traceback (most recent call last):
File "<absolute path to exercise_02>/test.py", line 9, in debug_main
  x = fib(2)
(debugger) step
Calling fib(n = 2)
(debugger) where
Traceback (most recent call last):
File "<absolute path to exercise_02>/test.py", line 9, in debug_main
File "<absolute path to exercise 02>/test.py", line 2, in fib
  def fib(n: int) -> int:
(debugger)
The call stack, displayed by the where command, is changed before and after calling fib(2). You should print
the most recent call last. We provide a class CallInfo that encodes the information of such a call frame, and its
__repr__ method returns the formatted string you should output.
(debugger) finish
fib() returns 1
(debugger) where
Traceback (most recent call last):
File "<absolute path to exercise_02>/test.py", line 9, in debug_main
File "<absolute path to exercise_02>/test.py", line 7, in fib
  return fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2)
(debugger) step
                                            # fib = <function debug_main.<locals>.fib at
0 \times 106 abd 1b0 >, \times = 1
       fib(x)
(debugger) where
Traceback (most recent call last):
File "<absolute path to exercise_02>/test.py", line 10, in debug_main
  fib(x)
(debugger) finish
debug_main() returns None
(debugger) next
The finish command should resume the execution of the current function until it returns. For example, the first
finish command resumes execution until fib() returns 1. But at this moment, the current call frame is yet
not poped from the stack, but this will be done in the next step -- note the difference between the outputs of the two
where commands. The second finish command resumes execution until debug_main() returns None
```

because debug_main is the currently executed function.