# SOFTWARE ENGINEERING LAB

Assignment 3 Group No.: 19

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# 1. Running the Program

Executing a program inside GDB to analyze its behavior. This helps in debugging by allowing controlled execution, setting breakpoints, and inspecting variables.

```
#include<stdio.h>

Files in(){
    printf("Hello, GDB!\n");
    int x;
    scanf("%d",&x);

    return 0;
}
```

Step 2: Compile with Debugging Information

```
karan@karan-VirtualBox:~/SE_Lab$ gcc -g sample.c -o sample
```

The -g flag includes debugging symbols, which GDB uses to analyze the program.

#### Step 3: Start GDB with the Program

```
karan@karan-VirtualBox:~/SE_Lab$ gdb ./sample
```

#### **Step 4: Run the Program in GDB**

```
Reading symbols from ./sample...
(gdb) r
```

This starts execution under GDB's control.

**If the program has command-line arguments**, pass them as follows: *run arg1 arg2* 

# 2. Loading symbol table

- GDB loads the symbol table when a program is compiled with -g. It maps variable names, function names, and memory locations, enabling debugging.
- GDB would ordinarily parse a typical file name, like `foo.c', as the three words `foo' `.' `c'. To
  allow GDB to recognize `foo.c' as a single symbol, enclose it in single quotes; for example,p
  'foo.c'::x

#### **Compile with Debugging Information**

```
karan@karan-VirtualBox:-/SE_Lab$ gdb ./sample
```

## **Checking Symbol Table Status**

info functions # Lists all available functions info variables # Lists all variables

```
(gdb) info functions
All defined functions:
File sample.c:
        int main();
3:
Non-debugging symbols:
0×00000000000001000 init
                    cxa finalize@plt
                    puts@plt
                   stack chk fail@plt
                    printf@plt
                   isoc99 scanf@plt
                   _start
                    deregister tm clones
                   register tm clones
                    do global dtors aux
                    frame dummy
```

# 3. Setting the Breakpoint

- A breakpoint in GDB is a marker that pauses program execution at a specific line, function, or memory location. This allows you to inspect variables, step through code, and debug efficiently.
  - 1. Set a breakpoint at the beginning of a function
    - Example. Set a breakpoint at the beginning of main.

```
(gdb) b main
Breakpoint 2 at 0x11b5: file sample.c, line 3.
```

- 2. Set a breakpoint at a line of the current file during debugging.
  - Example. Set a breakpoint at line 4 while in file sample.c

```
(gdb) b 4
Note: breakpoint 1 also set at pc 0x11c4.
Breakpoint 3 at 0x11c4: file sample.c, line 4.
```

- 3. Set a breakpoint at the beginning of a class member function.
  - Example. Set a breakpoint at the beginning of member function erase of the class list.
  - b list::erase(I have not made any class so that's why not attaching any screenshots)
- 4. Listing breakpoints.

Example. List all breakpoints which have been set so far in a debugging session.

```
(gdb) info b

Num Type Disp Enb Address What

4 breakpoint keep y 0x0000000000011b5 in main at sample.c:3

5 breakpoint keep y 0x000000000011c4 in main at sample.c:4
```

#### 5. Deleting a breakpoint

Example. Delete the breakpoint at line 4.

```
(gdb) delete 4
(gdb) info b
Num Type Disp Enb Address What
5 breakpoint keep y 0x000000000011c4 in main at sample.c:4
```

# 4. Listing variables and examining their values

1.Example C Code

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main(){
    int x = 65,y=3;
    x = x>>1 + y>>1;
    printf("%d\n", x);
    return 0;
}
```

2.Setting a Breakpoint and Running the Program

```
Breakpoint 1, main () at new.c:5

5 int x = 65,y=3;
```

3. Displaying a Variable's Value

```
(gdb) display x
1: x = -8472
```

4. Stepping Through Execution and Checking Values

```
(gdb) n x = x >> 1 + y >> 1;
```

**Output:** 

```
1: x = 65
```

5. Executing the Next Step

**Output:** 

```
1: x = 2
```

# 5. Printing Content of an Array or Contiguous Memory

```
#include<stdio.h>
int main(){
    int data[5] = {11,2,25,27,45};

    //code to be debugged
    for(int i=0; i<5; i++){
        printf("Element at index %d is %d\n",i,data[i]);
    }

    return 0;
}</pre>
```

Arrays in C are stored as contiguous memory blocks, and GDB provides ways to examine these memory regions. GDB allows printing entire arrays, specific elements, and raw memory blocks.

## **COMPILE** with Debugging Symbols:

```
gcc -g array.c -o arraygcc array.c -o array -g
```

Both are same because in GCC (GNU Compiler Collection), the order of options generally does not matter.

-g option tells the compiler to include debugging information in the compiled executable.

## Load the Program in GDB

• gdb ./array

```
Breakpoint 1, main () at array.c:9
                        printf("Element at index %d is %d\n",i,arr[i]);
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Element at index 0 is 10
Breakpoint 1, main () at array.c:9
                                  lement at index %d is %d\n",i,arr[i]);
                        printf(
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Element at index 1 is 20
Breakpoint 1, main () at array.c:9
                                 lement at index %d is %d\n",i,arr[i]);
                        printf(
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Element at index 2 is 30
Breakpoint 1, main () at array.c:9
                                  lement at index %d is %d\n",i,arr[i]);
                        printf(
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Element at index 3 is 40
Breakpoint 1, main () at array.c:9
                                 Element at index %d is %d\n,i,arr[i]);
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Element at index 4 is 50
[Inferior 1 (process 3885) exited normally]
(gdb)
```

Using 'x' commands, we can print the contents of a contiguous memory location:

- x/5d arr # Prints 5 integers starting from arr's memory address
- x/5x arr # Prints 5 elements in hexadecimal format

```
(gdb) x/5d arr
0x7fffffffdda0: 10 20 30 40
0x7fffffffddb0: 50
(gdb) x/5x arr
0x7fffffffdda0: 0x0000000a 0x00000014 0x0000001e 0x00000028
0x7fffffffddb0: 0x00000032
(gdb)
```

# 6. Printing Function Arguments

• Function arguments determine input values to functions. GDB can display arguments when the function is called.

```
#include<stdio.h>

void add(int a,int b){
    int sum = a+b;
    printf("sum : %d\n",sum);
}

int main(){
    add(5,10);
    return 0;
}
```

## **Compile with Debugging Symbols**

• gcc -g args.c -o args

#### **Load Program in GDB**

• gdb ./args

## Set Breakpoint and Run

- break add
- run

## **Print Function Arguments**

- 1. Print Arguments Inside Function
  - info args
- 2. Print Backtrace with Arguments
  - bt
- 3. Print Individual Argument
  - print a , print b

## 7. Next, Continue, Set Command

These commands control program execution flow:

- next (n): Executes the next line without stepping into functions.
- continue (c): Resumes execution until the next breakpoint.
- Set: Modifies variable values at runtime.

```
#include<stdio.h>
void insp(){
    int x=10;
    int y=20;
    int sum=x+y;

    printf("sum : %d\n", sum);
}
int main(){
    int arr[5]={12, 3, 43, 5, 60};
    int a=10;

    for(int i=0; i<5; i++){
        printf("Element at index %d is : %d\n", i, arr[i]);
    }
    insp();
    a=28;
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

#### Continue:

#### next:

## set:

```
Breakpoint 1, main () at test1.c:8

8          return 0;
(gdb) print arr
$1 = {0, 10, 20, 30, 40}
(gdb) set var arr[0] = 50
(gdb) print arr
$2 = {50, 10, 20, 30, 40}
(gdb)
```

# 8. Single Stepping into a Function

To single-step into a function in GDB, you can use the step (s) command. This
command allows you to execute the current line of source code and, if it involves a
function call, enter that function, stopping at the first line of the called function.

(gdb) step # Step into the next function call

## step vs. next:

- step: Steps into functions (i.e., goes into the function call and allows us to debug inside the function).
- next: Steps over functions (i.e., runs the entire function and moves to the next line in the current function).

# 9. Listing All Breakpoints

• To list all breakpoints we have set, use the info breakpoints command.

## (gdb) info breakpoints

```
Breakpoint 1 at 0x118f: file test1.c, line 8.
(gdb) break 7
Note: breakpoint 1 also set at pc 0x118f.
Breakpoint 2 at 0x118f: file test1.c, line 8.
(qdb) break 10
Breakpoint 3 at 0x119d: file test1.c, line 10.
(gdb) break greet
Breakpoint 4 at 0 \times 1171: file test1.c, line 4.
(adb) next
The program is not being run.
(gdb) run
Starting program: /home/rajesh26/software engineerng/debugtest
This GDB supports auto-downloading debuginfo from the following URLs:
  <https://debuginfod.ubuntu.com>
Enable debuginfod for this session? (y or [n]) y
Debuginfod has been enabled.
To make this setting permanent, add 'set debuginfod enabled on' to .gdbinit.
Downloading separate debug info for system-supplied DSO at 0x7fffff7fc3000
[Thread debugging using libthread db enabled]
Using host libthread db library "/lib/x86 64-linux-gnu/libthread db.so.1".
Breakpoint 1, main () at test1.c:8
                int a=10 :
(gdb) next
                    int b 20;
(gdb) info breakpoint
Num
        Type
                       Disp Enb Address
1
        breakpoint
                       keep y
                               0x0000555555555518f in main at test1.c:8
        breakpoint already hit 1 time
        breakpoint
                       keep y 0x00005555555555518f in main at test1.c:8
2
        breakpoint already hit 1 time
        breakpoint
                                0x000005555555555519d in main at test1.c:10
                       keep y
        breakpoint
                                0x000005555555555171 in greet at test1.c:4
                       keep y
```

# 10. Ignoring a Breakpoint for N Occurrences

• Use the ignore command to ignore a breakpoint for a specific number of times.

```
(gdb) ignore <br/> <br/> treakpoint_number> <N>
```

Example:

(gdb) ignore 13

This will ignore breakpoint number 1 for 3 times before breaking on it.

# 11. Enable/Disable a Breakpoint

```
(gdb) b 3
Breakpoint 1 at 0x55555555555175: file simple1.c, line 4.
Breakpoint 2 at 0x55555555551a7: file simple1.c, line 7.
(gdb) b 8
Breakpoint 3 at 0x5555555551b0: file simple1.c, line 9.
(qdb) info b
Num
                       Disp Enb Address
                                                     What
        Type
                                 0x0000055555555555175 in main at simple1.c:4
        breakpoint
                        keep y
2
        breakpoint
                                 0x0000055555555551a7 in main at simple1.c:7
                        keep y
3
        breakpoint
                        keep y
                                 0x0000055555555551b0 in main at simple1.c:9
(gdb) disable 2
(gdb) info b
Num
                       Disp Enb Address
        Type
                                                     What
        breakpoint
                       keep v
                                 0x0000055555555555175 in main at simple1.c:4
1
                        keep n
                                 0x000055555555551a7 in main at simple1.c:7
2
        breakpoint
                                 0x0000055555555551b0 in main at simple1.c:9
3
        breakpoint
                        keep y
(gdb) enable 2
(gdb) infob
Undefined command: "infob". Try "help".
(gdb) info b
                        Disp Enb Address
                                                     What
Num
        Type
1
        breakpoint
                                 0x000055555555555175 in main at simple1.c:4
                        keep y
2
        breakpoint
                                 0x000055555555551a7 in main at simple1.c:7
                        keep y
3
        breakpoint
                                 0x0000055555555551b0 in main at simple1.c:9
                        keep y
(gdb)
```

## 12. Break Condition and Command

• we can specify a **condition** for a breakpoint. The program will only break if a certain condition is true. Additionally, you can associate commands with breakpoints, like printing a variable when the breakpoint is hit.

```
(gdb) condition <br/> <br/> condition>
```

(gdb) command <br/> <br/> to run when breakpoint hits

# **Example:**

To set a condition on breakpoint number 1, so it only breaks when a > 10:

(gdb) condition 1 a > 10

• To associate a **command** with a breakpoint, for example, printing the value of a whenever the breakpoint is hit:

(gdb) command 1

Type commands for breakpoint 1, one per line.

End with a line containing just "end".

- > print a
- > end

This will automatically print the value of a whenever the breakpoint is triggered.

## 13. Examining Stack Trace

• A **stack trace** shows the function call hierarchy, which is helpful for identifying where an error or issue occurred. we can use the backtrace command to examine the stack trace in GDB.

(gdb) backtrace # Display the call stack

```
Breakpoint 3, main () at test2.c:10
10
        hello1
(gdb) backtrace
#0 main () at test2.c:10
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Breakpoint 2, hello1 () at test2.c:6
                printf("in hello1!!!\n");
(gdb) backtrace
#0 hello1 () at test2.c:6
#1 0x00005555555555599 in main () at test2.c:10
(gdb) c
Continuing.
in hello1!!!
Breakpoint 1, hello2 () at test2.c:3
        printf("in hello2!!!\n");
(gdb) backtrace
#0 hello2 () at test2.c:3
#1 0x00005555555555184 in hello1 () at test2.c:7
#2 0x000005555555555599 in main () at test2.c:10
(gdb)
```

This will show the current stack frames and how the program arrived at its current position. It's useful for tracing the sequence of function calls leading to an error or unexpected behavior.

# 14. Examining stack trace for multi-threaded program

 When debugging a multithreaded program, GDB allows us to inspect the call stack for each thread. This helps identify issues like deadlocks, race conditions, and crashes.

```
. .
             thread.c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <pthread.h>
void *threadFunction1(void *arg) {
   for (int i = 0; i < 5; ++i) {
       printf("Thread 1: %d\n", 1);
   return NULL;
void *threadFunction2(void *arg) {
    for (int 1 = 0; 1 < 5; ++1) {
       printf("Thread 2: %d\n", i);
    return NULL;
int main() {
   pthread_t thread1, thread2;
   pthread_create(&thread1, NULL, threadFunction1, NULL);
   pthread create(&thread2, NULL, threadFunction2, NULL);
   pthread_join(thread1, NULL);
   pthread_join(thread2, NULL);
    return 0;
```

When an issue occurs or a breakpoint is hit, use the following commands to examine the stack trace for each thread:

#### Show all threads:

```
info threads
thread_id
```

Replace thread id with the thread id you want to visit.

```
bt
```

This will display the stack trace for the current thread,

showing the function call hierarchy.

```
For help, type "help".
Type "apropos word" to search for commands related to "word"...
Reading symbols from ./thread...
(gdb) break threadFunction1
Breakpoint 1 at 0x11b9: file thread.c, line 5.
(gdb) run
Starting program: /home/tanis/Downloads/GDB Codes/thread
[Thread debugging using libthread_db enabled]
Using host libthread_db library "/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libthread_db.so.1".
[New Thread 0x7ffff7bff640 (LWP 7025)]
[New Thread 0x7ffff73fe640 (LWP 7026)]
Thread 2: 0
Thread 2: 1
Thread 2: 2
Thread 2: 3
Thread 2: 4
[Thread 0x7fffff73fe640 (LWP 7026) exited]
[Switching to Thread 0x7ffff7bff640 (LWP 7025)]
Thread 2 "thread" hit Breakpoint 1, threadFunction1 (arg=0x0) at thread.c:5
(gdb) info threads
  Id Target Id Frame
1 Thread 0x7ffff7fa8740 (LWP 7022) "thread" __futex_abstimed_wait_common64
 (private=128, cancel=true, abstime=0x0, op=265, expected=7025,
futex_word=0x7ffff7bff910) at ./nptl/futex-internal.c:57
2  Thread 0x7ffff7bff640 (LWP 7025) "thread" threadFunction1 (arg=0x0)
    at thread.c:5
(gdb) thread 2
 [Switching to thread 2 (Thread 0x7ffff7bff640 (LWP 7025))]
#0 threadFunction1 (arg=0x0) at thread.c:5
5 for (int i = 0; i < 5; ++i) (
(gdb) bt
#0 threadFunction1 (arg=0x0) at thread.c:5
#1 0x00007fffff7c94ac3 in start_thread (arg=<optimized out>)
    at ./nptl/pthread_create.c:442
0x00007ffff7d26850 in clone3 ()
     at .../sysdeps/unix/sysv/linux/x86_64/clone3.S:81
(gdb)
```

We can type thread thread number again to return to the original thread.

To see the stack trace of all the threads, we can write -

## thread apply all bt

```
thread apply all bt

ad 2 (Thread 0x7ffff7bff640 (LWP 7025) "thread"):
threadFunction1 (arg=0x0) at thread.c:5
0x00007ffff7c94ac3 in start_thread (arg=<optimized out>) at ./nptl/pthread_create.c:442
0x00007ffff7d26850 in clone3 () at ../sysdeps/unix/sysv/linux/x86_64/clone3.5:81

ad 1 (Thread 0x7ffff7fa8740 (LWP 7022) "thread"):
__futex_abstimed_wait_common64 (private=128, cancel=true, abstime=0x0, op=265, expected=7025, futex_word=0
iff7bff910) at ./nptl/futex-internal.c:57
__futex_abstimed_wait_common (cancel=true, private=128, abstime=0x0, clockid=0, expected=7025, futex_word=
iff7bff910) at ./nptl/futex-internal.c:87
__GI __futex_abstimed_wait_cancelable64 (futex_word=futex_word@entry=0x7ffff7bff910, expected=7025, clocki
ockid@entry=0, abstime=abstime@entry=0x0, private=private@entry=128) at ./nptl/futex-internal.c:139
0x00007ffff7c96624 in __pthread_clockjoin_ex (threadid=140737349940800, thread_return=0x0, clockid=0, abst
0x0, block=coptimized out>) at ./nptl/pthread_join_common.c:105
0x00000555555555295 in main () at thread.c:26
```

# 15. Core File Debugging

A core file is a memory dump generated when a program crashes. GDB can analyze these without rerunning the program.

# **Step 1: Example C Code (Segmentation Fault)**

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int *ptr = NULL; // Null pointer
    *ptr = 42; // Causes segmentation fault
    return 0;
}
```

## **Step 2: Enable Core Dump Generation**

```
ulimit -c unlimited
```

## **Step 3: Compile and Run**

```
gcc -g crash.c -o crash
./crash //Causes a segmentation fault, generating a core
dump
```

## **Step 4: Check Core File**

```
ls core* // Confirms core file existence
```

## **Step 5: Debug Core File in GDB**

```
gdb ./crash core
```

## **Step 6: Analyze the Core Dump**

## Method 1: Identify Where the Crash Occurred

bt // Shows function calls leading to the crash

## Method 2: Show Line of Error

list

## Method 3: Print Variables at Crash Point

frame 0

info locals

## Method 4: Inspect Memory

x/10xw \$esp // Examine memory at the stack pointer

```
-$ gdb -core=core.273580
GNU gdb (Debian 16.1-1) 16.1
Copyright (C) 2024 Free Software Foundation, Inc.
License GPLv3+: GNU GPL version 3 or later <a href="http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html">http://gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html</a>
This is free software: you are free to change and redistribute it.
There is NO WARRANTY, to the extent permitted by law.
Type "show copying" and "show warranty" for details.
This GDB was configured as "x86_64-linux-gnu".
Type "show configuration" for configuration details.
For bug reporting instructions, please see:
<https://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/bugs/>.
Find the GDB manual and other documentation resources online at:
    <http://www.gnu.org/software/gdb/documentation/>.
For help, type "help".
Type "apropos word" to search for commands related to "word".
[New LWP 273580]
Reading symbols from /home/rohan/Documents/./core...
[Thread debugging using libthread_db enabled]
Using host libthread_db library "/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/libthread_db.so.1".
Core was generated by './core'.
Program terminated with signal SIGSEGV, Segmentation fault.
#0 crash_example () at core.c:5
                 ptr[3] = 42;
5
(gdb) list
1 #in
2
3 voi
4
5
6 }
7
         #include <stdio.h>
         void crash_example() {
                  int ptr
                 ptr 3 = 42;
         int main()
9
                 crash_example();
```

# 16. Debugging of an already running program

"Debugging an already running program" refers to the process of attaching a debugger to a program that is currently executing, allowing you to inspect its state, set breakpoints, and analyze variables while it continues to run, essentially troubleshooting issues without restarting the application from scratch; this is typically done using a command like "attach" in most debugging tools, where you need to identify the process ID (PID) of the running program to connect to it.

# 17. Watchpoint

To set a watchpoint on a variable, you can use the watch command followed by the name of the variable. GDB will monitor this variable and pause execution as soon as its value changes.

(gdb) watch <variable name>

```
(gdb) watch arr
Hardware watchpoint 2: arr
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Hardware watchpoint 2: arr
Old value = {5, 2, 8, 1, 9, 7}
New value = {5, 5, 8, 1, 9, 7}
sort (size=6, arr=0×7fffffffdbc0) at test.c:9
                                         arr j 1 temp
(gdb) c
Continuing.
Hardware watchpoint 2: arr
Old value = {5, 5, 8, 1, 9, 7}
New value = {2, 5, 8, 1, 9, 7}
sort (size=6, arr=0x7ffffffffdbc0) at test.c:5
5
                        for (int j = 1; j < i; j ↔ ) {
(gdb) c
Continuing.
```

# References:

- Debugging with GDB by MIT : <a href="https://web.mit.edu/gnu/doc/html/gdb">https://web.mit.edu/gnu/doc/html/gdb</a> toc.html
- Tutorialspoint: https://www.tutorialspoint.com/gnu\_debugger/gdb\_guick\_guide.htm
- https://www.isical.ac.in/~dfslab/2019/lectures/2019-day11-tools-l.pdf
- For x-command: <a href="https://visualgdb.com/gdbreference/commands/x">https://visualgdb.com/gdbreference/commands/x</a>
- Debugging with gdb Examining Data Apple Developer