

# Operating Systems Lab 2 Report

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## **What is wrong with the original code that eventually causes it to crash?**

The code crashes due to an improper memory reference. On line 3673, we see the line `the_printed_command_except_trap = the_printed_command;` which is not correct. It should be

```
the_printed_command_except_trap = savestring(the_printed_command);
```

## **Describe how you diagnosed the problem with the original code.**

To diagnose the problem, I made substantial use of GDB. The main tool I used was definitely breakpoints. To find the problem, I let the program run once and made a note of where it segfaulted. I then put a breakpoint at that location, then executed the program again. When it hit the breakpoint, I printed out the call stack to see where the problem was at. I then worked my way up through the stack, examining the code at each point. I discovered the issue in `execute_cmd.c` by observing similar code snippets in `execute_cmd.c` and then realizing that the `savestring` call was essential to prevent improper memory access.

## **Describe how your solution fixes the problem. Are you confident your solution is correct?**

My solution fixes the problem by fixing the memory access errors. I am confident the solution is correct only due to the proper output shown at the terminal. From a memory access perspective, it also makes sense, as I am not trying to access a nullptr anymore.