GDB and SSH

Joel Willoughby

COP 3503

- Introduction
- Pitfalls of Last Lab
- This Lab
- Wrapping Up



Agenda

- Discuss the process of debugging in general
- Talk about gdb from both the command line and Eclipse platform
- Talk about ssh and ftp and how you can compile your projects on these machines from home



3/11

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4/11

None this lab

At least that I could think of while writing this



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Debugging

- Debugging the process of removing bugs and errors from your code
- These errors can be fatal, or they can be logical
 - Fatal errors halt your program execution (Ex. Seg Fault)
 - Loogical errors are just incorrect behavior in your program (Ex. functions not returning correct values)
- In general, logical errors are more difficult to track down and fix

What you are probably familiar with

- The easy way to debug is to just use print statements everywhere
- This is usually sufficient but not exactly efficient
- Also, problems with the console stream can lead to incorrect printing out (why we use endl and flush)
- Process of tracking down the error is long and laborious. You have to keep moving print statements, recompile, re-run, etc.
- Debuggers (like gdb) give us a better platform for all of this

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A few notes on gdb

- Works only for specific languages and compilers (g++ for C++ and gcc for C are the most popular)
- It provides a command line interface, much like the unix shell you should (hopefully) be used to
- GUIs are built for it (we will see with Eclipse)
- In order to use gdb to debug your program, you must compile it with the -g option

```
g++ -g blah.cpp blah2.cpp -o blah
```



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Questions

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