

GDB Cheat Sheet

Basics

\$ gcc -g ...	create an executable that can be debugged using GDB
\$ gdb progName	start debugging progName
\$ gdb --args progName args	start debugging progName, using command-line arguments args
(gdb) q	quit GDB
(gdb) help command	display information about command, incl. its syntax
(gdb) run	start running program
(gdb) kill	terminate currently running program

Examining Data

print expr	show current value of expression expr
print var->attr	show current value of attribute attr of struct var
print *arr@len	show current value of first len elements of array arr
print/format expr	show current value of expression expr in format format
print/x expr	show current value of expr in hexadecimal
print/t expr	show current value of expr in binary
print/c expr	show current value of expr as an integer and its character representation
print/f expr	show current value of expr in floating point syntax
print/s expr	show current value of expr as a string, if possible
display expr	automatically print value of expression expr at each halt in execution
undisplay disp#	stop displaying expression with display number disp#
watch expr	set a watchpoint on expression expr (break whenever value of expr changes)
info args	show value of all arguments to current function
info locals	show current value of all local variables
x addr	show current word in memory at address addr, in hexadecimal
x/units format size addr	show current value of memory of size units x size at address addr, in format format
x/3tb addr	show current value of 3 bytes of memory at address addr, in binary

Examining the Stack

backtrace	display the current call stack (can be used after a runtime error, eg. segfault)
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Breakpoints

<code>break <u>point</u></code>	create a breakpoint at <code>point</code>
<code>break 5</code> <code>break func</code> <code>break foo.c:5</code>	create a breakpoint at line 5 of current source file create a breakpoint at body of function <code>func</code> create a breakpoint at line 5 of source file <code>foo.c</code>
<code>break <u>point</u> if <u>cond</u></code>	create a breakpoint at <code>point</code> which triggers if Boolean expression <code>cond</code> evaluates to <i>true</i>
<code>info breakpoints</code>	display information about all current breakpoints
<code>delete</code>	remove all breakpoints
<code>delete <u>breakpoint#</u></code>	remove breakpoint with number <code>breakpoint#</code>

Continuing and Stepping

<code>continue</code>	continue executing normally
<code>finish</code>	continue executing until current function returns
<code>step</code>	execute next line of source code
<code>next</code>	execute next line of source code, without descending into functions

Altering Execution

<code>return <u>expr</u></code>	return from current function at this point, with return value <code>expr</code>
<code>set var <u>var=expr</u></code> <code>set var g=4</code>	store value of expression <code>expr</code> into program variable <code>var</code> store 4 into program variable <code>g</code>
<code>set {<u>type</u>}<u>addr</u> = <u>expr</u></code> <code>set {int}0x83040 = 4</code>	store value of expression <code>expr</code> (represented as type <code>type</code>) into memory at address <code>addr</code> store 4 as an int at address 0x83040
<code>signal <u>signal</u></code> <code>signal SIGINT</code>	continue executing and immediately send signal <code>signal</code> to the program continue executing and immediately send an interrupt signal to the program