# GDB QUICK REFERENCE GDB Version 5

### Essential Commands

gdb $program$ [core]	debug $program$ [using coredump $core$ ]
b [file:]function	set breakpoint at function $[in file]$
run [arglist]	start your program [with $arglist$ ]
bt	backtrace: display program stack
p expr	display the value of an expression
С	continue running your program
n	next line, stepping over function calls
S	next line, stepping into function calls

# Starting GDB

gdb	start GDB, with no debugging files
gdb program	begin debugging program
gdb program core	debug coredump <i>core</i> produced by
	program
gdbhelp	describe command line options

### Stopping GDB

quit	exit GDB; also $q$ or EOF (eg C-d)
INTERRUPT	(eg $C-c$ ) terminate current command, or
	send to running process

# Getting Help

help	list classes of commands
help class	one-line descriptions for commands in
	class
help command	describe command

### **Executing your Program**

run arglist	start your program with $arglist$
run	start your program with current argument
	list
run <inf>outf</inf>	start your program with input, output redirected
kill	kill running program
_	
tty $dev$	use $dev$ as stdin and stdout for next <b>run</b>
set args <i>arglist</i>	specify arglist for next <b>run</b>
set args	specify empty argument list
show args	display argument list
show env	show all environment variables
show env var	show value of environment variable var
	set environment variable <i>var</i>
6	
unset env $var$	remove <i>var</i> from environment

### Shell Commands

cd dir	change working directory to dir
pwd	Print working directory
make	call "make"
shell $cmd$	execute arbitrary shell command string

**Breakpoints and Watchpoints** 

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Dieakpoints a	nu watenpoints
break [file:]line b [file:]line	set breakpoint at <i>line</i> number [in <i>file</i> ] eg: break main.c:37
break [file:]func	set breakpoint at $func$ [in file]
break +offset	set break at offset lines from current stop
break - <i>offset</i>	00 X
break * addr	set breakpoint at address $addr$
break	set breakpoint at next instruction
break if expr	break conditionally on nonzero <i>expr</i>
cond $n \ [expr]$	new conditional expression on breakpoint $n$ ; make unconditional if no $expr$
tbreak	temporary break; disable when reached
rbreak $[file:]regex$	break on all functions matching $regex$ [in $file$ ]
watch $expr$	set a watchpoint for expression <i>expr</i>
catch event	break at <i>event</i> , which may be <b>catch</b> , <b>throw</b> , <b>exec</b> , <b>fork</b> , <b>vfork</b> , <b>load</b> , or <b>unload</b> .
info break	show defined breakpoints
info watch	show defined watchpoints
clear	delete breakpoints at next instruction
$\texttt{clear} \ [\textit{file:}] \textit{fun}$	delete breakpoints at entry to fun()
clear [file:]line	delete breakpoints on source line
delete $[n]$	delete breakpoints [or breakpoint $n$ ]
disable $\begin{bmatrix} n \end{bmatrix}$	disable breakpoints [or breakpoint $n$ ]
enable $[n]$	enable breakpoints [or breakpoint $n$ ]
enable once $\begin{bmatrix} n \end{bmatrix}$	enable breakpoints [or breakpoint $n$ ]; disable again when reached
enable del $\left[n ight]$	enable breakpoints [or breakpoint $n$ ]; delete when reached
ignore n count	ignore breakpoint $n, count$ times
<pre>commands n     [silent]     command-list end</pre>	execute GDB command-list every time breakpoint $n$ is reached. [silent suppresses default display] end of command-list

# **Program Stack**

backtrace $[n]$	print trace of all frames in stack; or of $n$
bt $\lfloor n \rfloor$	frames—innermost if $n>0$ , outermost if $n<0$
$\texttt{frame} \ \Bigl[ n \Bigr]$	select frame number $n$ or frame at address $n$ ; if no $n$ , display current frame
up n	select frame $n$ frames up
down $n$	select frame $n$ frames down
info frame $\left[ addr  ight]$	describe selected frame, or frame at $addr$
info args	arguments of selected frame
info locals	local variables of selected frame
info reg $[rn]$	register values [for regs $rn$ ] in selected
info all-reg $[rn]$	frame; <b>all-reg</b> includes floating point

#### F

Execution Control		
$\begin{array}{l} \texttt{continue} \ \left[ \textit{count} \right] \\ \texttt{c} \ \left[ \textit{count} \right] \end{array}$	continue running; if $count$ specified, ignore this breakpoint next $count$ times	
$\begin{array}{l} \texttt{step} \ \begin{bmatrix} count \end{bmatrix} \\ \texttt{s} \ \begin{bmatrix} count \end{bmatrix} \end{array}$	execute until another line reached; repeat $count$ times if specified	
stepi $[count]$ si $[count]$	step by machine instructions rather than source lines	
$\begin{array}{l} \texttt{next} \ [count] \\ \texttt{n} \ [count] \end{array}$	execute next line, including any function calls	
$\begin{array}{l} \texttt{nexti} \ [count] \\ \texttt{ni} \ [count] \end{array}$	next machine instruction rather than source line	
until $[location]$ finish return $[expr]$	run until next instruction (or <i>location</i> ) run until selected stack frame returns pop selected stack frame without executing [setting return value]	
signal num jump line jump *address set var=expr	resume execution with signal $s$ (none if 0) resume execution at specified <i>line</i> number or <i>address</i> evaluate <i>expr</i> without displaying it; use for altering program variables	
Display		
print $[/f]$ $[expr]$ p $[/f]$ $[expr]$	show value of $expr$ [or last value	
x d u o	hexadecimal signed decimal unsigned decimal octal	
t a	binary address, absolute and relative	
c f	character floating point	
$call \left[ / f \right] expr$	like <b>print</b> but does not display <b>void</b>	
x [/Nuf] expr	examine memory at address <i>expr</i> ; optional format spec follows slash	
$egin{array}{c} N \\ u \end{array} \end{array}$	<pre>count of how many units to display unit size; one of b individual bytes h halfwords (two bytes) w words (four bytes) g giant words (eight bytes) printing format. Any print format, or c rull termineted tring</pre>	

disassem  $\left[addr\right]$ display memory as machine instructions

# **Automatic Display**

display $\left[ /f \right] expr$	show value of $expr$ each time program stops [according to format $f$ ]
display	display all enabled expressions on list
undisplay $n$	remove number(s) $n$ from list of
	automatically displayed expressions
disable disp $n$	disable display for expression(s) number $n$
enable disp $n$	enable display for expression(s) number $n$
info display	numbered list of display expressions

 ${\bf s}$  null-terminated string

i machine instructions

surround optional arguments ... show one or more arguments

#### Expressions

expr	an expression in C, C++, or Modula-2 (including function calls), or:
addr @len	an array of <i>len</i> elements beginning at addr
file::nm	a variable or function $nm$ defined in file
${type}addr$	read memory at $addr$ as specified $type$
\$	most recent displayed value
n	nth displayed value
\$\$	displayed value previous to \$
<b>\$\$</b> <i>n</i>	nth displayed value back from \$
\$_	last address examined with $\mathbf{x}$
\$	value at address \$_
\$var	convenience variable; assign any value
show values $\left[n ight]$	show last 10 values [or surrounding $n$ ]
show conv	display all convenience variables

#### Symbol Table

info address $s$	show where symbol $s$ is stored
info func $[regex]$	show names, types of defined functions (all, or matching <i>regex</i> )
info var $[regex]$	show names, types of global variables (all, or matching <i>regex</i> )
whatis $\left[ expr  ight]$ ptype $\left[ expr  ight]$	show data type of <i>expr</i> [or <b>\$</b> ] without evaluating; <b>ptype</b> gives more detail
ptype type	describe type, struct, union, or enum

### **GDB** Scripts

source <i>script</i>	read, execute GDB commands from file $script$
define cmd command-list end document cmd help-text	create new GDB command <i>cmd</i> ; execute script defined by <i>command-list</i> end of <i>command-list</i> create online documentation for new GDB command <i>cmd</i>
end	end of <i>help-text</i>

#### Signals

handle signal act	specify GDB actions for <i>signal</i> :
print	announce signal
noprint	be silent for signal
stop	halt execution on signal
nostop	do not halt execution
pass	allow your program to handle signal
nopass	do not allow your program to see signal
info signals	show table of signals, GDB action for each

### **Debugging Targets**

target type param	connect to target machine, process, or file
help target	display available targets
attach param	connect to another process
detach	release target from GDB control

# **Controlling GDB**

set param value show param	set one of GDB's internal parameters display current setting of parameter
Parameters understo complaint <i>limit</i> confirm <i>on/off</i> editing <i>on/off</i>	ood by <b>set</b> and <b>show</b> : number of messages on unusual symbols enable or disable cautionary queries control <b>readline</b> command-line editing
height <i>lpp</i> language <i>lang</i>	number of lines before pause in display Language for GDB expressions (auto, c or
listsize n prompt str radix base	modula-2) number of lines shown by list use <i>str</i> as GDB prompt octal, decimal, or hex number representation
verbose $on/off$ width $cpl$ write $on/off$	control messages when loading symbols number of characters before line folded Allow or forbid patching binary, core files (when reopened with <b>exec</b> or <b>core</b> )
history	groups with the following options:
h h exp off/on h file filename h size size h save off/on	disable/enable <b>readline</b> history expansion file for recording GDB command history number of commands kept in history list control use of external file for command history
print p	groups with the following options:
p address on/off	<sup>f</sup> print memory addresses in stacks, values
p array <i>off/on</i>	compact or attractive format for arrays
p demangl on/off	source (demangled) or internal form for C++ symbols
p asm-dem on/off	<sup>c</sup> demangle C++ symbols in machine- instruction output
p elements limit	number of array elements to display
p object $\mathit{on/off}$	print C++ derived types for objects
p pretty off/on	struct display: compact or indented
p union $on/off$	display of union members
p vtbl off/on	display of C++ virtual function tables
show commands show commands $n$ show commands +	show last 10 commands show 10 commands around number $n$ show next 10 commands

### Working Files

file [file]	use <i>file</i> for both symbols and executable; with no arg, discard both
core $[file]$	read <i>file</i> as coredump; or discard
exec $[file]$	use $file$ as executable only; or discard
$\texttt{symbol} [\mathit{file}]$	use symbol table from <i>file</i> ; or discard
load file	dynamically link <i>file</i> and add its symbols
add-sym file addr	read additional symbols from $file$ , dynamically loaded at $addr$
info files	display working files and targets in use
path dirs	add <i>dirs</i> to front of path searched for executable and symbol files
show path	display executable and symbol file path
info share	list names of shared libraries currently loaded

# Source Files

dir names	add directory <i>names</i> to front of source path
dir	clear source path
show dir	show current source path
list	show next ten lines of source
list -	show previous ten lines
list lines	display source surrounding <i>lines</i> , specified as:
[file:]num	line number [in named file]
[file:] function	beginning of function [in named file]
+off	off lines after last printed
- off	off lines previous to last printed
* address	line containing address
list f,l	from line $f$ to line $l$
info line <i>num</i>	show starting, ending addresses of compiled code for source line <i>num</i>
info source	show name of current source file
info sources	list all source files in use
forw regex	search following source lines for regex
rev regex	search preceding source lines for $regex$

# **GDB under GNU Emacs**

M-x gdb	run GDB under Emacs
C-h m	describe GDB mode
M-s	step one line (step)
M-n	next line (next)
M-i	step one instruction (stepi)
C-c C-f	finish current stack frame (finish)
M-c	continue (cont)
M-u	up arg frames ( <b>up</b> )
M-d	down arg frames (down)
C-x &	copy number from point, insert at end
C-x SPC	(in source file) set break at point

### **GDB** License

show copying	Display GNU General Public License
show warranty	There is NO WARRANTY for GDB.
	Display full no-warranty statement.

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