

Problem

When I start GDB with a core file, GDB does not load any symbols and/or cannot tell me where the core was dumped. What is wrong?

Solution

The reason is usually that the size of the core dump is not sufficient for gdb to analyse the problem.

Check with `ulimit -c` the maximum core dump size for your Bash compatible Shell. I would recommend it to be the size of the half the amount of RAM in your computer for normal executables. If you are running memory-heavy programs, set it to the amount of RAM in your computer or even to the amount of RAM plus the size of your swap files systems.

Related articles

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