**Spike:** 2

**Title:** IDE comparison

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**Goals / deliverables:**

1. Using the simple command line program from Spike 1 create a working project using three of the following IDEs:

a. Microsoft Visual Studio 2010/2012/2013 (any version)

b. Code::Blocks

c. Eclipse+CDT

d. XCode

e. Netbeans (for C/C++ development)

2. Create a short report to document your findings. (Note: the short report is NOT the spike report - you should have two reports for this spike.) Include the following details:

a. For each IDE, a point-form list of the steps required to create a new project in the IDE, add new files, compile and run a command line program.

b. For each IDE, a point-form list of the steps required to create a break-point location in the program, and run the program in using the IDE’s integrated debugging system so that program execution stops at the nominated point.

c. For each IDE, note how to inspect the value of variables during debugging.

d. A comparison matrix (table) to represent the qualities of each IDE (you must decide what criteria you think is important) and your rating (value).

e. Clearly state which IDE you will use in future and support your decision.

**Technologies, Tools, and Resources used:**

Visual Studio 2013

Code::Blocks

Eclipse+CDT

Netbeans

**Tasks undertaken:**

Installed each IDE and did some basic coding in each in order to see the merit of each and compare them.

**What we found out:**

I found out that I prefer the development environment of Visual Studio more than the others. I found out the reasons why I have felt a preference to Visual Studio since I’ve started using IDEs further than the other IDEs just feeling a bit awkward and unrefined.