

To: Dr. Mark Yoder

From: Michael McDonald

Subject: Week 4 (GDB, Make) Memo

Date: September 30, 2013

1 Exercise Summary

Matt Skorina and I have Homework 4 almost complete (we have all the code written for searching and following, but the stepper is not stepping properly).

Objective	Exercise	Status	Notes
GDB	Exercise 14	Completed	GDB is powerful but can be difficult to work with, as commands aren't always intuitive.
Make	Exercise 15	Completed	Makefiles are awesome. I feel like they can get complicated quickly for large projects, but that is still way simpler than trying to do it all by hand.

The main points I took away from these exercises were the following:

- There are some pretty awesome software tools out there (that are open source) that allow you to simplify your workflow by creating a solid tool chain.
- That being said, creating your tool chain can be somewhat difficult and also time consuming. Luckily, these tools were already installed and ready to use.
- LLDB, the “new” version of GDB, is actually much nicer. I used it with Objective-C programming this summer, and I found it much nicer to use and just as powerful (if not more so).