Lab4

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1 Reflection

Part 3:

For part 1, getting down the idea of infix, prefix, or postfix and which one was supposed to be used in a specific part was key. We found that prefix played an important role in the fact that, it allowed us to combine many different operations into one command line. The disadvantage was the fact that, at times it got too complicated with all the parentheses but it just requires attention to detail which is a vital lesson within computer science. Advantages of infix are that it allows us to make quick mathematical operations that require stand alone attention rather than being grouped together. Disadvantage, which may not be a disadvantage but rather an understanding of infix, is that it can only do so much to two variables. For postfix, it goes along with everything else with advantages and disadvantages. A main advantage we saw was that parentheses that were needed for prefix are no longer needed, allowing for a better understanding. It also reflects the order in which operands must happen.

For this lab, it started out challenging yet fun. Alex and I were able to figure out part 1 based off of our knowledge from in class activities which we enjoyed. It gave us a leg up compared to previous labs where it felt like we had to start from scratch. We practiced trial and error for both part 1 and part 2. It was easier for part 1 because we were able to see the program run and determine if the output was necessary and make minor changes. With the drawing one, it proved a bit more challenging. We almost had to visually draw what we wanted and to create images that were beyond a simple rectangle or triangle.

For this lab, since it was smaller in terms of parts, Alex and I split up the work in parts. However, instead of completing them separately, we sat down together working on our parts and were there for assisting the other one but also explaining what the other was doing so we could understand the topics since all are important.

Alex and I really liked how parts of the lab connected directly to in-class discussion because as said before it gave us a leg up and we had a bit more confidence than before. We struggled a little with part 2 because we had to get use to drawing with commands as well as understanding what the second file exactly was for. We at first assumed that it was to explain our drawings but we

then realized that we needed to take it a step further and make another image that was more involved. We did more research on PostScript commands that would allow us to make a shape that went beyond what we did in PostScript4. We decided on a star since it incorporated lines which we learned how to use in the other file. We also realized that we could use an expression and call it within another "function" and repeat which allowed for an easier creation of a star. While this portion of the lab was a chance to grow and learn more, we had wished there was a little more instruction with how to go about "devising our own composition".