Musing 4

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**Visual Studio 2017 and C# 7.0**

This semester we have learned about how systems are planned, developed, and maintained. There are many ways to go about system development, while still adhering to a general structure. While there are many paths in development, there are also many different tools for that development. One of these tools is Visual Studio, a powerful, common IDE (integrated development environment). Visual Studio is created by Microsoft for the purpose of helping developers build everything from simple smartphone apps, to robust web applications and database connected programs. This week, Visual Studio 2017 was released by Microsoft for developers to begin to use. There are many new features and abilities within the newest release, while the program itself is lighter and takes up less storage. One of the strongest new features is the Go To Menu. “Navigating your way around a large code base can be quite a chore. To make your job easier, VS2017 has added a new Go To menu. This new menu effectively wraps up links with keyboard shortcuts to a new dialog, allowing you to search for keywords” (Walden, 2016).

One key addition that comes with the new release of Visual Studio is the release of the programming language C# version 7.0. C# is Microsoft’s programming language used in development. While Visual Studio does allow you to use other languages, such as Visual Basic, it is really tailored to work with C# to achieve maximum effectiveness. With this release of C#, Microsoft is really looking to add value for data analytics projects. “C# 7.0 adds a number of new features and brings a focus on data consumption, code simplification and performance. Perhaps the biggest features are tuples, which make it easy to have multiple results, and pattern matching, which simplifies code that is conditional on the shape of data” (Cardoza, 2017). Obviously, there are many, many more additional features and improvements with the new release of both C# and Visual Studio. Every iteration gets faster and contains less bugs.

# References

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