

Using LLDB in iOS

Finding Help and Creating Aliases

LLDB Command Syntax

<command>

<action>

[options]

[arguments]

```
(lldb) breakpoint set --selector speakAgain
```

```
(lldb) process launch --stop-at-entry -- -program_arg1 value
```


LLDB Command Syntax (cont'd)

- ⚙ Options can be placed anywhere
- ⚙ For arguments that are preceded with a "-", separate the options from the arguments with --
- ⚙ Quotes can protect spaces
- ⚙ Quotes can be escaped: "\"
- ⚙ Some commands are unparsed after options.
(script and expression)

Three Syntax Forms

Discoverable form

```
(lldb) expression --objective-description -- myString
```

Abbreviated form

```
(lldb) e -0 -- myString
```

Alias

```
(lldb) po myString
```


Asking for Help

```
(lldb) help watchpoint
```

```
(lldb) help watchpoint set
```

```
(lldb) help <byte-size>
```

```
(lldb) help po
```

```
(lldb) help -a
```


Asking for Help (cont'd)

`(lldb) apropos break`

The following built-in commands may relate to 'break':

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <code>_regexp-break</code> | -- Set a breakpoint using a regular expression to specify the location, where <code><linenum></code> is in decimal and <code><address></code> is in hex. |
| <code>_regexp-tbreak</code> | -- Set a one shot breakpoint using a regular expression to specify the location, where <code><linenum></code> is in decimal and <code><address></code> is in hex. |
| <code>breakpoint</code> | -- A set of commands for operating on breakpoints. Also see <code>_regexp-break</code> . |
| <code>breakpoint clear</code> | -- Clears a breakpoint or set of breakpoints in the executable. |

Creating an Alias

⚙️ Positional Aliases:

- ⚙️ Provides simple substitution
- ⚙️ Additional arguments are appended to the end

```
(lldb) command alias <alias-name> <substitute>
```

- ⚙️ Ability to position arguments in the command line
- ⚙️ %n in the command line will match the argument

```
(lldb) command alias sbr breakpoint set -l %1
```


Creating an Alias (cont'd)

- ⚙ Regular Expression Aliases:
 - ⚙ Alias arguments are matched against a regular expression
 - ⚙ Multiple regular expressions may be included
 - ⚙ First regular expression match wins

```
(lldb) command regex sbr 's/([0-9]+)/breakpoint set -l %1/'
```

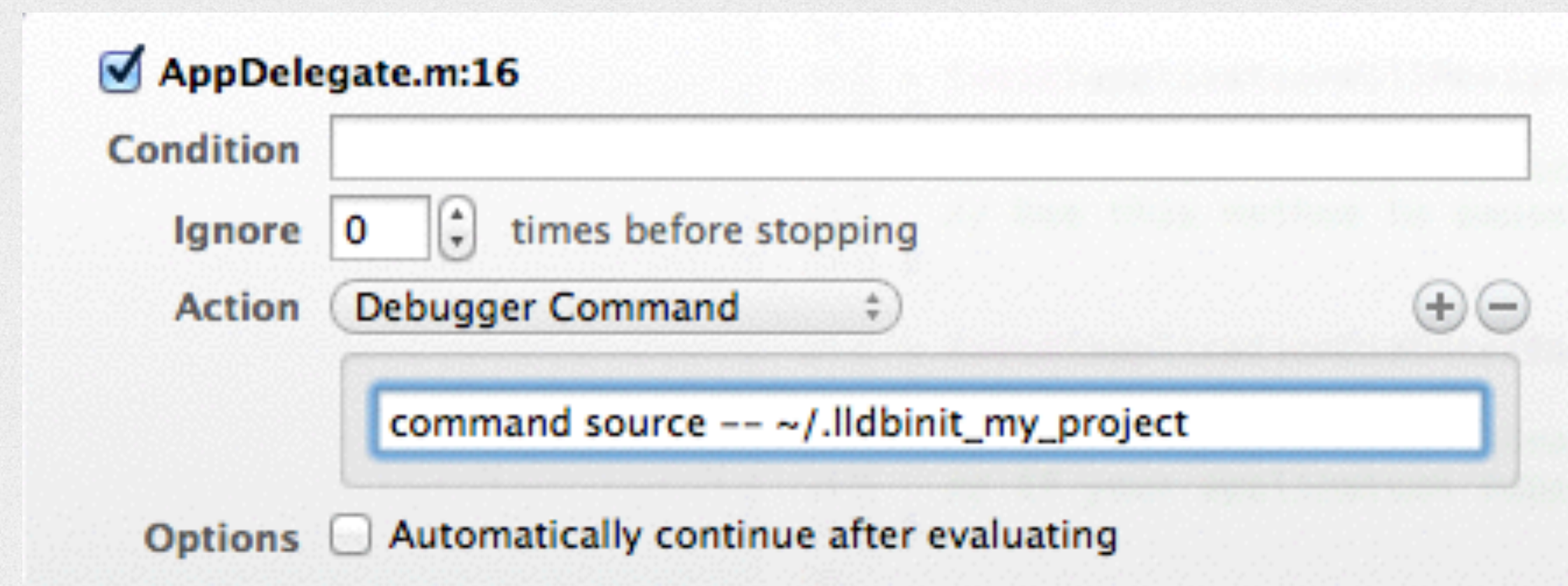

Creating an Alias (cont'd)

⚙ Creating global aliases

- ⚙ Save LLDB command in file: ~/.lldbinit

⚙ Creating project aliases

- ⚙ Save LLDB commands in file: ~/.lldbinit_my_project
- ⚙ Create new breakpoint with the following LLDB command:



The screenshot shows the Xcode breakpoint editor for a breakpoint named "AppDelegate.m:16". The "Condition" field is empty. The "Ignore" field is set to "0" with a dropdown arrow, followed by the text "times before stopping". The "Action" field is set to "Debugger Command" with a dropdown arrow and plus/minus buttons. Below this, a text box contains the command "command source -- ~/.lldbinit_my_project". At the bottom, the "Options" section has a checkbox labeled "Automatically continue after evaluating" which is currently unchecked.

☒ AppDelegate.m:16

Condition

Ignore times before stopping

Action

Options ☐ Automatically continue after evaluating

Demo: Revealing the Data

- ⚙ Demonstrate positional alias
- ⚙ Demonstrate regex alias
- ⚙ Show how to persist aliases between debugging sessions

Challenge Time

ALIAS