

CS61A Lecture #40: Conclusion

Announcements:

- Homework 13 is up: due Monday.
- "Homework" 14 will be judging the contest. Due next Wednesday (should be up tonight).
- HKN surveys TODAY: 7.5 bonus points for filling out their survey. Be sure to sign the sign-up sheet.
- IEEE student branch will be serving breakfast at the final—muffins, bagels, juice—from 0745 to 0755 (that is, they'll be gone *before* the final starts.)

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A Summary of Topics

- Programming primitives
- Derived programming structures
- Programming-language concepts, design, and implementation
- Programming "Paradigms"
- Software engineering
- Analysis
- Side excursions
- What's Next?

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Programming Primitives

- Recursion: the all-encompassing repetitive construct; recursive thinking
- Pairs: A universal data-structuring tool.
- Functions as data values, functions on functions
- Exceptions: Dealing with errors.
- Classes.

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Derived Programming Structures

- Can build almost anything from primitives.
- Although Python also has specialized implementations of some important data structures.
- Sequences:
 - Lists: traversals, searching, inserting, deleting (destructive and non-destructive)
 - Trees: traversals, binary search trees, constructing, inserting, deleting
- Maps.
- Sequences: creating, traversing, searching,
- Iterators, generators.
- Trees: uses, traversing, and searching.

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Programming-Language Concepts, Design, Implementation

- Python was developed largely as a teaching language, and is simpler in many ways than other "production" languages...
- And yet, it is a good deal more powerful (as measured by work done per line of code) than these same languages.
- Still, as you've seen, there are problems, too: dynamic vs. static discovery of errors.
- Big item: scope (what instance of what definition applies to evaluation of an identifier). This is what environment diagrams are intended to model.
 - Alternative: dynamic scoping.
- Implementing a language [CS164]:
 - Interpreters
 - Trees as an intermediate language
 - Relationship of run-time environment representation to scope rules.
 - "Little" languages as a programming tool

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Paradigms

- Functional programming: expressions, not statements; no side-effects; use of higher-order functions.
- Data-directed and object-oriented programming
 - Organize program around types of data, not functions
 - Inheritance
 - Interface vs. implementation
- Rule-based programming (Prolog)
 - Declarative rather than imperative
 - Rule → action idea.
 - Logic programming:
 - * Pattern matching, pattern variables as a programming tool
 - * Declarative and imperative interpretation
 - * Application to parsing

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Software Engineering

- Biggest ideas: Abstraction, separation of concerns
- Specification of a program vs. its implementation
 - Syntactic spec (header) vs. semantic spec (comment).
 - Example of multiple implementations for the same abstract behavior
- Testing: for every program, there is a test.
 - In "Extreme Programming" there is a test for every module.
- Software engineering implicit in all our software courses, explicit in CS169.

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Analysis

- What we can measure when we measure speed:
 - Raw time.
 - Counts of selected representative operations.
 - Symbolic expressions of running time.
 - Best/worst case.
- Application of *asymptotic notation* ($\Theta(\cdot)$, etc.) to summarizing symbolic time measurements concisely.

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Important Side Excursions

- User Interfaces: there are principles behind making computers usable.
- Cryptography:
 - protecting integrity, privacy, and authenticity of data.
 - Symmetric (DES, Enigma) and asymmetric (public-key) methods.
- Computability [CS172]: Some functions cannot be computed. Problems that are "near" such functions cannot be computed quickly.

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What's Next (Course-Wise)?

- CS61B: (conventional) data structures and languages
- CS61C: computing hardware as programmers see it.
- CS170, CS172, CS174: "Theory"—analysis and construction of algorithms, theoretical models of computation, use of probabilistic algorithms and analysis.
- CS161: Security
- CS162: Operating systems.
- CS164: Implementation of programming languages
- CS160, CS169: User interfaces, software engineering
- CS188: Artificial intelligence
- CS184: Graphics
- CS186: Databases

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What's Next (Course-Wise) (II)

- CS191: Quantum Computing.
- CS C149: Embedded Systems.
- CS 150: Digital Systems Design
- CS194: Special topics. (E.g.) computational biology; parallel software; data science; networks, crowds, and markets; cell phones as a computing platform.
- Plus graduate courses on these subjects and more.
- And please don't forget CS199 and research projects.

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What's Next (Otherwise)?

- Programming contests.
- The open-source world: Go out and build something!
- And above all: Have Fun!

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