

## Objectives

- Computer Science is Complexity Science
- Course logistics
- BI: TikTok/Data
- Review for Final

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## Review

- What is recursion?
  - Provide an example of solving a problem recursively
- What are characteristics of programming languages?
- What are common constructs in programming languages?
- What are some differences between programming languages?

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## Review: Recursive Binary Search

```
def search(searchlist, key):  
    if len(searchlist) == 0:  
        return -1  
    mid = len(searchlist)//2  
    if searchlist[mid] == key:  
        return mid  
    elif key > searchlist[mid]:  
        # look in upper half  
        return search( searchlist[mid+1:], key )  
    else:  
        # look in lower half  
        return search( searchlist[:mid], key )
```

← Base case: We know the key is not in our list

← Base case: found it!

← Recursion

← Subproblem of *same* problem

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## Review: Recursion Summary

- **Recursion:** method of solving problems
  - Break a problem down into smaller subproblems of the same problem until problem is small enough that it can be solved trivially
- Binary Search:
  - Break problem to ~half the size of original problem
  - Base cases: when the middle element is what you're looking for; when there are no elements in your list
- Any recursive problem can be solved iteratively
  - Some problems lend themselves better to recursive solutions

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## Review: Programming Language Characteristics

- **Syntax:** symbols used
- **Semantics:** what the symbols *mean*

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## Review: What is Computer Science?

“Computer Science is no more about computers  
than astronomy is about telescopes.”

--Edsger Dijkstra

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A human must turn information into intelligence or knowledge.  
We've tended to forget that  
**no computer will ever ask a new question.**  
-- Grace Hopper

Computers are incredibly fast, accurate, and stupid.  
Human beings are incredibly slow, inaccurate, and brilliant.  
Together they are powerful beyond imagination.  
-- Albert Einstein

## Review: What This Course Is About

**Problem Solving!**



From  
*30 Rock*

## Review: Parts of an Algorithm

- Input, Output
- Primitive operations
  - What data you have, what you can do to the data
- Naming
  - Identify things we're using
- Sequence of operations
- Conditionals
  - Handle special cases
- Repetition/Loops
- Subroutines
  - Call, reuse similar techniques

An overview for the semester!

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## COMPLEXITY SCIENCE

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## CS == Complexity Science

- How can it be done?
  - Based on **information**
  - Managing, manipulating data
  - Possible algorithms
- How well can it be done?
  - Most **efficient** algorithm in terms of time and/or space
- Can it be done at all?
  - Often, proof is a program--an implementation of the above

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## Computer Science != Programming

programming : CS ::

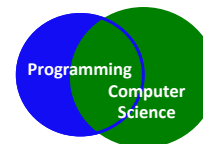
machining : engineering

grammar : literature

equations : mathematics

walking : W&L

a vehicle, not a destination



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# Computer Science Fields

## Systems

- Architecture
- Operating systems
- Networks
- Distributed and parallel systems
- Databases
- Security
- ...

## Software

- Compilers
- Graphics
- Software engineering
- Software testing and verification
- ...

## Theory

- Algorithms
- Theory of computation
- ...

## Other

- Artificial intelligence
- Robotics
- Natural language processing
- Bioinformatics
- Visualization
- Numerical analysis
- ...

- Often research involves combinations of these fields
- Not just programming!
  - But programming is a tool to do much, much more!

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# Computer Science Fields

## Systems

- Architecture \*
- Operating systems \*
- Networks \*
- Distributed \* and parallel systems
- Databases
- Security
- ...

## Software

- Compilers
- Graphics \*
- Software engineering \*
- Software testing \* and verification
- ...

## Theory

- Algorithms \*
- Theory of computation
- ...

## Other

- Artificial intelligence \*
- Robotics \*
- Natural language processing \*
- Bioinformatics
- Visualization \*
- Numerical analysis
- ...

\* = field we discussed or did a problem in  
➤ Some are a stretch :)

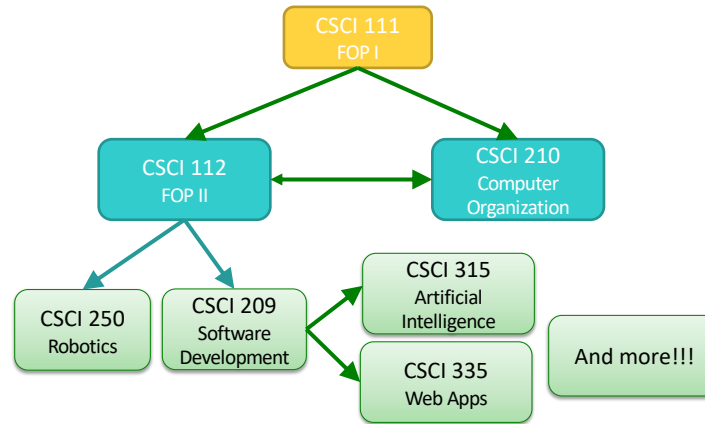
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## Where Can You Go from Here?



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## Course Conclusions

- Better [computational] problem solver
- See impact of computer science on your life
  - Think differently about issues
- Understand some computing issues better
  - Taking out some of the mystery
  - Testing, debugging, efficiency
- Algorithms are everywhere
  - Process for solving problems, **efficiently**
  - Mapping human intuition to systematic/automatic process

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## Final Exam

- Timed exam on Canvas
  - Some questions “in” Canvas
  - Some questions in a Word document
- Only open brain, Canvas, Word
- Closed everything else
  - Turn off notifications, hide distractions
- Can have paper for scratchwork

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## Final: Word Part

- One question in Canvas has the Word document
- Download document, type your answers in document
  - I only left a few lines between questions
  - Write your answer below/between the questions
  - Use the point amount to help gauge how much to write
  - Be careful about autocorrect (e.g., avoid  $i$  as a variable)
- Submit/upload Word document

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## Final Exam Content

- Focus on object-oriented programming
- New content: search techniques, lists (1D and 2D), programming languages, recursion, complexity science
- Cumulative:
  - Functions, data types, common methods & operations
  - How to model data

Your questions?

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## Course Evaluations

- On Canvas, due Monday
- Incentive
  - If 60% of students complete evaluation, 1% Extra Credit on *lab* grades
  - For each additional 10% of students who complete evaluation, 1% additional EC on *lab* grades
  - Total possible EC: 5%

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## BROADER ISSUE: TIKTOK/DATA

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## Broader Issue: TikTok/Data

Discuss the pros and cons of the proposals.  
What are their tradeoffs? Which do you support?

- Proposal: Ban TikTok
- Proposal: Project Texas
- Proposal: Strict laws protecting all Americans' online privacy from invasive apps made everywhere

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## Final Exam Review

- What is our process for developing classes?
- What are the different ways to iterate through a list?
- How do you iterate through a dictionary?

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## Animal Shelter Software

- We want to keep track of animals at an animal shelter

What is our process for developing a class?

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## Process

- Determine data, functionality
- Create class
  - Create `__init__`, `__str__` methods
- Test
- Create additional methods, test

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## Class: Pet

- Data:
  - Species of animal (dog, cat, chinchilla)
  - Name
    - Defaults to ""
  - Status (in holding, in adoption room, adopted)
    - Defaults to "in holding"
- Functionality
  - Constructor: `Pet(species)`
  - String format: `"species: name, status"`
  - Setters for name
  - Set animal as adopted or in adoption room
  - Getters for this information

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## Counter Class Specification

- Implement, Test
- Example use: Caesar cipher

- A class that represents a counter that wraps around from a high value back to its low value
- Data:
  - Low, high, and current values (all integers)
- Functionality:
  - Constructor – takes as parameters the low value and the high value
    - counter starts at low value
  - A string representation of the Counter
    - Format: "low: <low> high: <high> current: <current>"
  - Getters: low, high, current value
  - Increment the counter by a given amount (a positive amount), wrapping around to low again, if necessary. Returns number of times had to wrap around.
    - Example: if counter's low is 0 and the high is 9 and its current value is 9:
      - `test.assertEqual(counter.increment(1), 1); test.assertEqual(counter.getCurrent(), 0)`
  - Decrement the counter by a given amount (a positive number), wrapping around to high again, if necessary. Returns number of times had to wrap around.
  - Sets the counter's value, only if `low <= value <= high`. Otherwise, prints an error message.

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## Palindrome

- Write a program that determines if a string (input by a user) is a palindrome. A *palindrome* is a word that is the same forwards and backwards. Some example palindromes: "kayak", "A man A plan A canal Panama".
- [http://www.fun-with-words.com/palin\\_example.html](http://www.fun-with-words.com/palin_example.html)
- Break the problem into at least two functions:
  - main
  - `isPalindrome`, which returns `True` iff the parameter string passed into the function is a palindrome.
- Depending on how you think about the problem, you may want to break the solution into more functions, e.g., a `reverseString` function

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## Generate a Random Password

- Function: given number of characters
- Returns a random password
  - Includes upper, lowercase letters; numbers; punctuation

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## Fibonacci

- Solve the Fibonacci sequence *recursively*
- Note: this is less efficient than the iterative solutions you wrote during lab

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Make Good Decisions!

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