Introduction to Computer Science

Yufei Cui

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• Clearly, it is the science of computing!

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- But...What does that mean?

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- What is science?

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- What is science?
- What is a computer?

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Motivation

Scenario

Suppose you are given a directory of staff from a company with over 10000 employees. In that directory, you are given a summary for each person – their name, address, SIN, job title, salary, etc. You want to be able to see the hierarchy of command, query information about workers in the in company, and be able to add, delete, and modify the data **QUICKLY**. How would you do it?





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- Put that information in a database.
- Organize the database somehow, for convenient access

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- Manually edit the company directory when you need to



• IS the capacity to solve problems with (or due to) computers!

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Computer Science

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- Come up with **algorithms** to solve problems, make our lives easier, leverage the fact that computers are so crazy fast.

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Computer Science

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- Come up with **algorithms** to solve problems, make our lives easier, leverage the fact that computers are so crazy fast.
- What is an algorithm?

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Algorithm

Definition

An algorithm is a (finite) sequence of instructions.

Examples:

- cooking recipes
- driving instructions
- lego instruction
- rubik cube solver

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Nowadays, a typical senior software engineer (or researcher) should be able to

• Identity the problem or task or improvement

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- Identity the problem or task or improvement
- Define what is it that you want to accomplish

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- Maintain it

When you give instructions to human vs. computer

Linda

How does my peanut butter sandwich taste?

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When you give instructions to human vs. computer

Apple LISA

Locate hand and PB sandwich

Linda

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When you give instructions to human vs. computer

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Locate hand and PB sandwich

Maneuver toward PB sandwich

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When you give instructions to human vs. computer

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- Locate hand and PB sandwich
- Maneuver toward PB sandwich
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- Match flavours to personal preference
- Onstruct feedback

Linda

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When you give instructions to human vs. computer

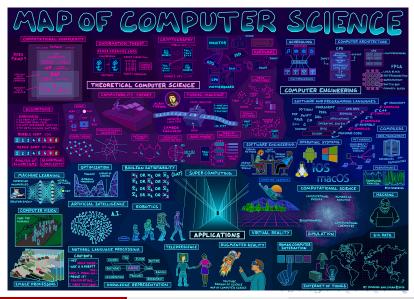
Apple LISA

- $\textcircled{\ } \textbf{ 0 Locate hand and PB sandwich }$
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- O Chew
- Swallow when sufficiently small
- Match flavours to personal preference
- Onstruct feedback
- Vocalize it ____

Linda

Week 1 (a)





Yufei Cui

Week 1 (a)

May 4, 2021 9 / 10

IT'S TIME FOR ...

PYTHON TIME!

Yufei Cui

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