

# The Shibui Beamer Theme

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A Minimalist Design for Clear Communication

Your Name

Your Institution

November 13, 2025

1. Introduction

2. Typography & Color

3. Content Examples

4. Data & Figures

5. Best Practices

6. Conclusion

# Overview

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## 1. Introduction

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## Design Philosophy

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The Shibui theme embodies Japanese minimalist design principles:

- Clarity through simplicity
- Generous use of whitespace
- Elegant typography
- Minimal but effective navigation
- Focus on content, not decoration

Shibui represents simple, subtle, and unobtrusive beauty through refined restraint.

## Key Features

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1. **Dark Theme Colors:** Dark background with light, readable text
2. **Navigation Squares:** Shows current section slides only
3. **Progress Bar:** Visual indicator with page numbers
4. **Minimal Headline:** Section and title without visual clutter
5. **Multiple Fonts:** Choose from sans-serif, serif, or monospace options

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## Typography Matters

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Good typography is essential for effective presentations.

**This theme offers 5 font options** for different presentation styles:

- **sans** (default): Fira Sans – clean, modern sans-serif
- **serif**: ET Book or Palatino fallback – classic elegance
- **garamond**: EB Garamond – sophisticated serif typography
- **charter**: Charter – highly readable serif
- **mono**: Fira Mono – monospace for code-heavy presentations

*Emphasis through italics* rather than bold helps maintain visual calm.

## Color Palette

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The theme now supports **9 color schemes** for different aesthetics:

### Original Themes

**dark** (default): Dark background with light text and red accent

**light**: Warm cream background with near-black text and dark red accent

### New Color Schemes

**solarizedlight, solarizeddark, solarizedosaka**: Solarized variants

**nord**: Arctic, north-bluish color palette

**gruvboxlight, gruvboxdark**: Retro groove with warm tones

**autumn**: Warm autumn colors with browns and oranges

All palettes provide excellent contrast and reduce eye strain.

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## Lists & Structure

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**Itemized lists** use simple squares:

- First level items
  - Second level items
    - Third level items

**Enumerated lists** use simple numbering:

1. First item
2. Second item
3. Third item

## Blocks & Emphasis

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### Standard Block

Blocks have minimal styling to avoid visual clutter.

### Example Block

Examples use slightly muted text for subtle differentiation.

### Alert Block

Alerts use the accent color to draw attention when needed.

Use blocks sparingly—content should speak for itself.

## Custom Shibui Boxes

The theme provides a custom `shibuiframe` environment with minimal styling:

### Key Concept

This is a custom box with only bottom and right borders, following Shibui's minimal aesthetic. The title overlaps the top-left corner with a clean border. Perfect for highlighting important concepts without visual clutter.

### Mathematical Insight

The box adapts to both light and dark themes automatically, maintaining readability and the clean Shibui style across all color schemes.

## Simple Tables

Tables follow the minimal Shibui aesthetic:

Method	Accuracy	Time (ms)
Algorithm A	94.2%	12.3
Algorithm B	96.7%	18.5
Algorithm C	95.1%	15.2

Keep tables simple and uncluttered. Use horizontal lines sparingly.

## Advanced Tables

More complex data organization:

Category	Item	Q1	Q2
Revenue	Product A	\$125K	\$142K
	Product B	\$89K	\$95K
Costs	Marketing	\$42K	\$38K
	Operations	\$67K	\$71K
Net		\$105K	\$128K

Align numbers to the right, text to the left.

## Two-Column Layout

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The theme supports standard Beamer columns:

### Left Column

- Clean layout
- Easy to read
- Balanced design

### Right Column

Use columns to:

1. Compare concepts
2. Show before/after
3. Present alternatives

## Quotations

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*“Less is more.”*

— Ludwig Mies van der Rohe

*“Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.”*

— Leonardo da Vinci

## Mathematics

The Shibui theme handles mathematical content elegantly:

**Inline math:** The quadratic formula is  $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ .

**Display equations:**

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi} \quad (1)$$

**Aligned equations:**

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \quad (2)$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{B} = \mu_0 \mathbf{J} + \mu_0 \epsilon_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t} \quad (3)$$

## Code Listings

Clean, readable code with syntax highlighting:

```
1  # Fibonacci sequence generator
2  def fibonacci(n):
3      """Generate first n Fibonacci numbers."""
4      a, b = 0, 1
5      for _ in range(n):
6          yield a
7          a, b = b, a + b
8
9  # Usage example
10 for num in fibonacci(10):
11     print(num, end=' ')
```

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## Presenting Data

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When including figures or data visualizations:

- Keep charts simple and uncluttered
- Remove unnecessary gridlines and decorations
- Use the theme's color palette for consistency
- Ensure high contrast for readability
- Add concise, informative captions

**Remember:** The goal is to illuminate, not decorate.

## Visual Hierarchy

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Good presentations guide the eye naturally:

1. **Most important:** Use size and weight
2. *Moderate importance:* Use italics or color
3. Least important: Use smaller text or gray

The Shibui theme's generous whitespace helps create natural visual hierarchy without competing elements.

# Algorithms

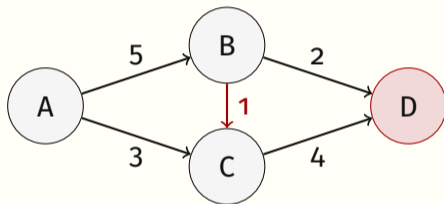
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## Algorithm 1 Binary Search

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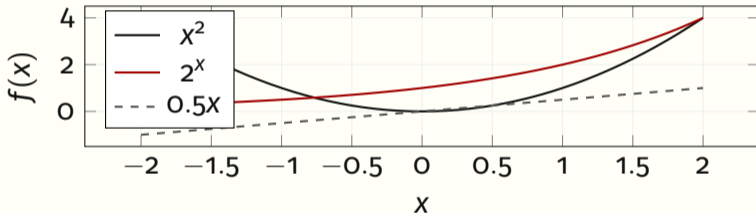
```
1: procedure BINARYSEARCH( $A, n, T$ )
2:    $L \leftarrow 0$ 
3:    $R \leftarrow n - 1$ 
4:   while  $L \leq R$  do
5:      $m \leftarrow \lfloor (L + R)/2 \rfloor$ 
6:     if  $A[m] < T$  then
7:        $L \leftarrow m + 1$ 
8:     else if  $A[m] > T$  then
9:        $R \leftarrow m - 1$ 
10:    else
11:      return  $m$ 
12:    end if
13:  end while
14:  return unsuccessful
15: end procedure
```

## TikZ Diagrams



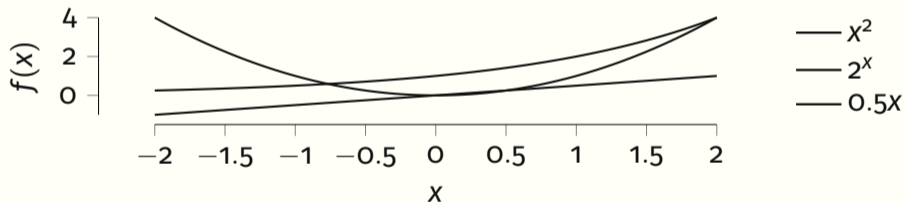
Weighted directed graph using themed colors (shibuitext, shibuiaccent, shibuigray)

## PGFPlots: Standard Style

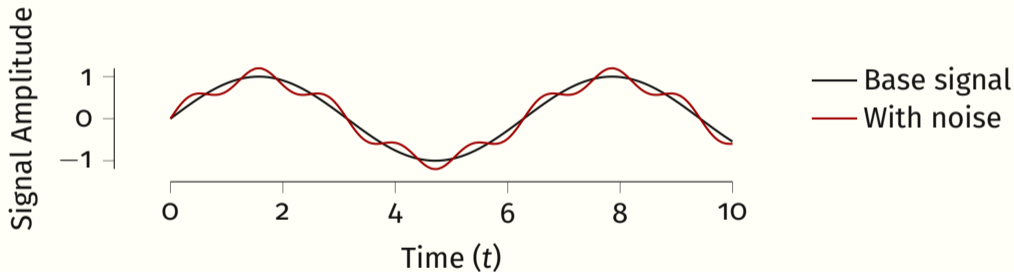


## PGFPlots: Shibui Style

Simple activation with `shibui` style (no grid, legend outside):



## Dynamic Data Visualization



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## Shibui Principles

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Apply these principles when using this theme:

- **Show the content:** Let content take center stage
- **Reduce noise:** Every element should serve a purpose
- **Integrate text and graphics:** Create a unified whole
- **Respect your audience:** Clear, honest presentation

The theme provides the framework; you provide the clarity.

## Technical Tips

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- Use `aspectratio=169` for widescreen (16:9)
- Use `aspectratio=43` for traditional (4:3)
- Uncomment `\sectionframe` in theme for automatic section slides
- Keep slides focused—one main idea per slide
- Use generous spacing with `\vspace`

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## Summary

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The Shibui Beamer theme offers:

- **Elegant design** inspired by Japanese minimalism
- **Minimal interface** that stays out of your way
- **Clear navigation** through sections and slides
- **Multiple font options** including Fira Sans, Garamond, Charter, and more
- **Calm color palettes** including Solarized variants

Use it to create presentations that respect both content and audience.

## Thank You

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Questions?

This theme is available at:  
`github.com/yourname/shibui-beamer`

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## 7. Appendix

## Theme Options Reference I

Complete list of theme options:

### Color Themes

light – Light cream background (default)

dark – Dark background

solarizedlight, solarizeddark, solarizedosaka – Solarized variants

nord – Arctic blue theme

gruvboxlight, gruvboxdark – Warm retro colors

autumn – Warm earthy tones

## Theme Options Reference II (cont.)

### Font Themes

sans – Fira Sans (default)

serif – ET Book/Palatino

garamond – EB Garamond

charter – Charter

mono – Fira Mono

### Layout Options

nosectionheader – Hide section name from header

navontop – Show navigation squares above title

nosub – Hide subsections in table of contents

## Theme Options Reference III (cont.)

### Progress Bar Options

`progressbar=basic` – Single continuous bar (default)

`progressbar=segmented` – Section-based segments

`progressbar=none` – No progress bar, page numbers only

**Usage:** `\usetheme[nord,sans,navontop]{Shibui}`

**Example:** `\usetheme[progressbar=segmented]{Shibui}`

## Color Definitions

Theme colors available for use:

Color Name	Usage
shibuibg	Background color
shibuitext	Main text color
shibuiaccent	Accent/highlight color
shibuigray	UI elements (light)
shibuidarkgray	Secondary text
shibuicodebg	Code/box background

Use with: `\color{shibuiaccent}` or `\textcolor{shibuiaccent}{text}`

## Custom Environments

Special environments provided by the theme:

### **shibuiframe**

Minimal box with background color for highlighting concepts.

#### **Usage:**

```
\begin{shibuiframe}{Title}  
Content...  
\end{shibuiframe}
```

All standard Beamer environments work as expected: blocks, columns, overlays, etc.

## Custom Footer Text

Add custom text or logos above the progress bar:

### **footertext Command**

The `\footertext{}` command lets you add custom text displayed above the progress bar in very small font.

### **Usage in preamble:**

```
\footertext{Conference 2024 - Paris}
```

Perfect for adding: conference names, dates, institutional logos, or copyright notices.

The footer text appears on all slides except the title page and uses the secondary text color for minimal visual impact.

## Additional Resources

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### ■ Design References

- Japanese aesthetics: Wabi-sabi, Shibui, Ma
- Minimalist design principles
- Typography in presentation design

### ■ Color Schemes

- Solarized color palette
- Nord theme
- Gruvbox retro colors

### ■ Beamer Documentation

- Official Beamer user guide
- Theme development guide

## Troubleshooting I

### Font Issues

If ET Book font is not available, Palatino is used as fallback. For Fira Sans, ensure the package is installed: `texlive-fonts-extra`

### Color Problems

Ensure you're using XeLaTeX or pdfLaTeX with appropriate color packages. Theme loads colors automatically.

## Troubleshooting II (cont.)

### Progress Bar

Progress bar is automatically hidden on title page and plain frames. Three modes available:

- **basic** (default): Single continuous bar
- **segmented**: Section-based segments with gaps. Past sections are dimmed, current section fills progressively
- **none**: No bar, only page numbers

Use `noframenumbering` option to exclude specific frames from count.