

CART253 Exercise 08: Reflection

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Reflection

The most efficient summary of the CART253 experience would be the following: I got to know programming. Having no previous knowledge nor experience in the field, I had a rather blurry perception of this course - this entire first year, really.

I did not believe it impossible for myself to grasp the lessons' materials, yet I am quite pleased with the pace and results of the learning process. I honestly do not possess any means of comparison, therefore I cannot say how impressed/unimpressed I am with my own programming skills. However, I can already tell that I am just starting to scratch the surface of programming.

And isn't that as exciting as it is frustrating.

When it comes to coding, no specific topic within the course prevails on the others, for everything seems like shiny candies displayed in a shop's window; however, on that note, it must be brought up that the satisfaction of personally untangling a broken program is only comparable to the shade of white exasperation of a page with no explicit errors.

I most often than not find myself stumbling through commented-out lines of code and blank webpages, yet I am able to recognize an established trend developed throughout the weekly lessons.

Although certain topics may feel especially foreigner at first, they grow familiar and perfectly comprehensible by experimenting and working inside programs.

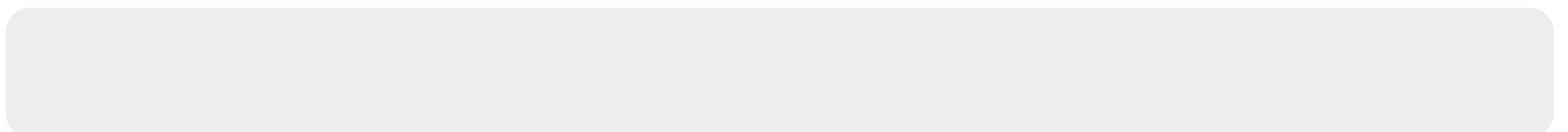
Just about all concepts become clear enough to be exploited as building blocks for a ~~whiter blank page~~ more intricate design in future projects.

In other words, programming is math's cuter twin. Again, both a reassuring and alarming concept.

The exercises and projects are pleasantly challenging, although almost unthinkable without the assistance of TA/Prof. This I consider an advantage, for I would otherwise never feel compelled to stretch out of my comfort-zone and, thus, never advance. Additionally, it proves to be the perfect opportunity to make room for the more creative character of the course, for my ideas are usually more complex than my actual programming skills.

Currently busy with finals, I cannot push it and declare that I would code every second of my life, though I am pleasantly surprised to find myself thinking about experimenting around with Atom when nothing urgent is going on (I am looking at you, winter break).

I find myself still enormously disoriented when envisioning programming in a near future; notably, in the working field, although I confide in the notion that I am just getting started and the picture will naturally get into focus as I progress into my studies.



Summary

- **Your favourite aspects of programming:**
A working program.
- **The most challenging elements you have encountered:**
Broken Programs.
- **What project/effect/code you are most proud of from the course:**
I would like to say the *Final Project: Anything*, although it has yet to be completed, therefore I cannot vouch for it.
- **Your thoughts about the future of your programming practice:**
I hope I will be able to come back to office-hours/studio-time even 40 years in the future to get help with my broken programs.

Feeling Proud

