Introduction to Programming

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Contents



- Computer programming.
- Computer algorithm.



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- Computer algorithm.





Programming concepts:

- Problem:
 - > Teach a kid to find sum of max and min among 7, 1, 9.
 - > Rules:
 - > The kid knows addition and comparison between two numbers.
 - > Write solution in step-by-step.
- Programming ~ teaching:
 - > From what computer knows.
 - > Step-by-step.





Programming concepts:

- Computer has a set of hard-wired instructions.
- Programming: write instructions for computer.
- Computer program:
 - Written organized instructions.
 - > Follow step-by-step.
 - > To solve problem.







Programmer:

- Person who writes the program.
- Programmer, coder, developer.
- To become a good programmer:
 - Logical thinking.
 - > Analytical and careful.
 - > Hands-on and explore.
- The first programmer?





Ada Lovelace



Instruction code:

- Machine code:
 - Binary sequence of '0' and '1'.
 - > Computer can execute directly.
- Pseudo-code:
 - Natural language.
 - > Human can understand.
- Source code:
 - > Intermediate language.
 - > Easy to read, not too vague.
 - Can be translated to machine code.
 - Compiler vs. Interpreter.
 - > Who wrote the first compiler?



```
Step 1: add a, b.
Step 2: compare a, c.
Step 3: output a.
...
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
    printf("hello, world\n");
    return 0;
}
```



Programming cycle:

- Edit: write source code.
- Compile: source code → machine code.
- Run: execute machine code to perform tasks.
- Debug: review source code to fix errors.
- → Debug takes the most time!





Programming language:

- Intermediate language between human and computer.
- Concise and precise.
- There are thousands of programming languages!
- Learning programming thinking is more important than learning programming language.





Programming language:

- Low-level language:
 - > 1st generation: machine code.
 - > 2nd generation: assembly language.
- High-level language:
 - > Procedural: Fortran, Pascal, C.
 - Functional: Lisp, Haskell, F#.
 - Object oriented: C++, Java, C#.
- Trends:
 - Scripting languages: JavaScript, Python.
 - > Al prompts: ask Al to generate source code.









Programming environment:

- A platform of tools supporting programming tasks.
- Source code editor:
 - > Edit text, syntax highlight, code completion.
- Compiler:
 - > Translate source code to machine code.
- Terminal:
 - > Command-line tool to run program and shell commands.
- Debugger:
 - > Run program step-by-step.
 - Monitor computer memory.



Programming environment:

- IDE Integrated Development Environment:
 - > A single application combining programming tools all-in-one.
 - User friendly, configuration-free, add-in features.
 - > Cons:
 - Heavy memory and storage usage.
 - > Limit configuration skill.
 - > Require license.
 - > Track user data.





C/C++ programming environment:

Tools	Windows	MacOS	Linux
Editor	Notepad++ VS Code (*) Sublime Text (*)	TextMate VS Code (*) Sublime Text (*)	Vim, Emacs VS Code (*) Sublime Text (*)
Compiler	MSVC (*) GCC (+) Clang (+)	Clang GCC	GCC Clang
Debugger	MSVC (*) GDB	LLDB GDB	GDB LLDB
IDE	Visual Studio (*) Code::Blocks CodeLite	Xcode (*) Code::Blocks CodeLite	Code::Blocks CodeLite

^{(*):} Proprietary software and track user data.

^{(+):} Run on Linux simulated environment like MinGW64, WSL.



C/C++ programming environment:

- Set up loosely-coupled environment:
 - > Windows: MinGW64, GCC, GDB.
 - Project WinLibs: light-weight, not extensible, https://winlibs.com
 - Project MSYS2: get MSYS2 and toolchain, https://www.msys2.org
 - Linux (Ubuntu/Debian): GCC, GDB.
 - Install package build-essential.
 - MacOS: Clang, LLDB.
 - > Terminal command: xcode-select --install.

Set up IDE:

- Visual Studio (Windows): https://visualstudio.microsoft.com
- > Xcode (MacOS): xcode-select --install, then Get Xcode.
- Code::Blocks: https://www.codeblocks.org
- CodeLite: https://codelite.org



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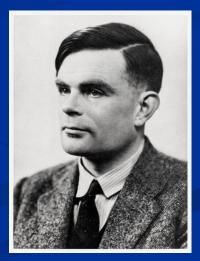
- Computer programming.
- Computer algorithm.





Algorithm concepts:

- Different machines have different instruction code.
- Turing machine: abstract machine and instructions.
- Algorithm ~ program on Turing machine:
 - > Finite steps to solve problem on Turing machine.
 - > Does not depend on specific machine.
 - > Is more abstract than program.

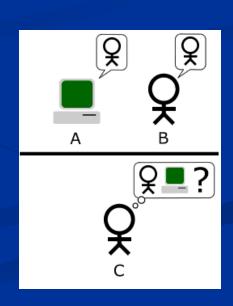


Alan Turing



Algorithm basic instructions:

- Read input, write output.
- Arithmetic operations: +, -, *, /, =.
- Comparisons: >, <, >=, <=, ==, !=.</p>
- Condition: if-else.
- Loop: while.
- Can machines think?
 - The Imitation game Turing test.





Algorithm representations:

- Pseudo-code:
 - Use natural language.
 - > Notations:

Instructions	Notations	Example
Read input Write output	Input Output	-Step 1: Input a, b, c. -Step 2: Output a + b + c.
Arithmetic operations	+, -, *, /, %, =	-Step 1: a = 5. -Step 2: b = (a + 5) / (a – 3).
Condition	If <condition> Else</condition>	-Step 1: Input aStep 2: If a < 0 Output "Negative" Else Output "Positive".
Loop	While <condition></condition>	-Step 1: a = 0. -Step 2: While a < 10 Output a. a = a + 1.





Algorithm representations:

Pseudo-code:

```
* Find max among 3 numbers:
```

-Step 1: Input a, b, c.

-Step 2: max = a.

-Step 3: If b > max max = b.

-Step 4: If c > maxmax = c.

-Step 5: Output max.

* Compute factorial of N:

-Step 1: Input N.

-Step 2: S = 1.

-Step 3: While N > 1

S = S * N.

N = N - 1.

-Step 4: Output S.



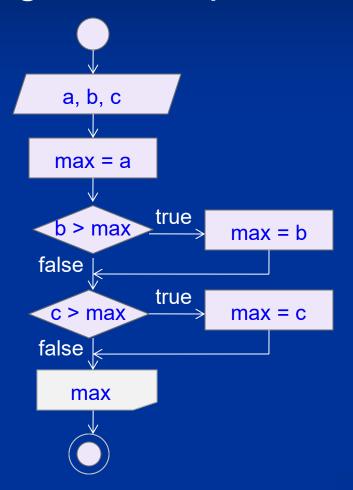
Algorithm representations:

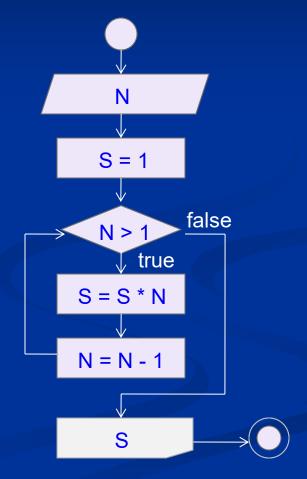
- Flowchart:
 - Use diagram.
 - Visualize flow of process.
 - > Notations:

Intrustions	Notations	Example
Read input Write output		a, b, c x, y
Arithmetic operations		a = a + b
Condition		a < 0
Transition		



Algorithm representations:



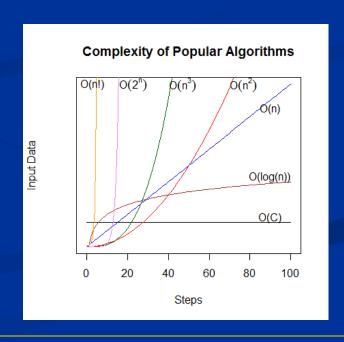




Algorithm efficiency:

Complexity:

- > Algorithm performance varies with different inputs.
- Big-O notation: O(), growth rate.
- > Time complexity: input ~ instructions.
- Space complexity: input ~ memory.
- > Classes of complexity:
 - Constant: O(1).
 - Logarithmic: O(log(n)).
 - Linear: O(n).
 - ➤ Polynomial: O(n^2), O(n^3), ...
 - Exponential: O(2ⁿ).
 - Factorial: O(n!).





Algorithm efficiency:

Popular algorithm complexities:

Algorithm	Complexity	Form
Finding max (3 numbers)	O(1)	Constant
Binary Search(N elements)	O(log(n))	Logarithmic
Factorial N!	O(n)	Linear
Sorting (N elements)	Bubblesort: O(n²) Quicksort: O(n*log(n))	Polynomial
Traveling Salesman (N city)	O (K ⁿ) O(n!)	Exponential Factorial

Simplicity:

- > Easier to understand and implement.
- Reduce cost in debugging and maintenance.

Summary



Computer programming:

- Write instructions for computer to solve problem.
- Programming cycle: edit, compile, run, debug.
- Programming language:
 - Intermediate language to communicate with computer.
 - > Low-level vs high-level.
 - > Trends: scripting languages, Al prompts.
- Programming environment:
 - > Platform of tools supporting programming tasks.
 - > Editor, compiler, terminal, debugger.
 - > IDE: Integrated Development Environment.



Summary



Computer algorithm:

- Finite steps to solve a problem on Turing machine.
- Turing machine: abstract machine and instructions.
- Basic instructions:
 - > Input, output.
 - > Arithmetic operations, comparisons.
 - > Condition, loop.
- Representations: pseudo-code, flowchart.
- Efficiency:
 - Complexity: Big-O notation, growth rate.
 - Simplicity: easy to understand or implement.

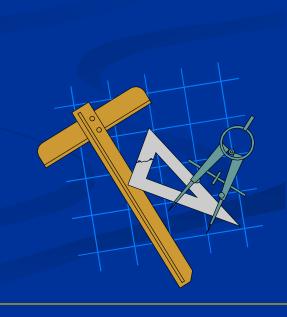




Practice 1.1:

Write algorithm to compute person age as follow:

- Input person birth-year.
- Compute and output person age.

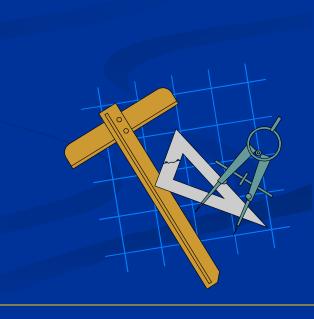




Practice 1.2:

Write algorithm to compute lucky number of a car as follow:

- Input car registration number (a 5-digit number).
- Compute and output the lucky number.



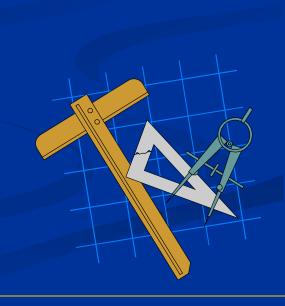




Practice 1.3:

Write algorithm to simulate a calculator as follow:

- Input two integers.
- Input an operation (+, -, *, /).
- Perform the operation on two integers and output result.

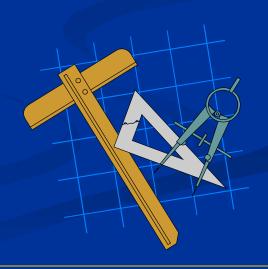




Practice 1.4:

Write algorithm to rank a student as follow:

- Input literature, math, physics points.
- Calculate student GPA.
- Rank student based on GPA:
 - + Excellent: GPA >= 8.5.
 - + Good: GPA >= 7.0.
 - + Fair: GPA >= 5.0.
 - + Failed: GPA < 5.0.
- Output GPA and rank.

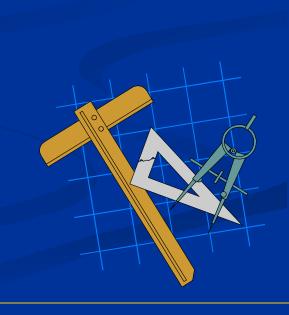




Practice 1.5:

Write algorithm to count number of days in a month as follow:

- Input a month and a year.
- Count number of days in that month and output result.

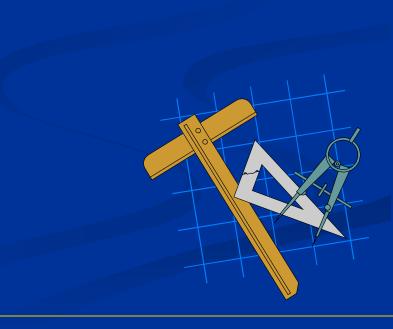




Practice 1.6:

Write algorithm to compute exponentiation of an integer as follow:

- Input x and n.
- Compute xⁿ and output result.

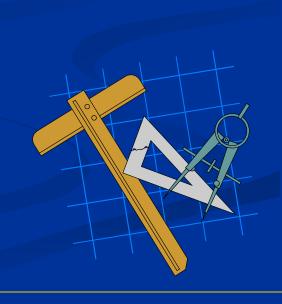




Practice 1.7:

Write algorithm to do the following:

- Input 2 integers x, n (n > 0).
- Calculate and output $S = x + x^2 + ... + x^n$.





Practice 1.8:

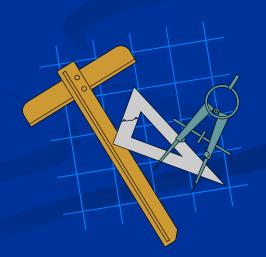
Set up a C/C++ programming environment on your computer.





Practice 1.9:

```
Edit, compile and run the following C/C++ program.
What does the program ask for?
What does the program print to screen?
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
     int a, b, c, max;
     printf("Enter 3 integers = ");
     scanf("%d %d %d", &a, &b, &c);
     max = a;
     if (b > max) max = b;
     if (c > max) max = c;
     printf("max = %d", max);
```





Practice 1.10:

```
Edit, compile, run and debug the following C/C++ program.
     a) What does the program ask for and print to screen?
     b) When enter n = 10, list the values of s when n = 3.
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
     int
               n:
     long long s;
     printf("Enter an integer = ");
     scanf("%d", &n);
     for (s = 1; n > 0; n--)
        s = s * n;
     printf("Factorial = %lld ", s);
```

