

Organization of Programming Languages (COSC 352)

Dr Paul Wang

About Me (Jon White)

- Graduated Computer Science 2001
- Heavily involved in SACS
- Started work at Lockheed Martin
- Been in DefTech for 20+ years
- Currently a Software Architect

About This Class

COSC 352 – Organization of Programming Languages

3 credits

3 lecture hours.

This course explores concepts of programming languages including the following topics: syntax and basic characteristics of grammars, constructs for specifying and manipulating data types, control structures and data flow, and run-time considerations. Examples will be drawn from languages such as FORTRAN 90, JAVA, ALGOL, SNOBOL 4 and APL.

About Me

- 5 Projects - 50%
- 4 In-Person Tests Certification Style - 20%
- Presentations for Mid-Term - 15%
- Comprehensive Final Exam - 15%

Projects (50%)

- Straightforward
- Expose you to a new language
- Free to use GenAI
- Can only use native language features
- Will have to follow a strict format

Certification Style Tests (20%)

Question:

You are designing an application that requires concurrent processing of large datasets while ensuring code is reusable, maintainable, and adheres to functional programming principles. Which approach should you take to implement the business logic in your application?

- A. Use a series of functions that mutate shared state to track processing progress and store intermediate results.
- B. Write functions that accept input data and return new transformed data without modifying the original dataset or relying on external state.
- C. Implement business logic using object-oriented techniques with inheritance and mutable methods to ensure flexibility.
- D. Use procedural programming to divide the logic into steps, relying on a global variable to pass intermediate results between steps.

Certification Style Tests

Correct Answer: B

Explanation:

Option B aligns with functional programming principles by promoting immutability, pure functions, and stateless design. Each function independently transforms input to output without side effects, ensuring maintainability, scalability, and thread-safety, particularly in concurrent environments.

- Option A violates functional programming principles by introducing shared state and mutability, which can lead to bugs in concurrent applications.
- Option C emphasizes object-oriented programming, which is distinct from functional programming and often relies on mutability.
- Option D uses procedural programming and global state, which contrasts with functional programming principles of immutability and statelessness.

Mid-Term Presentation (15%)

- In front of class
- 10-15 Minutes
- Teach the class about language features
- Demonstration of Program or code walkthrough
- Class will participate in grading

Final (15%)

- Focus on applied concepts of polyglot programming
- What programming paradigm is featured here?

```
items = [  
    {"k": 1, "v": 10},  
    {"k": 2, "v": 15},  
    {"k": 3, "v": 20},  
    {"k": 4, "v": 25},  
]
```

```
result = list(  
    map(  
        lambda item: {"k": item["k"], "dv": item["v"] * 2},  
        filter(lambda item: item["v"] > 15, items),  
    )  
)
```

Course Outline

What is a polyglot?

What is a polyglot in reference
to software developer?

Why is being proficient in
multiple languages important?

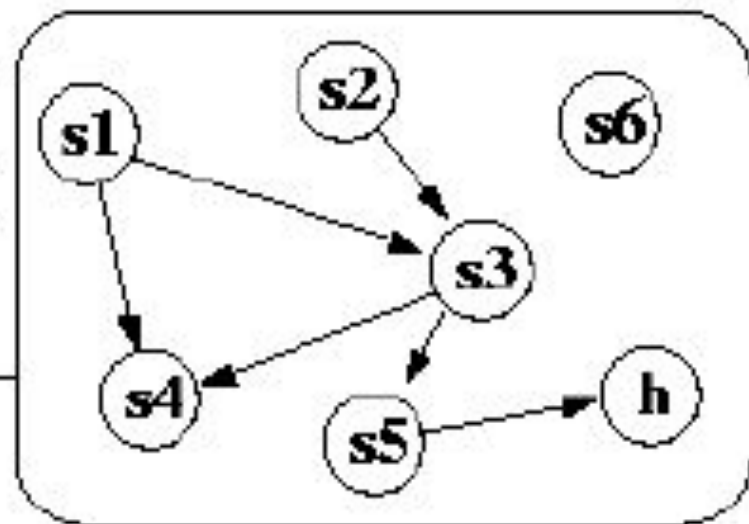
How will ChatGPT effect
software development in
general?

**Universal
Turing
Machine**

**State
Transition
Diagram**

**Turing Machine
Description**

Infinite Tape



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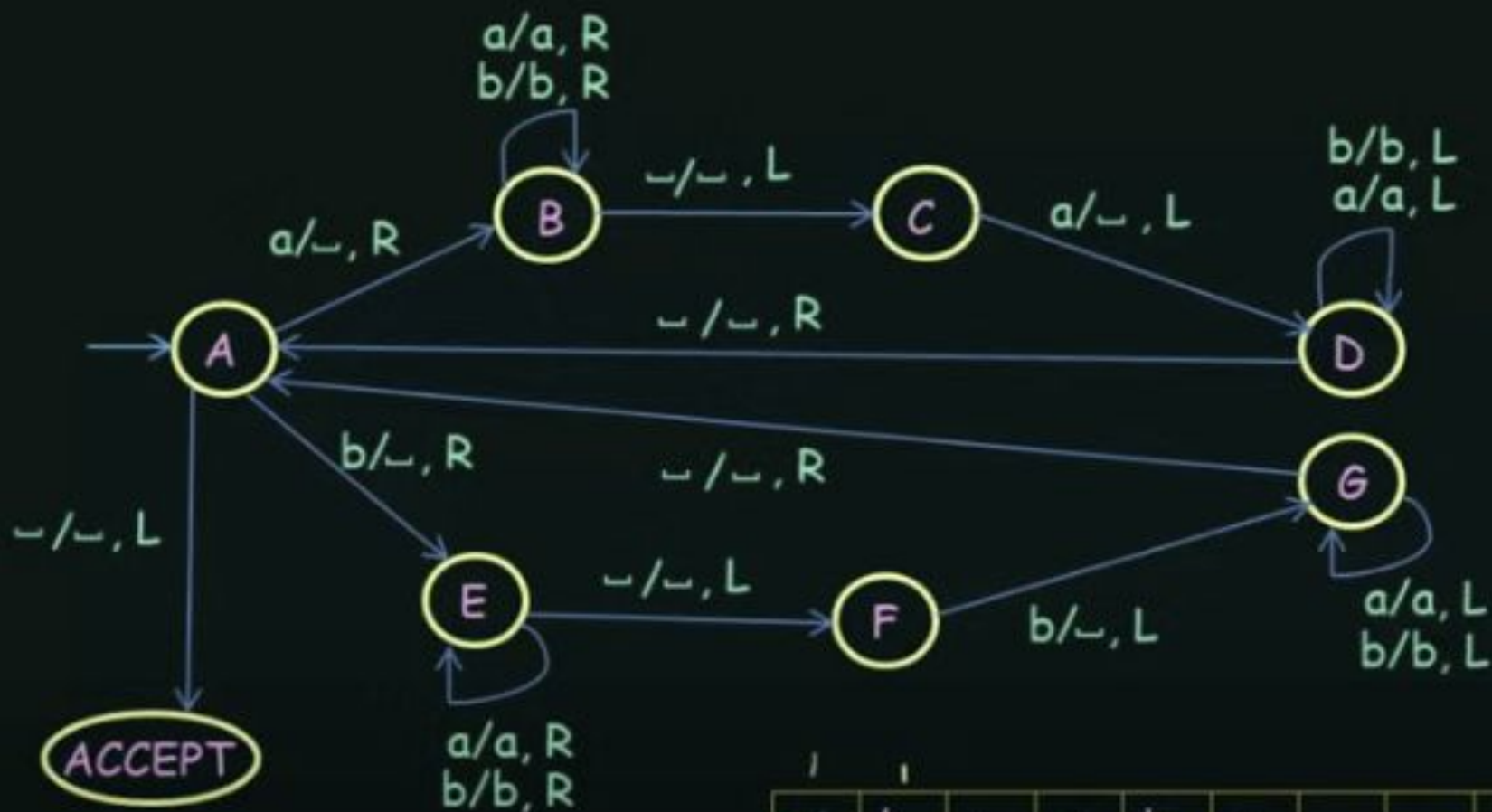
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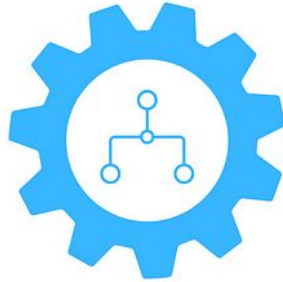
What Does Turing Complete Mean?

Key characteristics that define a Turing complete system



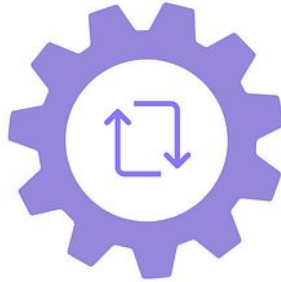
Sequence

Execute a series of computational steps **in the order** they are provided.



Conditionals

Execute different computational paths conditionally **based on certain criteria**.



Iteration

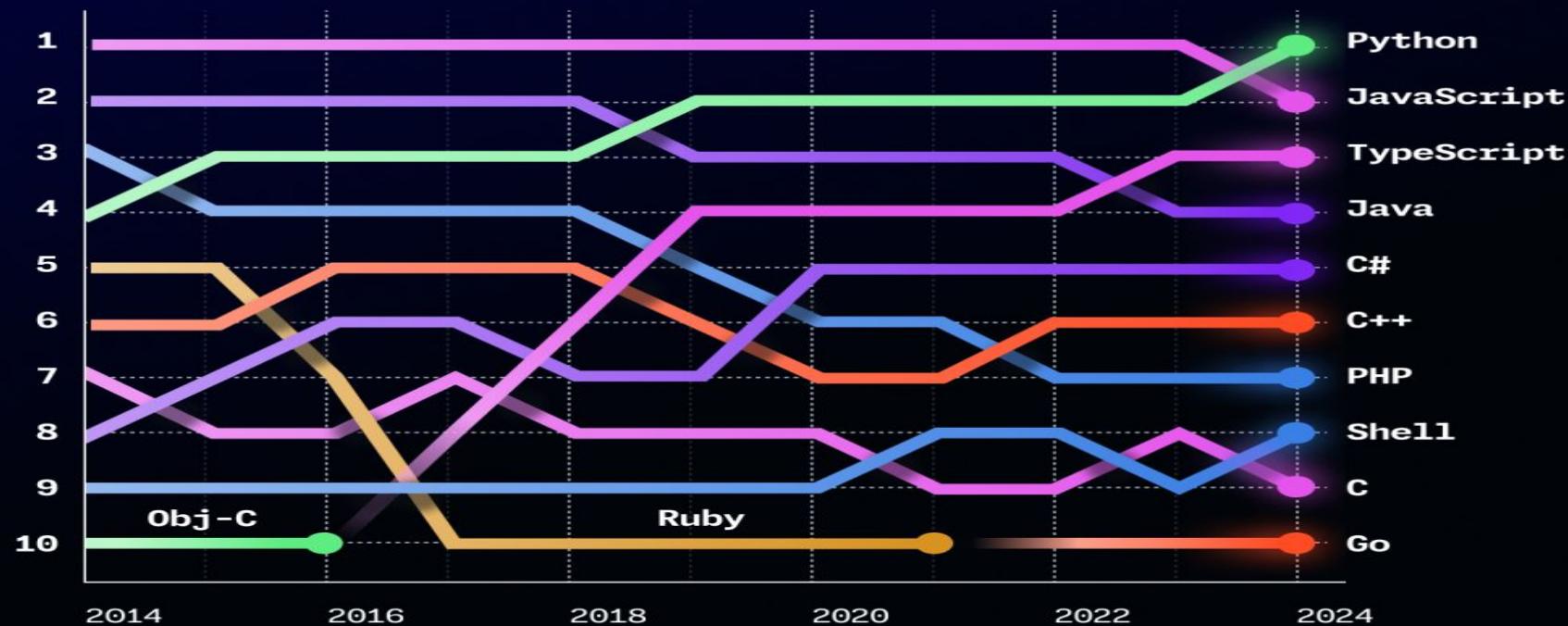
Repeat computational sub-processes **over and over**.



Store Data

Store intermediate results for **later use in memory**.

RANKED BY COUNT OF DISTINCT USERS CONTRIBUTING TO PROJECTS OF EACH LANGUAGE.



What do all these languages
have in common?

Non-turing complete examples?

What is the difference between a language, framework and module?