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As I had more and more experience on programming, I found that the fundamental knowledge, which are operating systems, algorithms, computer architecture and computer network, are more and more important. Unfortunately, in China most of software developers prefer to learn those so-called advanced language rather than basics of Computer Science. Let me draw an analogy between a job and a skyscraper. A personnel who doesn’t put emphasis on low level knowledge could never be exceptional and a high-rise flat is just a ramschackle concrete if it has a solid foundation no matter how spectacular it is.

IT professionals are not as same as other occupations such as doctors, accountants and mechanists who always find it is utterly difficult to teach themselves. Seldom had experts in these traditional area share their thoughts on the Internet and their intellgent property are all carefully protected. Whereas, it is ridiculous easy for software engineers to find video courses, books, open-source software on the Internet. For instance, Linux, which is the most popular operating system used in 90 percent of the servers around the world, is free and, moreover, its source is public so everyone can download it. Could you imagine that GE share the confidential document of its sophiscated medical machines? Absolutely not. While it happened in the programming world. In addition, MIT, the mecca of develpers, had released many free video courses on funmentals of Computer Science since 1980s and had updated them ever since. Anyone who has access to the Internet could learn from prominent professors from this prestigous university.

In conclusion, we are so lucky in the age of IT that there are colossal number of resources online. What we should is keep on learning.