



**IDX G9 Computer Science S  
Study Guide S1 Midterms  
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## **1.1 Computer Category and Programming Language**

### The History of Computers

- 3000 B.C.: The **abacus**, used for addition, subtraction, division and multiplication, it can also extract square roots and cubic roots
- 1973: Xerox introduced Ethernet (wired internet), allowing computers to connect
- Various computer companies were established, including *Microsoft* (Bill Gates and Paul Allen, 1975) with the first home kit-built computer, and *Apple* (Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak, 1976) with the first computer with a single circuit board
- 1999: Wi-Fi was invented, replacing wired Ethernet connections

### Categories of Computers

- **Special-Purpose Computers:** Designed for a particular function, executing the same stored set of instructions (EX. Microwave, washing machine etc.)
- **General-Purpose Computers:** Used for solving many different types of problems, available in a variety of sizes and capabilities.
  - **Microcomputers:** AKA personal computer (PC), can be placed on a desktop or carried from room to room
    - Size varies, from the smallest laptop computers/notebook computers to the largest type of microcomputer known as a workstation
  - **Mainframe Computers:** Powerhouse with massive memory and extremely rapid processing power, used for large businesses, scientific/military applications where computer needs to handle massive amounts of data or complicated processes
  - **Supercomputers:** Used for tasks requiring extremely rapid and complex calculations with hundreds of thousands of variable factors
    - Used for scientific research, weather prediction, aircraft design, nuclear weapons etc.

## Languages

- **Programming Languages:** Agreed upon format of symbols that allow a programmer to instruct a computer to perform certain predefined tasks
- **Machine Languages:** Natural language of a computer, and is the only language that a computer can directly use. Its instruction is a binary string of 0s and 1s.
- **Assembly Language:** Consists of English-like abbreviations, making them easier to understand. It uses language translators called **assemblers** to convert them to machine code.
- **High-level Languages:** Machine-independent, does not require programmers to know anything about the internal structure of the computer

## 1.2 Programming Intro

### Hardware and Software

- **Hardware:** Only understands the binary system
- **Software:** set of steps for instructions for computer hardware operations

### Programming Problems

- Define the problem -> Plan the solution -> Write the code -> Testing/Debugging the program
- **Interactive mode:** Start with >>>, runs one line at a time
- **Script mode:** Uses “.py” file, runs all lines you wrote at once
- **Indentation:** Indicates a block of code

## Math Operators

Operator	Operation	Example	Output
+	Addition	2+2	4
-	Subtraction	5-3	2
*	Multiplication	2*3	6
/	Division	10/2	5
**	Exponents	3**2	9

- Python follows the **PEMDAS** rule, so uses parentheses when needed

## print() function

- A value that is passed to a function call is an **argument**
- EX. print("Hello World"), output: Hello World
- If it is a value, don't use quotation marks. Use quotation marks for letters

## 1.3 Variables and Data Types

Operator “+” is used to **concatenate** two strings as the operation

- **input() function**
  - It will return a string type, and the user can input
    - EX. input("What is your name"); output: What is your name; Then the user can input a name
- **Variables**
  - Containers for storing data values can store numerical or textual values
  - Rules for naming variables:
    - Can contain only letters, numbers, and underscores
    - Cannot start with a number
    - Spaces and **special characters** (-, !, @, #, %, ^, &, \*) are not allowed
    - Variables are **case sensitive**, meaning age, AGE, and Age are different

- Avoid using **reserved keywords**: EX. “True”, “False”, “or”, “not”, “and”, “if”
- **Camel Case**: makes compound names easier, EX. myList, listOfNumbers
  - Can contain only letters, numbers, and underscores
- When assigning values, use “=” operator
  - Multiple assignment: multiple variables in a single statement, EX. `x=y=z=50`, or `a,b,c=5,10,15`

## Data Types

- **Integer**: `int()`, converts a number/string into an integer
- **Float**: `float()`, approximations to real numbers, they are decimals
- **String**: `str()`, converts a number to a string

## 1.4 Expressions

Consists of values and operators so they always evaluate down to a single value

Importing Modules: from the standard library, contains related group of functions that can be embedded in your programs

- Math Modules
  - `math.pi`: on its own, it returns the first 15 digits of pi
  - `math.ceil(x)`: returns an integer  $\geq x$  (EX `math.ceil(2.4)`; output: 3)
  - `math.floor(x)`: returns an integer  $\leq x$  (EX `math.floor(2.4)`; output: 2)
  - `math.sqrt(x)`: returns the square root of x (EX `math.sqrt(9)`; output: 3)

## 1.5 List

A collection of items in a particular order, indicated by square brackets []

- Access an element in a list by its index: `listName[index]`. (EX. `myList[3]`; output: the fourth element in the list)
- `len()` function: returns the number of elements in a list
  - Index of a list starts at 0. (1<sup>st</sup> element’s index is 0, 2<sup>nd</sup> element’s index is 1, etc.)
  - `len(myList)`, (assuming myList has 5 elements); output: 5
- `lst.index(value)` function: finds the index of an element

Action	Methods/Functions
--------	-------------------

Modifying an element	<b>listName[index of element you want to change]=(new value/string)</b> EX. myList[1]=4; myList now equals [1,4,3,4]
Adding an element	<b>append()</b> : adds the new element to the end of a list EX. myList.append(5); myList now equals [1,4,3,4,5]
	<b>insert( , )</b> : insert (index,value) EX. myList.insert(2,6); myList now equals [1,4,6,4,5]
Removing an element	<b>del listName[index]</b> : removes the element of that index EX. del myList[1]; myList now equals [1,6,4,5]
	<b>remove()</b> : removes the specific value, deletes the first occurrence of the value you specify EX. myList.remove(1); myList now equals [6,4,5]

## 1.6 For-Loop

- **split()** function: splits a string to a list
  - str.split(x) will remove every x from str and return a list of the leftover
- for loop: repeatedly perform the same task with each element in a list
  - for variable in range OR for variable in myList; enter the task you want to perform
  - iterate a block of statements several times
- **sum()** function: sum of the entire list

## 1.7 For-Range

- **range()** function/syntax: generates a sequence of numbers in that range
  - for i in range(5); print(i); output: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 (starts from 0, ends at the integer < 5)
  - for I in range (2,6,2): (start, stop, step)
    - output: 2, 4
    - if there isn't an end (2,6,-3), then it will return nothing
- random numbers: use module **random**. (import **random**)
  - **randint(a,b)**: returns an integer in the range [a,b]
  - EX. random.randint(1,5); output: 4

## 1.8 If Statement

- Boolean values: True or False
- Relational Operators

Operator	Description	Example	Output
<	Less than	2<3	True
>	Greater than	3>4	False
<=	Less than or equal to	3<=9	True
>=	Greater than or equal to	8>=7	True
==	equal	2==3	False
!=	Not equal to	2!=2	False

- **If Statement:** if condition: -> statements
  - The condition has to be a Boolean expression that evaluates to True or False
  - **If else:** if condition: statement 1; else: statement2
  - **If elif else:** if condition: statement 1; elif: statement 2; else: statement 3

## 1.9 Boolean Operators

- Boolean operators: evaluate the expressions down to a Boolean value
  - () > not > and > or: meaning the computer evaluates Boolean operators in this order
  - **and** operator truth table:
    - True and True: True
    - True and False: False / False and True: False
    - False and False: False
  - **or** operator truth table:
    - True or True: True
    - True or False: True / False or True: True
    - False and False: False
  - **not** operator truth table:
    - not True: False, not False: true
- Remainder(%): gives the remained of division (EX: 22%5=2)
- Integer division: floor value of a quotient produced by a division (EX: 1234//100=12)
- Precedence: \*\*(Exponents) > (\*, /, %, //) > (+ -) > (<=, <, >, >=, !=, ==) > (not, and, or)

## 1.10 Number System

### Decimal Number System

- denary (decimal) system: positional system that uses 10 digits (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9) to represent numbers
  - **base-10**: the place value in a decimal number is always a power of 10
  - EG  $6352_{10}$ : if the base is omitted, it is assumed that the number is in the base-10 system

### Binary Number System

- It is the most widely used number system in computer science
- consists of only two digits: 0 and 1
  - each 0 or 1 is called a bit (lowercase b)
  - a group of eight bits is called a Byte and is usually abbreviated as an (uppercase B); used to express storage space
  - base-2: the place value in a binary number is always a power of 2
- $101110_2$ : the base number cannot be omitted the number system

decimal 1000	binary 1024
kilobyte	kibibyte
megabyte	mebibyte
gigabyte	gibibyte
terabyte	tebibyte
petabyte	pebibyte
exabyte	exbibiyte
zettabyte	zebibyte
yottabyte	yobibyte

### Data Representation & Conversion

Take the number you want to convert, divide it by the binary number  $b$ , and the remainders (from bottom to top) form the number in  $b$  binary

### Hexadecimal Notation

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F

A=10; B=11; C=12; D=13; E=14; F=15

Dec	Bin	Hex	Dec	Bin	Hex
0	0000	0	8	1000	8
1	0001	1	9	1001	9
2	0010	2	10	1010	10
3	0011	3	11	1011	11
4	0100	4	12	1100	12
5	0101	5	13	1101	13
6	0110	6	14	1110	14
7	0111	7	15	1111	15

## 1.11 While-Loop

In situations where you don't know how many loop iterations to execute.

Given a condition, as long as that condition is true, it will execute the statement designed (in the indented code block); when the condition becomes false, the computer ends the loop and moves on to the next statement.

`+=` is called **augmented assignment operator**, EG `s=s+1` can be written as `s+=i`; this works for `+, -, *, /, //, %`

## 1.12 & 1.14 String Manipulation

In situations where you don't know how many loop iterations to execute.

Given a condition, as long as that condition is true, it will execute the statement designed (in the indented code block); when the condition becomes false

### strip() function

- `str.strip()`: returns a new string without any blanks (including space, tab and new lines)
- `str.strip(s)`: returns a new string with first and last “s” removed

- `lstrip()`: returns a new string without blank characters from the left end
- `rstrip()`: returns a new string without blank characters from the right end

### **join() function**

- `delimiter.join(list)`: This will take all of the strings in the list “list,” and join them with the delimiter
  - EG: delimiter is “,”, `list=[“banana”, “apple”, “cherry”]`; The output of the function `“,”.join(list)` will be: banana,apple,cherry
  - EG delimiter is “a”, `list=[“banana”, “apple”, “cherry”]`; The output of the function `“a”.join(list)` will be: bananaaaappleacherry
- `delimiter.join(str)`: puts the delimiter between every character
  - EG if str is “hello”, the function: `“,”.join(str)` will give you “h,e,l,l,o”

### **split () function**

- `str.split(delimiter)`: splits the string based on the delimiter
  - EG if delimiter=e, `str=”hello”`, `str.split(“e”)` will give you: [“h”, ”llo”]
  - `str.split()`: this means the delimiter is blank characters (space, tab and new lines)

### **string methods**

- `str.isalnum()`: returns True if the characters in the string are letters or numbers (alphanumeric)
- `str.isdigit()`: returns True if all the characters are digits
- `str.isalpha()`: returns True if all the characters are alphabets/letters

## **1.15 Nested Loop**

A nested loop just means to put a loop within another loop, here there will be an inner loop and an outer loop. The outer loop is run first.

New line character: use ‘\n’

Used for 2D arrays, matrices, grids, printing patterns etc.

### **syntax**

```
for outer_variable in outer_sequence:  
    for inner_variable in inner_sequence:
```