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Welcome to Introduction to Programming!

CS101:

- 12 sections
- 3 lecturers
- 6 lead TAs
- about 38 helper TAs



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Four sections together have a lecture once a week:

- Sections A, B, C, D: Wednesdays by Jaehyuk Huh;
- Sections E, F, G, H: Mondays by Taisook Han;
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You must regularly check the course announcements on

<http://cs101.kaist.ac.kr>



## Practice points:

- 100 points for lecture attendance;
- 100 points for lab work;
- 200 points for homework.

Students need to collect at least 320 practice points.



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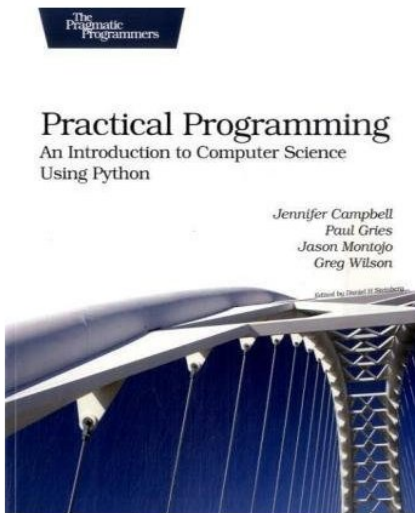
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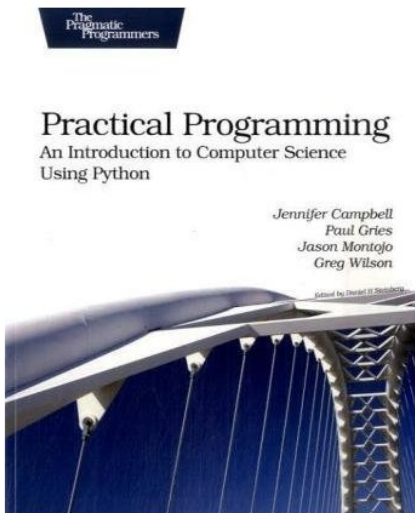
## Theory points:

- 100 points for midterm exam;
- 100 points for final exam.

The grade is determined by the theory points only.



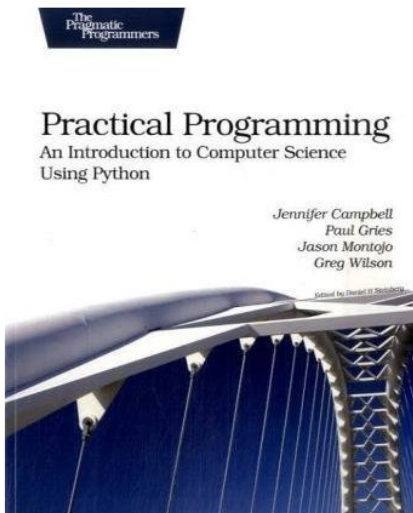
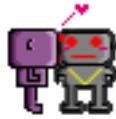
Practical Programming: An Introduction to Computer Science Using Python by Jennifer Campbell, Paul Gries, Jason Montojo, and Greg Wilson. Pragmatic Programmers, 2009.



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Lecture notes on robot programming and photo processing, available at <http://tclab.kaist.ac.kr/cs101/>





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Course slides and example code used in the lecture available at

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This course is about **programming** and **computational thinking**,  
not about learning a programming language.



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Python is a programming language that is easy to learn and very powerful.

- Used in many universities for introductory courses.
- Main language used for web programming at Google.
- Widely used in scientific computation, for instance at NASA, by mathematicians and physicists.
- Available on embedded platforms, for instance Nokia mobile phones.
- Large portions of games (such as Civilization IV) are written in Python.



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Once you learnt programming in one language, it is relatively easy to learn another language, such as C++ or Java.



## Why are you here?

Every scientist and engineer must know some programming. It is part of basic education, like calculus, linear algebra, introductory physics and chemistry, or English.

Alan Perlis 1961



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Computer science is not computer programming. We teach programming to teach **computational thinking**:

- Solving problems (with a computer).
- Thinking on multiple levels of abstraction.  
Decompose a problem into smaller problems.
- A way of human thinking (**not** “thinking like a computer”)
- Thinking about recipes (**algorithms**).

30 years ago the solution to a problem in science or engineering was usually a formula. Today it is usually an algorithm (DNA, proteins, chemical reactions, factory planning, logistics).



# What is a program?

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A program is a **sequence of instructions** that solves some problem (or achieves some effect).



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**Instructions** are operations that the computer can already perform.

But we can define **new instructions** and raise the **level of abstraction**!

A program implements an **algorithm** (a recipe for solving a problem).



# What is debugging?

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A **bug** is a mistake in a program. **Debugging** means to find the mistake and to fix it.



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Computer programs are very complex systems. Debugging is similar to an experimental science: You experiment, form hypotheses, and verify them by modifying your program.



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Kinds of errors:

- **Syntax error.** Python cannot understand your program, and refuses to execute it.
- **Runtime error.** When executing your program (**at runtime**), your program suddenly terminates with an error message.
- **Semantic error.** Your program runs without error messages, but does not do what it is supposed to do.



## Why is programming useful?

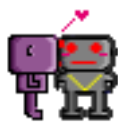
- 20 years ago, electrical engineering students learnt about circuits. Today they learn about embedded systems.
- You can build a radio in software.
- Industrial engineers program industrial robots. Moreover, today's industrial engineers work on logistics—problems that can only be solved by computer.
- Modern automobiles contain thousands of lines of code, and would not run without microprocessors.
- Mathematicians gain insight and intuition by experimenting with mathematical structures, even for discrete objects such as groups and graphs.
- Experimental data often needs to be reformatted to be analyzed or reused in different software. Python is fantastic for this purpose.
- Experimental data sets are nowadays too large to be handled manually.



# Why learn programming?

- If you can only use software that **someone else** made for you, you limit your ability to achieve what you want.
- For instance, digital media is manipulated by software. If you can only use Photoshop, you limit your ability to express yourself.
- Programming gives you freedom.





# Why is programming fun?

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Programming is a creative process.

cf. freshman design



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A single person can actually build a software system of the complexity of the space shuttle hardware. Nothing similar is true in any other discipline.

There is a large and active **open-source community**: people who write software in their free time for fun, and distribute it for free on the internet.

For virtually any application there is code available that you can download and modify freely.



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But now let me show you some Python code...



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But now let me show you some Python code...

- interactive Python
- Python programs (scripts)
- comments
- your own instructions: functions
- keywords



## Adding new functions

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A **function definition** specifies the name of a new function and the sequence of statements that execute when the function is **called**.



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```
def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
    print "Programming is fun!"
```



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keyword  
↓  
`def print_message():`  
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keyword                      colon

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indentation



A **function definition** specifies the name of a new function and the sequence of statements that execute when the function is **called**.

```
def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
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```

You can call a function inside another function:

```
def repeat_message():  
    print_message()  
    print_message()
```



```
def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
    print "Programming is so much fun!"  
  
def repeat_message():  
    print_message()  
    print_message()  
  
repeat_message()
```



```
def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
    print "Programming is so much fun!"  
  
def repeat_message():  
    print_message()  
    print_message()  
  
repeat_message()
```

Execution begins at the first statement. Statements are executed one-by-one, top to bottom.



```
def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
    print "Programming is so much fun!"
```

```
def repeat_message():  
    print_message()  
    print_message()
```

```
repeat_message()
```

function definitions

Execution begins at the first statement. Statements are executed one-by-one, top to bottom.

Function **definitions** do not change the flow of execution—but only **define** a function.



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def print_message():  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"  
    print "Programming is so much fun!"
```

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def repeat_message():  
    print_message()  
    print_message()
```

```
repeat_message()
```

function definitions

function calls

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Function **calls** are like **detours** in the flow of execution.



---

```
# create a robot with one beeper
hubo = Robot(beepers = 1)

# move one step forward
hubo.move()

# turn left 90 degrees
hubo.turn_left()
```





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dot notation



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How can **hubo** turn right?



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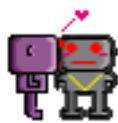
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dot notation

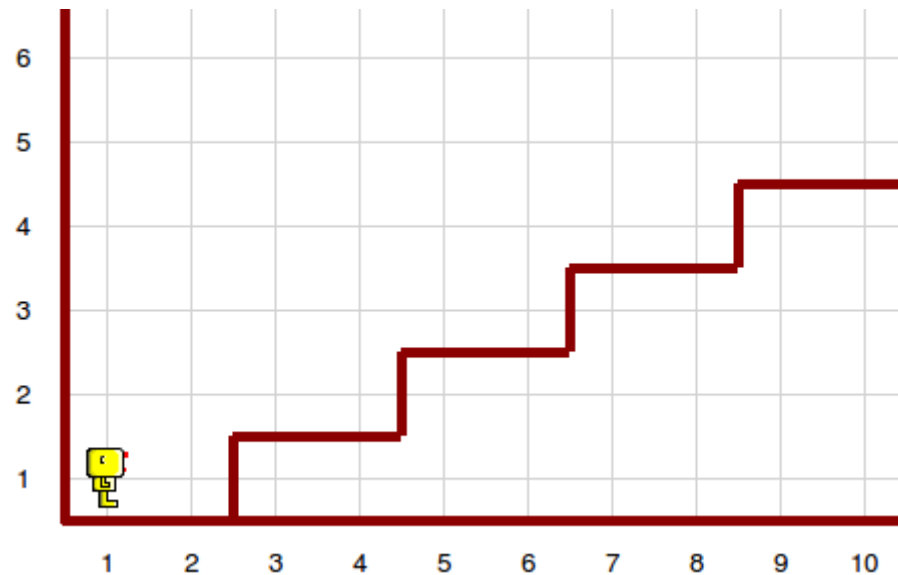
How can **hubo** turn right?

```
def turn_right():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()
```

Define a function!

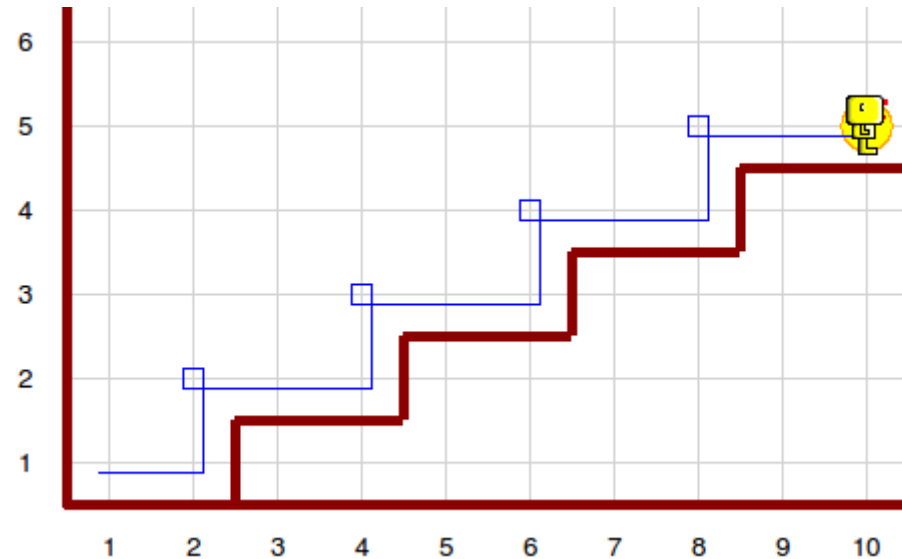


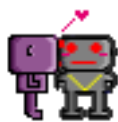
Hubo should climb the stairs to the front door, drop a newspaper there, and return to his starting point.



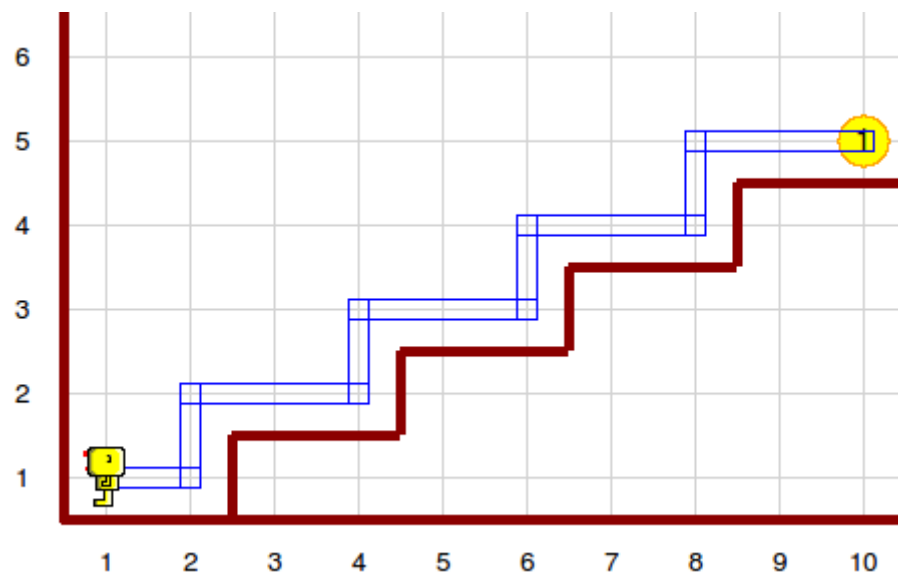


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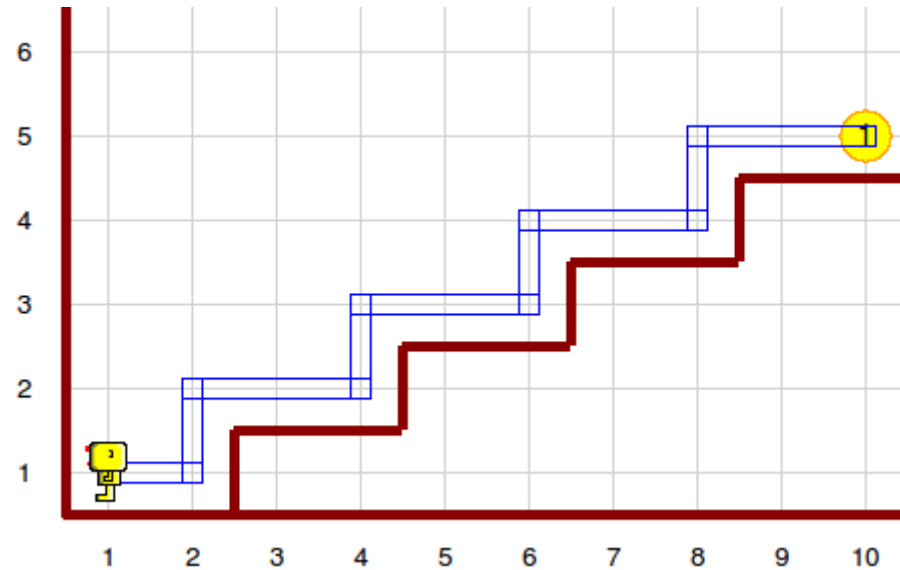


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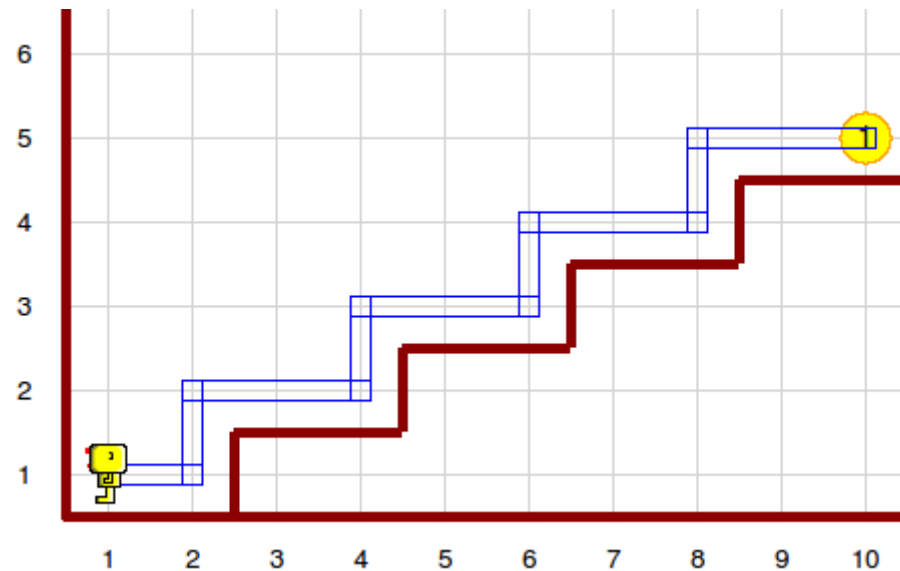


Problem outline:

- Climb up four stairs
- Drop the newspaper
- Turn around
- Climb down four stairs



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Problem outline:

- Climb up four stairs
- Drop the newspaper
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Python version:

```
climb_up_four_stairs()  
hubo.drop_beeper()  
turn_around()  
climb_down_four_stairs()
```





---

```
def turn_around():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()
```



```
def turn_around():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()  
  
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    # how?
```



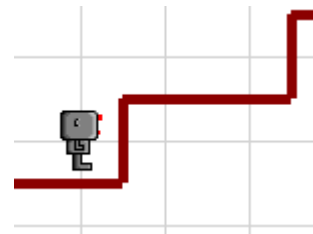
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def turn_around():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()  
  
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()
```



```
def turn_around():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.turn_left()
```

```
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()
```

```
def climb_up_one_stair():  
    hubo.turn_left()  
    hubo.move()  
    turn_right()  
    hubo.move()  
    hubo.move()
```





---

Start at the top of the problem, and make an outline of a solution.



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For each step of this solution, either write code directly, or outline a solution for this step.



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For each step of this solution, either write code directly, or outline a solution for this step.

When all the partial problems have become so small that we can solve them directly, we are done and the program is finished.



---

To repeat the same instruction 4 times:

```
for i in range(4):  
    print "CS101 is fantastic!"
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```

← for-loop

↑ Don't forget the indentation!

What is the difference:

```
for i in range(4):  
    print "CS101 is great!"  
    print "I love programming!"
```

and

```
for i in range(4):  
    print "CS101 is great!"  
print "I love programming!"
```



---

```
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()
```



```
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()  
    climb_up_one_stair()
```

We should avoid writing the same code repeatedly. A **for**-loop allows us to write this more elegantly:

```
def climb_up_four_stairs():  
    for i in range(4):  
        climb_up_one_stair()
```