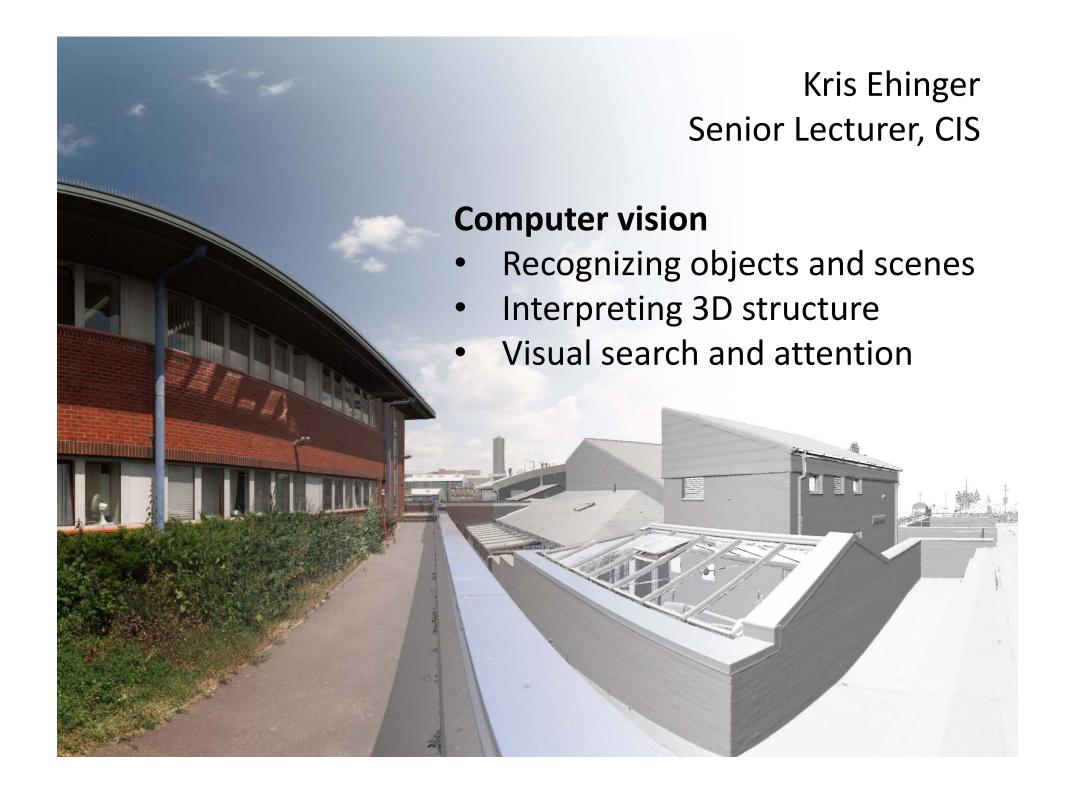


Welcome to COMP20003

Semester 2, 2020 Kris Ehinger

Lecturers

- Nir Lipovetzky (Subject Co-Ordinator)
 - nir.lipovetzky@unimelb.edu.au
- Kris Ehinger
 - kris.Ehinger@unimelb.edu.au



Tutors

- Grady Fitzpatrick (head tutor)
- Karl Simon Flores
- Sidakpreet Singh
- Umair Mawani
- Thomas Richard Minuzzo
- Lianglu Pan
- Anh Vo

Contacting us

- General inquiries: Piazza forum on LMS
 - We encourage all students to join in discussions answering other students' questions is one of the best ways to improve your own understanding
 - Please do not post sections of your code or reports publicly on Piazza! If you must include these, private message the instructors
- Personal/private concerns: Email the instructors
 - If you email us about a general inquiry, we may ask you to re post your question in the forum
- Please include COMP20003 in email subject

Lectures

 Each week, we will post a set of pre-recorded video lectures on Monday

Thursdays 12-1: Live lectures on Zoom

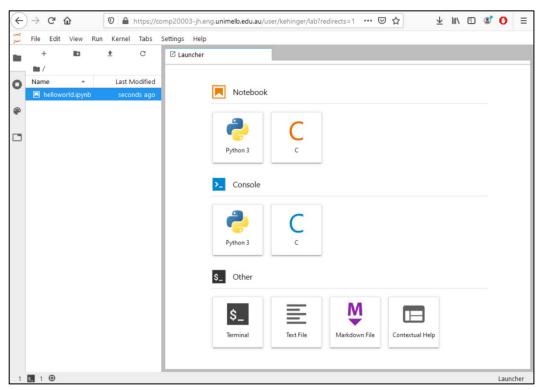
 Thursday lectures will build on the material covered in the pre-recorded lectures

Workshops

- Workshops are 2 hours on Zoom
- Tutorial hour
 - Theoretical concepts behind algorithms and data structures
 - Practical techniques needed to implement these concepts in C
- Demonstration hour
 - Apply theories to practical problems in C
 - Online pair programming

Workshops

- Workshop and assignment material is online
- Jupyter notebooks with a C kernel



Why C?

- Low-level access to memory
- See how algorithms and data structures are implemented in computer architecture
- Great foundation if you know C, you can learn any programming language

Why gcc, make, gdb, linux, etc.?

- The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose (freedom 0).
- The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 1). Access to the source code is a precondition for this.
- The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbour (freedom 2).
- The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3). By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

https://www.gnu.org/education/education.html

Assessment

- Assignment 1 (10%, released wk 3, due wk 4)
 - Introduction to C and data structures
- Assignment 2 (15%, released wk 6, due wk 7)
 - Develop an application based on searching/sorting algorithms
- Assignment 3 (15%, released wk 11, due wk 12)
 - Develop an application based on graph algorithms
- Hurdle: 20/40 on continuous assessments

Assessment

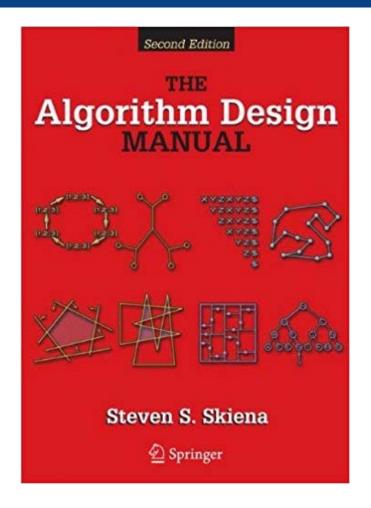
- Mid-semester test (10%, week 8)
 - Expected format: Online, < 1 hour
- Final examination (50%, end of semester)
 - Expected format: Online, 3 hours
- Hurdle: 30/60 on test+final exam

Subject material

- LMS is the primary portal for this subject
- Modules -> Lectures
 - Pre-recorded lecture videos + slide handouts
 - Zoom lecture recording (posted after Thursday)
 - Optional readings and links
 - Self-assessment quiz
- Modules -> Workshops
 - Handouts and code/data
 - Solutions (posted after the last workshop)
 - Workshop recording (posted after the last workshop)

Recommended textbook

- Steven Skiena, *The Algorithm Design Manual*
- Available as an eBook from the MU library:
 - http://library.unimelb.edu.au/
 Catalogue -> Skiena
 - Note: The copyright license does permit you to download and print for your own personal study.



Additional textbooks

- Other highly recommended books on reserve (ERC High use area):
 - Sedgewick, Algorithms in C vol 1, and Algorithms in C, Part 5: Graphs
 - Levitin, Introduction to the Design and Analysis of Algorithms
 - Cormen, Leiserson, and Rivest, Algorithms

What will you learn?

- Introduction to data structures, algorithms, and computational complexity
- For every algorithm:
 - How it works
 - Complexity analysis
 - Implementation
- Basic data structures, and how algorithms interact with them

Algorithms in the real world

- Navigation software: get shortest path to destination.
 - And do it quickly.
- Connect towns or houses to telecommunications network.
 - With the least cost in wire.

Algorithms in the future

- Self-driving cars: trajectory planning, object recognition, localisation, etc.
- Personal assistants: natural language processing, text synthesis, schedule optimisation
- "Big data" prediction algorithms
- Artificial intelligence
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