

1 Introduction

Friday, August 23, 2024 7:27 AM

• Computer Science:

What is Computer Science?

The subject of study is **Problems**

Fundamental Question:

What **problems** can be solved in an **automated way** and **how**?

Dijkstra: "Comp. Science is no more about computers as astronomy is about telescopes or biology about microscopes"

"Automated way" → "Algorithm"

Algorithm: a sequence of unambiguous instructions to solve a problem.

Solve: Take some "input" data and produce some expected "output" data

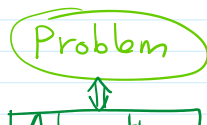
E.G.: "Recipe" = Algorithm for human cooking.

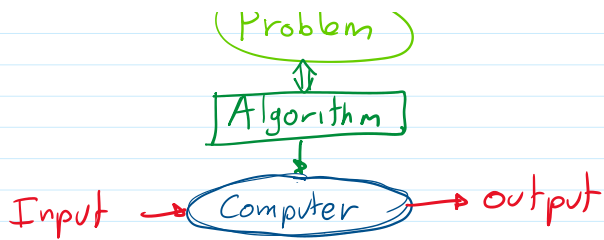
E.G.:

input. $736 * 52$

$$\begin{array}{r} 3 \\ * 736 \\ 52 \\ \hline 1472 \\ 36800 \\ \hline 38272 \end{array}$$

output

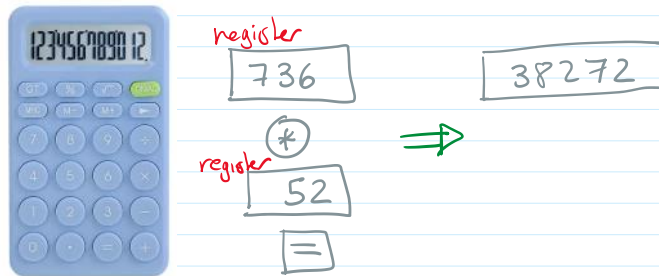




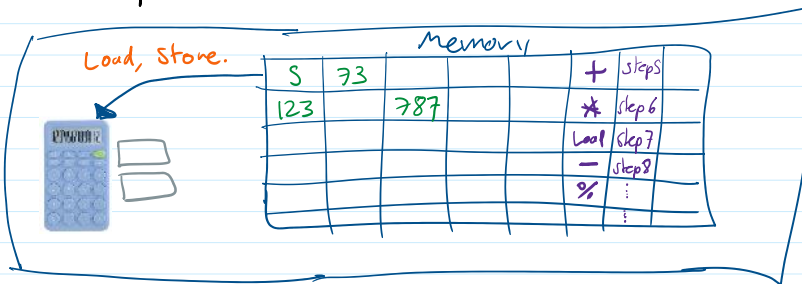
• Digital Computers



• Mental Model.



• A computer:



- The Algorithm is stored in memory
- The input data is in memory
- The Algorithm modifies memory producing partial results
- The output data is produced into memory

Memory in modern Computers is "digital"

8 000|000

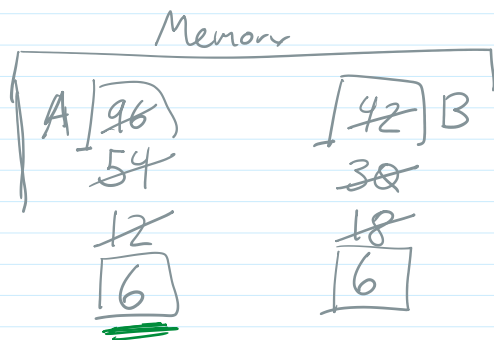
$$\begin{array}{r} A \quad 2110011 \\ + \quad 1110001 \end{array}$$

Recap:

- A computer is a "calculator w/ memory"
- A computer manipulates memory following a sequence of instructions: "Program"
- The program itself is stored in memory
- A program encodes an "Algorithm"
- An algorithm is a sequence of unambiguous instructions to solve a problem.

E.G. An Algorithm:

- 1.- Given 2 numbers, A and B
- Repeat:
- 2.- If A is equal to B, STOP
 - 3.- If A is greater than B:
 - assign A-B to A.
- Else
- assign B-A to B.
- Print A.

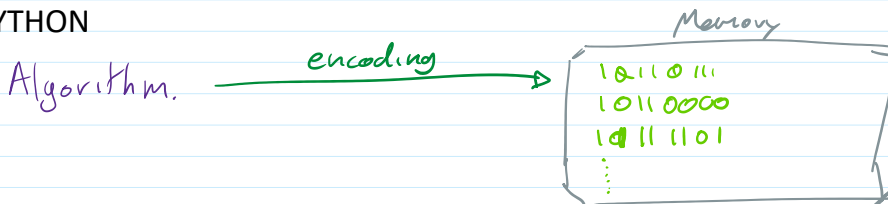


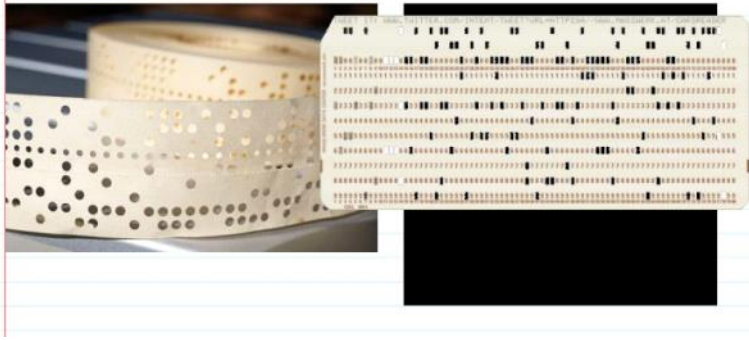
6 is the greatest common denominator of 96 and 42.

Euclid's Algorithm, (300 BC.)



• PYTHON





☑ "Programming Languages"

- A Synthetic Language intended to write computer instructions
- A separate program (Compiler & Interpreter) that translates programs in the programming language to binary instructions.

'59 FORTRAN by John Backus.

☑ '98 Python. Guido Van Rossum.

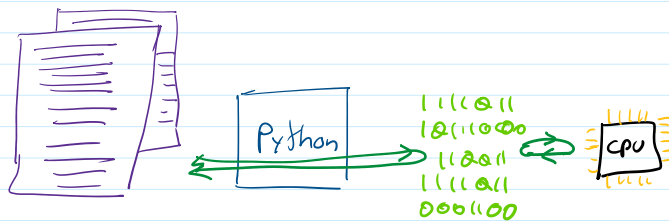
'2008 Python-3



- Interactive Mode.



- Batch Mode



"The quick brown fox swiftly jumps over the lazy dog"

↑ ↑ ↑ ↑

article noun adverb verb.

- Basic Concepts of Python:

- Literals

constant values which are part of the language.

- Numbers
- Strings.

- Expressions

• Strings.

- Expressions

Sentences made of operands and operators that are part of the language.

Some operators. + - * / ()
// %

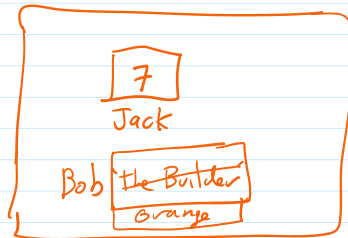
- Assignment

Assigns a value to a named piece of memory
↳ a "variable"

Syntax:

name = expression.

Memory



variables can be used as operands in expressions.

- Basic input/output.

Syntax:

print(expression) displays value of expression

name = input()
Function.

reads from keyboard and stores what is typed in name.

- Conditionals. (chap-4)

Sentences that allow a program to make decisions about what instructions to execute.

- Repetition (chap-5)

Sentences that allow a program to repeat some instructions, a fixed number of times, or until some condition is satisfied.

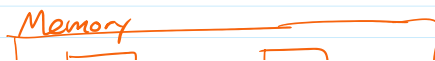
• Demo: Python batch mode

• A point about Assignment

= Assignment is not algebra

= is not "equals" in math

e.g. 1 - 2



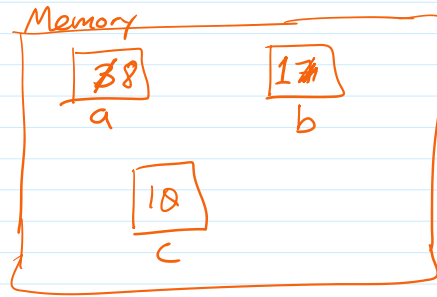
- is not equal in memory

e.g.

```

a = 3
b = 7
c = a + b
a = 8
print(c)
b = 1

```



10

<=

:=

c is a + b

• Rules for names:

a c bob apple.

- Names can consist of letters, number and '-' underscore
- Names cannot begin with a number
- Names are case sensitive

Apple apple Zp p23

-a-p-27

area a
vol-circle v

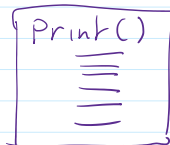
- There is a list of reserved names, int True

• A point about "functions":

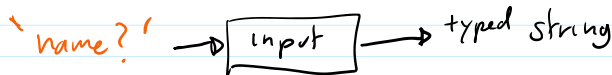
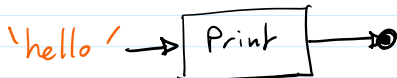
```

print( )
input( )
int( )

```



A named piece of code.
like a black box



int(x) takes a value x and returns an integer representation of x, if possible.

- A function can be used inside an expression
the return value of the function will be used in-place of the function.

• More arithmetic operators:

+ - * / //

a ** b exponentiation.

+= "apply operator and assign"

+ = "apply operator and assign"

- =
/=

eg.

$X = X + 2 \iff X += 2$

"increment X by 2"

$X -= 2$

"decrement X by 2"

$X /= 2$

"half X"

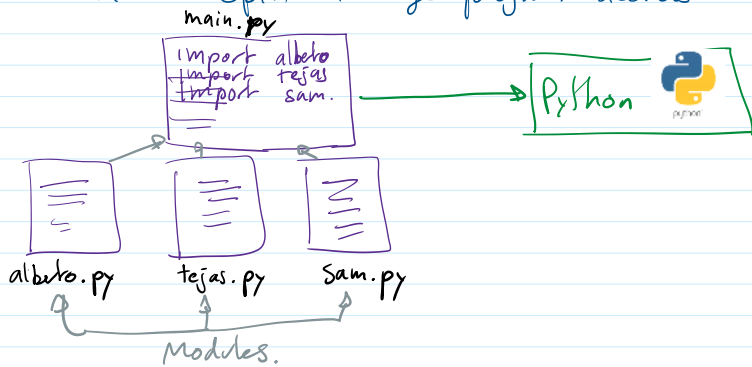
$X = X / 2$

• Boolean Expressions:

	True	False.	
operators	<	>	or
	<=	>=	and
	==	!=	not

• Basics of Modules:

idea: Split a large program across multiple files

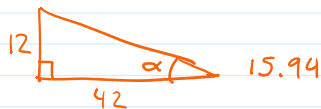


• Python has a laaaaaarge collection of "Standard Modules"

• E.g. math module

- cos()
- sin()
- tan()
- factorial()
- gamma()
- acos()
- asin()
- atan()
- radians()
- degrees()
- sqrt()
- log()
- pow()

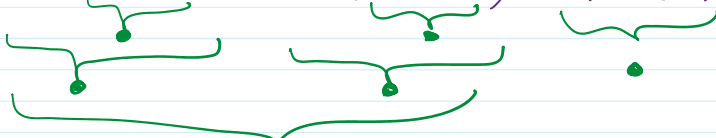
• Problem:

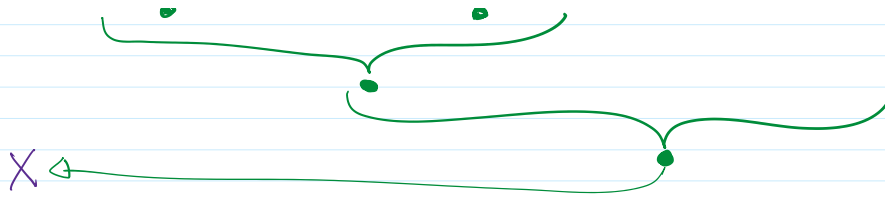


$a = 12$
 $b = 42$

$x = \sin(a / b) * \tan(a / 3) + \text{sqrt}(b)$

nonsense but an expression





- Eg: The Random module.

import random

functions

	← arguments		
random()		random number	[0..1)
randrange(a, b)		random number	[a..b)
randrange(b)		random number	[0..b)
randint(a, b)		random integer	[a..b]

- on "Pseudo-Random" numbers.

e.g. Mersenne Twister.

These numbers depend on an initial number called the seed

↳ by default, this is the value of the clock.

— 0 — EOF