

UC Berkeley EECS  
Lecturer  
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# Computational Structures in Data Science

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## *Programming Paradigms*



# Announcements

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- Reminder: Ants checkpoint
- Project Parties added!
  - <https://c88c.org/sp23/weekly-schedule.html>
- We have 1 fewer lab/hw than planned
  - 11 assignments instead of 12
  - 1 of each dropped
  - We'll scale the points (4.4 pts per lab, 8.8 pts per HW)
  - Lab 12 will be optional!



# Programming Paradigms

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- **Paradigm** (Merriam Webster): a typical example or pattern of something; a model. Example: "there is a new paradigm for public art in this country"
- Programming Paradigm ([Joe Turner, Clemson University](#)): "A programming paradigm is a general approach, orientation, or philosophy of programming that can be used when implementing a program." *You might call this a "style"*
- Example, three very different approaches to squaring list:

```
map(lambda x: x*x, range(5))  
[ x * x for x in range(5) ]  
range(5).square_nums() # Only theoretically
```



# Why?

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- Understanding the paradigm helps you understand the intent of the programmer
- Pick the right tool for the job!
- Most programs written today are multi-paradigm
  - They mix and match the style



# Word of Warning

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- There is no universally agreed upon taxonomy of human programming styles.

One possible list:

- Imperative
- Functional
- Array-based
- Object oriented
- Declarative

These terms are a bit fluid, and as you'll see if you [read more on wikipedia](#), there is substantial disagreement about these terms.



# Programming Paradigms

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- Example, three very different approaches to squaring list:
- Functional: `map(lambda x: x*x, [1, 2, 3])`
- Array-based: `[1, 2, 3] * [1, 2, 3] → [1, 4, 9]` # Not Python!

- Imperative:

```
def square(nums):  
    result = []  
    for num in nums:  
        result.append(num * num)  
    return result
```



# The Imperative Programming Paradigm

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- An imperative program provides a sequence of steps.
- Like following a recipe.
- Assignment is allowed (can set variables).
- Mutation is allowed (can change variables).
- Example (acronym):

```
def acronym_i(words):  
    result = ''  
    words = words.split(' ')  
    for word in words:  
        if len(word) > 4:  
            result += word[0]  
    return result
```



# The Functional Programming Paradigm

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- In functional programming, computation is thought of in terms of the evaluation of functions.
- No state (e.g. variable assignments).
- No mutation (e.g. changing variable values).
- No side effects when functions execute.

```
def acronym_f(words):  
    return reduce(add,  
                  map(lambda w: w[0],  
                      filter(lambda w: len(w) > 3,  
                              words.split(' '))))
```





# Imperative vs. Functional

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- Can argue that functional is a subset of imperative.
- Functional programming is still a series of steps.
- “Just” need to avoid state and think of computation as functions.

## Functional Programs:

- More often only one obvious way to do something.
  - Programming feels more like solving puzzles.
  - Solutions can seem like magic (especially to imperative programmers).



# Why do we push functional programming?

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- Tend to be shorter.
- Tend to be easier to debug (no need to track variables / side effects).
- Tend to parallelize better (can split work on multiple computers).
  - Example: Each computer can do 1/8th of a “map” operation.
  - Reducing mutations makes computation easier to scale
  - Hugely prevalent in AI fields.
- **Growing in popularity.**
  - Explosion of ideas in new programming languages
  - “old” ideas are becoming new/popular



# A Hybrid Approach

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- These paradigms are not official rules. Just attempts to taxonomize approaches taken by humans.
- Code below is sorta functional, sorta imperative.
- Utilizes state for clarity. Many program this way. You might not.

```
def acronym_h(words):  
    words = words.split(' ')  
    long = filter(lambda w: len(w) > 4, words)  
    letters = maps(lambda w: w[0], long)  
    return ''.join(letters)
```



# Discussion and Debate

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## •Which of these do you like best?

```
def acronym_i(words):  
    result = ''  
    words = words.split(' ')  
    for word in words:  
        if len(word) > 4:  
            result += word[0]  
    return result
```

Very small steps to reason about. Seems "natural", but lots of code

```
def acronym_f(words):  
    return reduce(add,  
                  map(lambda w: w[0],  
                      filter(lambda w: len(w) > 3,  
                              words.split(' '))))
```

Less to keep track of.

Easy to come back and read it later.

```
def acronym_h(words):  
    words = words.split(' ')  
    long = filter(lambda w: len(w) > 3, words)  
    letters = maps(lambda w: w[0], long)  
    return ''.join(letters)
```



# Array-Based Programming!

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- Unfortunately not something we can easily demo in Python.
- Treats arrays as "first class" objects – not just containers:
  - Mathematical Operations correspond to "Pairwise" computations: (These are **not** Python!)  
 $[1, 2, 3] * [1, 2, 3] == [1, 4, 9]$   
 $[1, 2, 3] + [1, 2, 3] == [2, 4, 6]$
- Very common in data science, engineering!
  - R (STAT 134), MATLAB, Julia, APL
- Some elements and ideas influenced numpy / pandas



# The Object Based Programming Paradigm

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- In object programming, we organize our thinking around objects, each containing its own data, and each with its own procedures that can be invoked.
- We've had plenty of practice here!
- OOP provides many tools!
- But also leaves many important questions open:
  - Should functions be mutable or immutable?



# Object-Oriented Programming

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- There is a LOT more than what we see in C88C
  - Rich model for composing classes together
    - » Python allows you to inherit from multiple classes at once
  - Can *easily* be overused.
  - Explored in depth in CS61B
- In Python "everything is an object"
  - You benefit from OOP ideas even when you don't realize.
  - Global functions like `len()` correspond to "magic" methods on objects, e.g. `__len__`



# Declarative Programming

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- In declarative programming, we express what we want, without specifying how. A program is simply a description of the result we want.
- Can be a very different thought process!
- Incredibly useful, but not necessarily best for all types of problems.





# The Web: HTML

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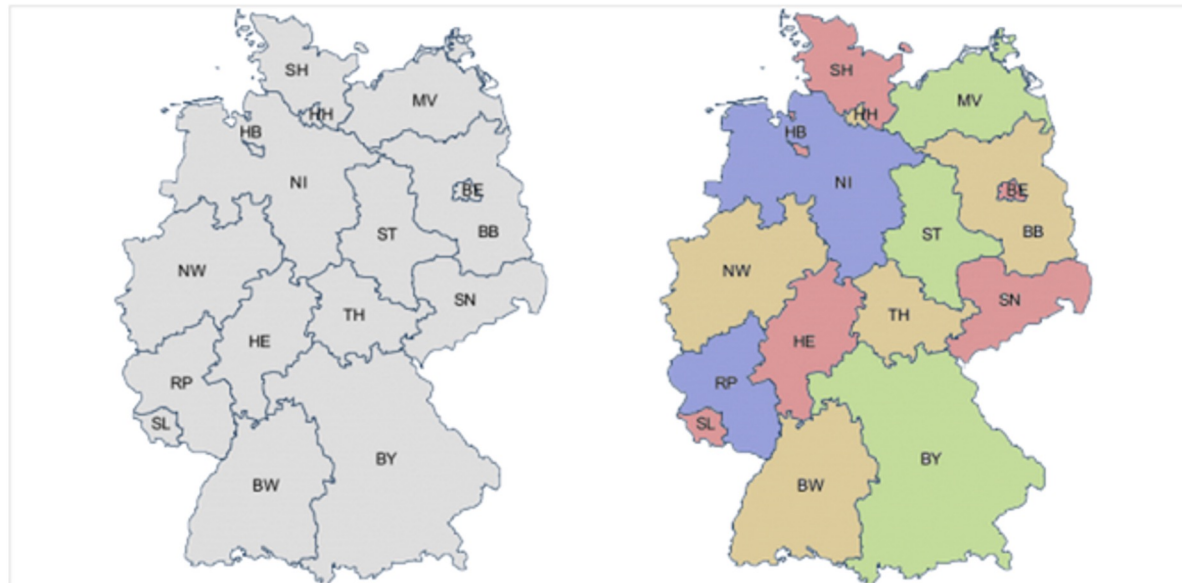
- Web pages are built with a language called HTML.
  - Programmers specify what content should be on the page, and where.
  - The browser lays out the content on each device in the right spot for each screen size, etc.
- A partial section of the CS88 Website:

```
<div id="content" class="container">
  <div class="page-header">
    <h1><span class="content-title-brand">CS 88</span>:
      Computational Structures in Data Science
    <div class="small">Spring 2023</div>
    <div class="small">Instructor: Michael Ball</div>
  </h1>
</div>
<section><h2>Announcements</h2>...
```



# Declarative Programming

- In declarative programming, we express what we want, without specifying how. A program is simply a description of the result we want.
- Example: [coloring a map of Germany using the Prolog language](#):





# Prolog Example (From [Bernardo Pires](#))

- Tell Prolog that colors exist:      Tell Prolog that same colors can't touch:

```
color(red).  
color(green).  
color(blue).  
color(yellow).
```

```
neighbor(StateAColor, StateBColor) :- color(StateAColor),  
color(StateBColor),  
StateAColor \= StateBColor. /* \= is the not equal operator */
```

Tell Prolog all the borders:

```
germany(SH, MV, HH, HB, NI, ST, BE, BB, SN, NW, HE, TH, RP, SL, BW, BY) :-  
neighbor(SH, NI), neighbor(SH, HH), neighbor(SH, MV),  
neighbor(HH, NI),  
neighbor(MV, NI), neighbor(MV, BB),  
neighbor(NI, HB), neighbor(NI, BB), neighbor(NI, ST), neighbor(NI, TH),  
neighbor(NI, HE), neighbor(NI, NW),  
neighbor(ST, BB), neighbor(ST, SN), neighbor(ST, TH),  
neighbor(BB, BE), neighbor(BB, SN),  
neighbor(NW, HE), neighbor(NW, RP),  
neighbor(SN, TH), neighbor(SN, BY),  
neighbor(RP, SL), neighbor(RP, HE), neighbor(RP, BW),  
neighbor(HE, BW), neighbor(HE, TH), neighbor(HE, BY),  
neighbor(TH, BY),  
neighbor(BW, BY).
```

Ask Prolog for answer:

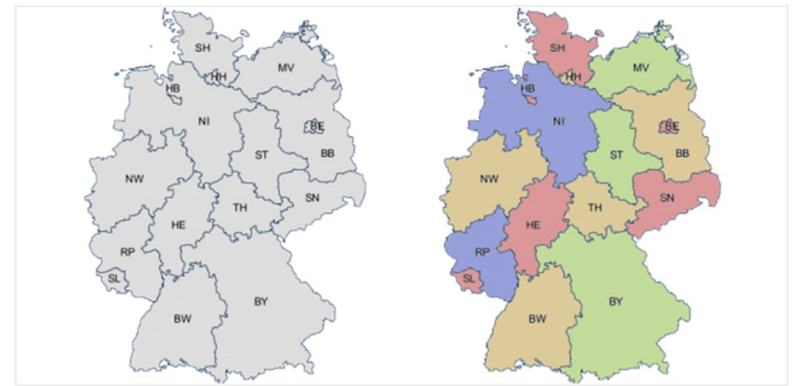
```
?- germany(SH, MV, HH, HB, NI, ST, BE, BB, SN, NW, HE, TH, RP, SL, BW, BY).
```



# Declarative Programming

- In declarative programming, we express what we want, without specifying how. A program is simply a description of the **result** we want.
- Another example, [coloring a map of Germany using the Prolog language](#):

**BB** = BW, **BW** = HB, **HB** = NW, **NW** = SH, **SH** = SL, **SL** = TH, **TH** = red,  
**BE** = NI, **NI** = RP, **RP** = SN, **SN** = green,  
**BY** = yellow,  
**HE** = HH, **HH** = MV, **MV** = ST, **ST** = blue





# Declarative Programming

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- Each declarative language has only a limited number of tasks for which you can specify “what”, and not “how”, e.g.
- Prolog: Logic.
- SQL: Queries from a database.
- Pandas: Data manipulation operations like aggregation, filtering, joining, etc.
  - Very common operations in Data 8 and Data 100.
  - Pandas is a library for Python. You'll use it in Data 100!



# Declarative Programming In Data 8

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- `cones.group('Flavor')`
  - DataScience module figures out the grouping
- `table.where(label, conditions)`
- Can combine these simpler expressions together for more complex questions



## Why SQL?

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- SQL is a ***declarative programming language*** for accessing and modifying data in a relational database.
- It is an entirely new way of thinking (“new” in 1970, and new to you now!) that specifies *what* should happen, but not *how* it should happen.
- Python is a multi-paradigm language, but we haven't yet tried declarative programming.



# What is SQL?

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- A declarative language
  - Described *what* to compute
  - Query processor (interpreter) chooses which of many equivalent query plans to execute to perform the SQL statements
- ANSI and ISO standard, but many variants
  - CS88's SQL will work on nearly all relational databases—databases that use tables. [We'll revisit next lecture!]
- `SELECT` statement creates a new table, either from scratch or by projecting a table
- `CREATE TABLE` statement gives a global name to a table
- Lots of other statements
  - `analyze`, `delete`, `explain`, `insert`, `replace`, `update`, ...





# SQL: Describe The Shape of the result!

```
# An example of creating a Table from a list of rows.  
Table(["Flavor", "Color", "Price"]).with_rows([  
    ('strawberry', 'pink', 3.55),  
    ('chocolate', 'light brown', 4.75),  
    ('chocolate', 'dark brown', 5.25),  
    ('strawberry', 'pink', 5.25),  
    ('bubblegum', 'pink', 4.75)])
```

Flavor	Color	Price
strawberry	pink	3.55
chocolate	light brown	4.75
chocolate	dark brown	5.25
strawberry	pink	5.25
bubblegum	pink	4.75



# What if I want a table with just a few rows?

- Here the `where()` in Python is using the datascience module.

```
sqlite> select * from cones where Flavor = "chocolate";  
ID|Flavor|Color|Price  
2|chocolate|light brown|4.75  
3|chocolate|dark brown|5.25  
6|chocolate|dark brown|5.25
```

```
cones.where(cones["Price"] > 5)
```

```
⋮  
ID Flavor Color Price  
3 chocolate dark brown 5.25  
4 strawberry pink 5.25  
6 chocolate dark brown 5.25
```

SQL:

```
sqlite> select * from cones where Price > 5;  
ID|Flavor|Color|Price  
3|chocolate|dark brown|5.25  
4|strawberry|pink|5.25  
6|chocolate|dark brown|5.25
```



# Summary

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- Paradigms are styles, guidelines for how to approach a program
- Each is equally capable, but some are suited best to particular tasks.
- Declarative programming gets us to think about the *what* rather than the *how*.