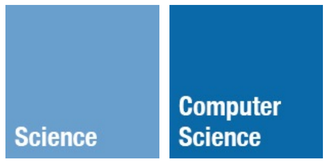
Preliminaries



CS 331: Data Structures and Algorithms
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Michael Lee

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- Office hours by appointment (Tue/Thu 11AM-1PM)

Agenda

- Course overview & Administrivia
  - Prerequisites
  - Topics & Resources
  - Grading
  - Dev environment & Class procedures

Data Structures

- How do we store, organize, and retrieve data on a computer?

& Algorithms

- How can we efficiently (in space/time) carry out some typical data processing operations?
- How do we analyze and describe their performance?

Prerequisites

- I assume you are …
  - fluent in some programming language
    - familiar with procedural & OO paradigms
  - comfortable with development processes:
    - compilation, debugging, testing

Python

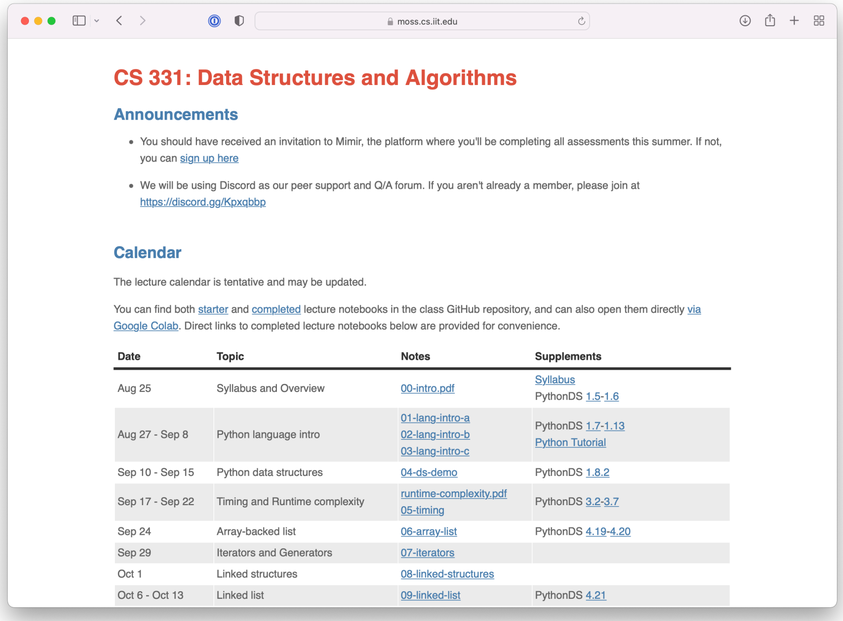
- We'll use the Python programming language to explore data structures & algorithms
- Easy-to-learn, clean ("one obvious way to do" things), and popular language
  - Ton of useful, powerful libraries

Topics

- Python crash course
- Algorithmic analysis
- Linear data structures (Lists, Stacks, Queues)
- Mapping structures (Hashtables and Trees)
- Recursion

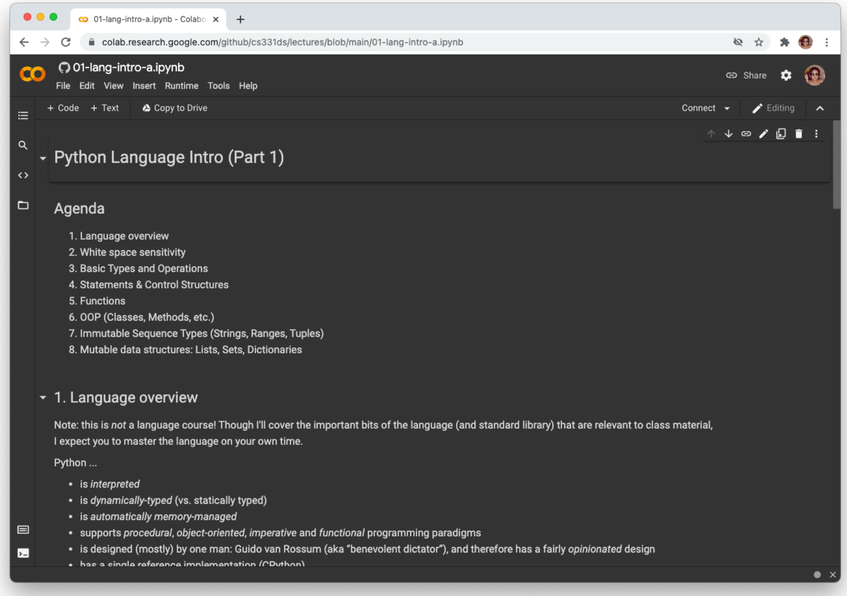
Class Resources

1. Course website: moss.cs.iit.edu/cs331
   - static information
     - lecture calendar, slides, links to external resources, etc.



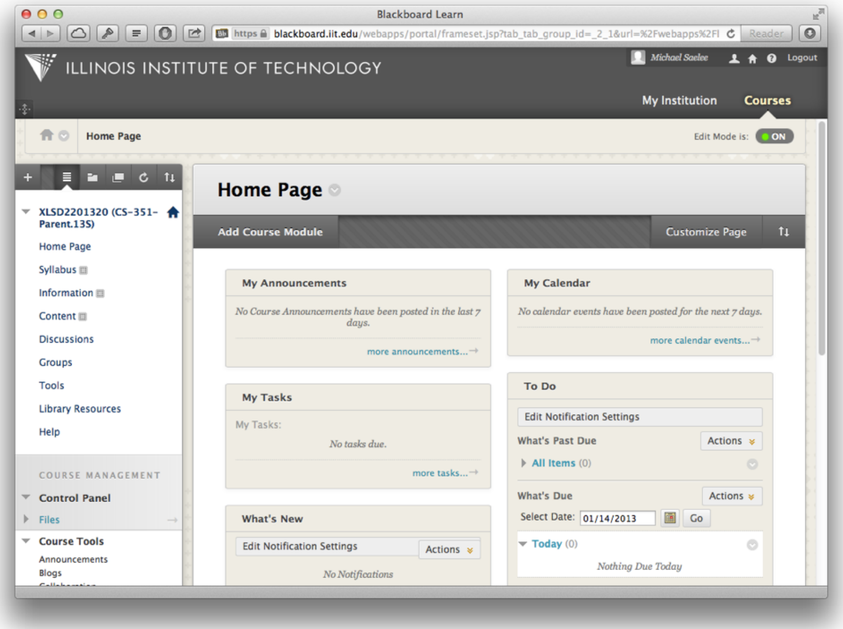
Class Resources

2. Google Colaboratory
   - interactive lecture notebooks



Class Resources

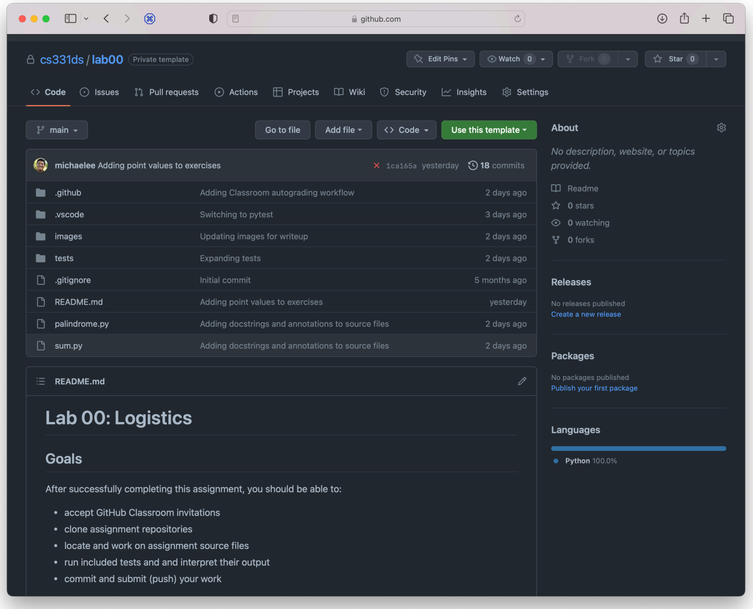
3. Blackboard
   - Final gradebook



Class Resources

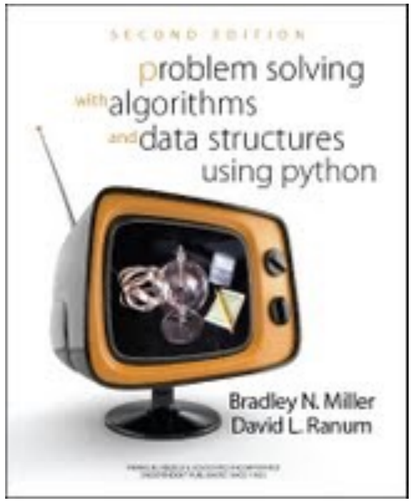
4. GitHub

   - Assignment distribution & submission



Supplements

- The Python Tutorial (docs.python.org/3/)
- Problem Solving with Algorithms and Data Structures Using Python



Grading

- 40% Programming Assignments
- 60% Exams (3 total: 2 midterms + final)

Programming Assignments

- ~10 assignments
- All assignments are retrieved and submitted via GitHub
  - Provided codebase typically covered in preceding lectures
- Late policy: elastic over summer
  - Hard due date for everything: June 24

On Exams

- Tentative dates are on course website (**June 3**, **June 10**)
- All exams are cumulative (but will focus on recent material)
- Will be administered online, to be taken on your own computer (or in lab)
- Later exam scores, if higher, will improve earlier ones

```
>> scores = [60, 80, 75]
>> [max(scores[i:]) for i in range(3)]
[80, 80, 75]

>> scores = [75, 80, 100]
>> [max(scores[i:]) for i in range(3)]
[100, 100, 100]
```

Jupyter Notebook

- In-browser Python development platform
  - “Cells” can contain plain text, code, output (and more)
  - All lecture notes will be distributed as notebook files

Jupyter Notebook

- We strongly recommend installing Microsoft Visual Studio Code (VSCode) as an IDE for both lectures & labs
  - Install the Jupyter and Python extensions

Interactive Lectures

- Lecture notebooks available in course repository
  - Open on Google Colab or VSCode
    - Class is usually one long interactive demo
- Starter and completed lecture notebooks are available in the course GitHub repository