COMP089: Everyday Computing

MWF 11:00am - 12:15pm (SN 155)

http://www.cs.unc.edu/~lin/COMP089/

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Office Hours: Mon/Wed After Class
or by Appointment

M. C. Lin

Is COMPO89 for YOU?



Computers are here to stay...
 How will you get along with them?





What's COMP089?



Computing for non-Geeks!



If you were going to take 1 CS class, what do you want to know?

Everything from this class!

What Will We Be Doing



- Do a little 'dabbling'
- Create something cool
- Watch movies
- Play games
- Listen to music
- Dissect robots
- Shrink to mini-you
- Try out theme-park like ride

Hopefully then...



- Get to examine interesting problems in our everyday life
- Learn problem-solving techniques using computer technology
- Appreciate how computing solve realworld problems in many applications

Some Applications



- Artistic & Creative Processes
- Assistive Technology
- Bioinformatics
- Computer Animation
- Computer Game Dynamics
- Digital Music & Audio Synthesis
- Image Analysis & Abnormality Detection

Some Applications



- Medical Simulation and Training
- Rapid Prototyping for Design
- Robotics and Automation
- Special Effects Generation
- Touch-Enabled Interfaces
- Virtual Environments

Goal 1: Demystify Computers

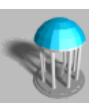


 Strangely, most people (even some computer scientists) are afraid of computers.

We are only afraid of things we do

not understand!

Goal 2: Limits of Computation



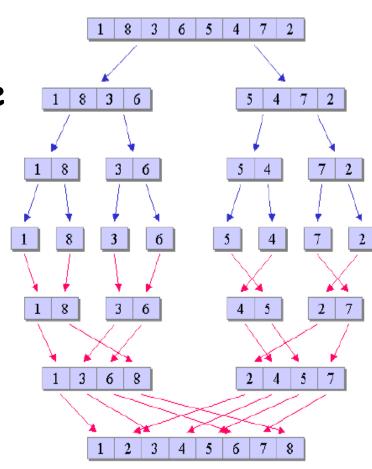
- Computers are powerful, fast, and getting faster everyday...
- BUT, they do have provable limits
- We know problems that
 - No known computer can solve
 - No known program could solve within our lifetime (or the lifeime of the universe...)



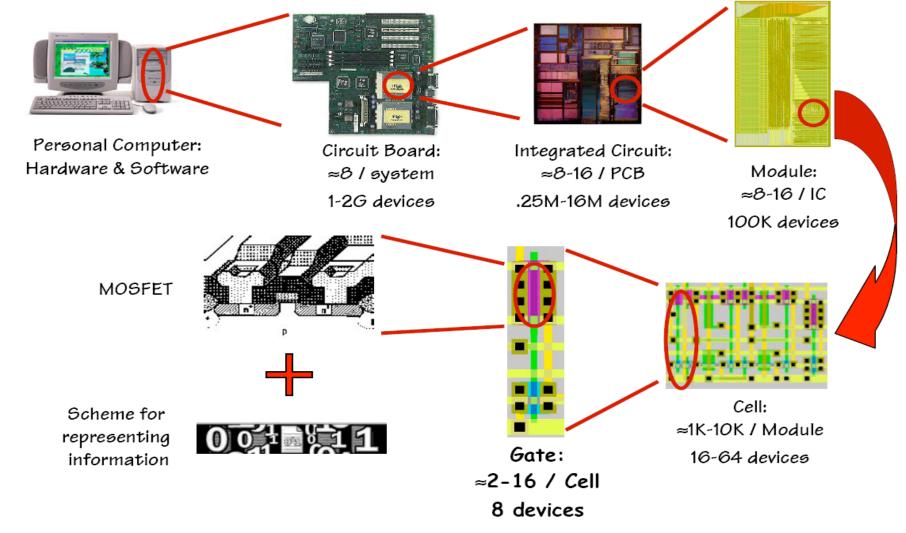
Goal 3: Algorithms Matter



- A good algorithm on a slow computer will beat a bad one on a fast computer...
 eventually if the size of the problem grows
- Design matters!
- Algorithms are beautiful!
- Like art, you don't have to do it to appreciate it.



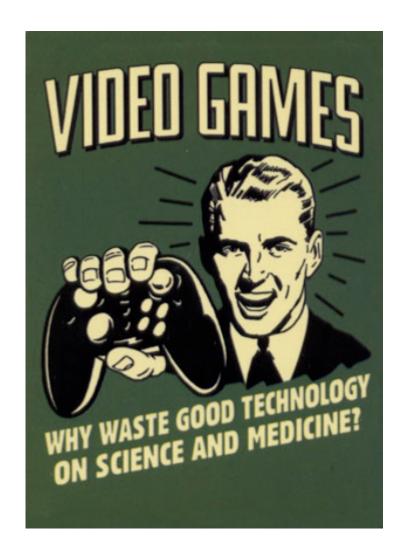
Goal 4: Understanding systems with >1G components



Other Goals



- Understand the use of computing technology in our daily activities.
- Study various examples on how computing affects different aspects of our daily life



Course Work & Grades



- Homework: 30% (total of 3, one every month)
- Student Presentation: 25%
- Course Project: 35%
- Class Participation: 10%

Communication



- Visit instructor during office hours, by appointment, or email correspondence
- All lecture notes and most of handouts are posted at the course website:

http://www.cs.unc.edu/~lin/COMP089

 Major messages are notified by email alias

Basic Courtesy



- TYPE your assignments using a computer
- Please do not read newspaper & other materials in class
- Participate in the class discussion
- No whispers or private conversation

THANK YOU!!!