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MI-GLSD-M1 -UEM213 :

Paradigmes de langages de Programmation



Programming paradigms

Chapitre I: Introduction

Chapter I: Introduction

Paradigms of computer programming



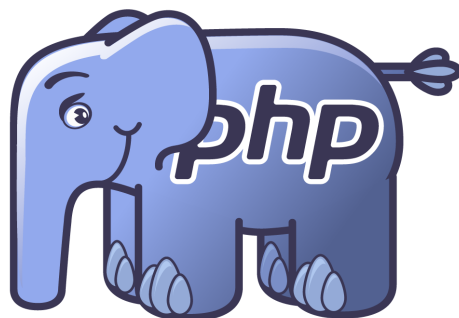
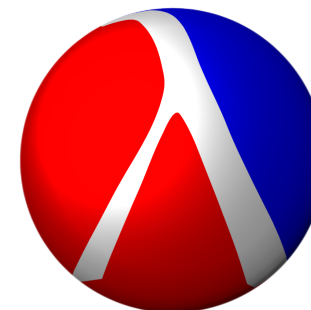
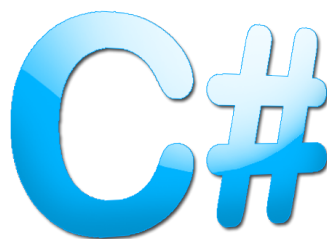
- **Louv1.1x** and **Louv1.2x** form a two-course sequence
 - Together they teach programming as a unified discipline that covers all programming languages
 - Second-year university level: requires some programming experience and mathematics (sets, lists, functions)
- The two courses cover four important themes:
 - *Functional programming* (and basic data structures)
 - *Formal semantics* (and computational complexity)
 - *Data abstraction* (and object-oriented programming)
 - *Concurrency* (and deterministic dataflow)
- Let's see how this works in practice

} Louv1.1x

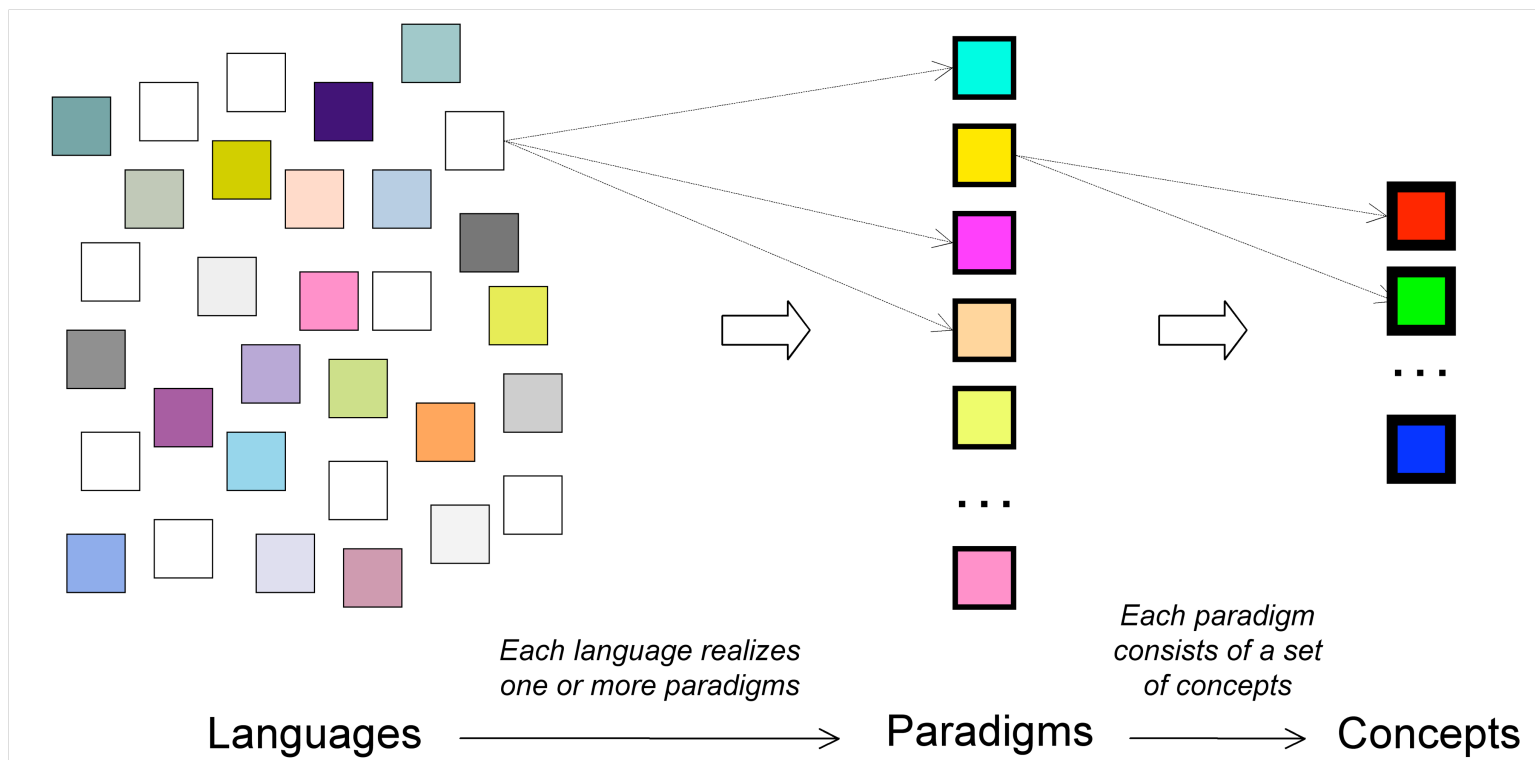
} Louv1.2x



Hundreds of programming languages are in use...



So many, how can we understand them all?



- Key insight: languages are based on paradigms, and there are many fewer paradigms than languages
- We can **understand many languages by learning few paradigms!**

What is a paradigm?



- A **programming paradigm** is an approach to programming a computer based on a coherent set of principles or a mathematical theory
- A program is written to solve problems
 - Any realistic program needs to solve different kinds of problems
 - Each kind of problem needs its own paradigm
 - So we need **multiple** paradigms and we need to **combine** them in the same program

How can we study *multiple* paradigms?



- How can we study multiple paradigms without studying multiple languages (since most languages only support one, or sometimes two paradigms)?
- Each language has its own syntax, its own semantics, its own system, and its own quirks
 - We could pick three languages, like Java, Erlang, and Haskell, and structure our course around them
 - This would make the course complicated for no good reason
- Our pragmatic solution: **we use one language**, Oz, a research language designed for many paradigms
 - This lets us focus on the real issues
 - Our textbook, *Concepts, Techniques, and Models of Computer Programming*, uses Oz to cover many paradigms



How can we *combine* paradigms in a program?



- Each paradigm is a **different way of thinking**
 - How can we combine different ways of thinking in one program?
- We can do it using the concept of a **kernel language**
 - Each paradigm has a simple core language, its kernel language, that contains its essential concepts
 - Every practical language, even if it's complicated, can be translated easily into its kernel language
 - Even very different paradigms have kernel languages that have much in common; often there is only one concept difference
- We start with a simple kernel language that underlies our first paradigm, functional programming
 - We then **add concepts one by one** to give the other paradigms
 - Scientific method: understand a system in terms of its parts

Summary of the approach



- **Hundreds of languages** are used in practice: we cannot study them all in one course or in one lifetime
 - Solution: **focus on paradigms**, since each language is based on a paradigm and there are many fewer paradigms than languages
- **One language per paradigm is too much** to study in a course, since each language is already complicated by itself
 - Solution: **use one research language**, Oz, that can express many paradigms
- **Realistic programs need to combine paradigms**, but how can we do it since each paradigm is a different way of thinking?
 - Solution: **define paradigms using kernel languages**, since different paradigms have kernel languages with much in common
 - Kernel languages allow us to define many paradigms by focusing on their differences, which is much more economical in time and effort



Let's get started

- Probably you already know an object-oriented language
 - **Object-oriented programming**, with its coherent principles, is clearly an important paradigm
 - But what about the other paradigms?
- Isn't object-oriented programming by far the most important and useful paradigm?
 - Actually, no, it's not!
 - **Many other paradigms are extremely useful**, often more so than OOP! For example, to make robust and efficient distributed programs on the Internet, OOP just does not solve the right problems. **Multi-agent dataflow programming** is much better.
 - The two courses cover **five paradigms** that solve many problems

Five paradigms



- The **two** courses cover five paradigms:
 - 2● Functional programming **1* Imperative programming**
 - 3● Object-oriented programming **4* Logical programming**
 - 5* **Concurrency** {
 - Deterministic dataflow programming
 - Multi-agent dataflow programming (*bonus lesson in Louv1.2x*)
 - Active objects
- These are probably the most important programming paradigms for general use
 - But there are many other paradigms, made for other problems: these two courses give you a good foundation for studying them later if you wish

Many important ideas



Louv1.1x



- Identifiers and environments
- Functional programming
- Recursion
- Invariant programming
- Lists, trees, and records
- Symbolic programming
- Instantiation
- Genericity
- Higher-order programming
- Complexity and Big-O notation
- Moore's Law
- NP and NP-complete problems
- Kernel languages
- Abstract machines
- Mathematical semantics

Louv1.2x

- Explicit state
- Data abstraction
- Abstract data types and objects
- Polymorphism
- Inheritance
- Multiple inheritance
- Object-oriented programming
- Exception handling
- Concurrency
- Nondeterminism
- Scheduling and fairness
- Dataflow synchronization
- Deterministic dataflow
- Agents and streams
- Multi-agent programming



Next steps

- Practical organization of Louv1.1x
 - 6 lessons + 1 final exam
 - 1 lesson per week
 - Weekly exercises (highly recommended)
- Programming exercises
 -  INGInious grader: gives feedback on errors
 -  **mozart** Mozart Programming System
- Our first paradigm: functional programming
 - Interactive examples and fundamental concepts