



CS106A: Programming Methodology

Mehran Sahami

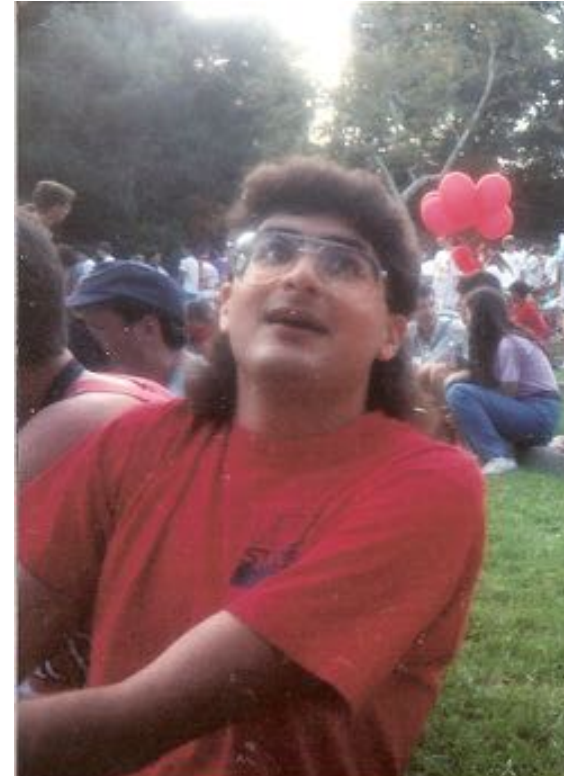


- Childhood: Iran
- High School: San Diego
- Stanford University Ph.D. in Machine Learning
(Before Machine Learning was cool)
- Spent a decade in tech industry before coming back as professor
 - Love of teaching is why I came back



Mehran Sahami

- Took CS106A my freshman year at Stanford
 - It changed my life
- But it did not make me cut my mullet
 - It should have...



Chris Piech

My parents are interesting folks

I originally concentrated in graphics and worked at Pixar

- Childhood: Nairobi, Kenya
- High School: Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- Stanford University Ph.D. in Neural Networks
- Research lab on AI for Social Good

The problem I really want to solve is to make high quality education more accessible



Chris Piech



12 years ago to this day, I was sitting in your seats

Piech and Sahami, CS106A, Stanford University



Head TA: Brahm Capoor



Section Leaders



**Luciano
Gonzalez** ✉



**Maggie
Davis** ✉



**Marilyn
Zhang** ✉



**Meng
Zhang** ✉



**Nidhi
Manoj** ✉



**Niki
Agrawal** ✉



**Peter
Maldonado** ✉



**Rachel
Gardner** ✉



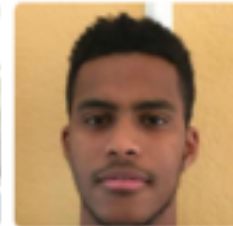
**Rhea
Karuturi** ✉



**Robbie
Jones** ✉



**Ruiqi
Chen** ✉



**Semir
Shafi** ✉



**Shanon
Reckinger** ✉



**Tessera
Chin** ✉



**Thariq
Ridha** ✉



**Vineet
Kosaraju** ✉

* Actually some of last year's section leaders
Piech and Sahami, CS106A, Stanford University

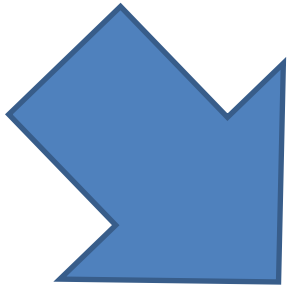


Course mechanics

(This is a brief version.

Please read the handout for full details).

Course Website



<http://cs106a.stanford.edu>

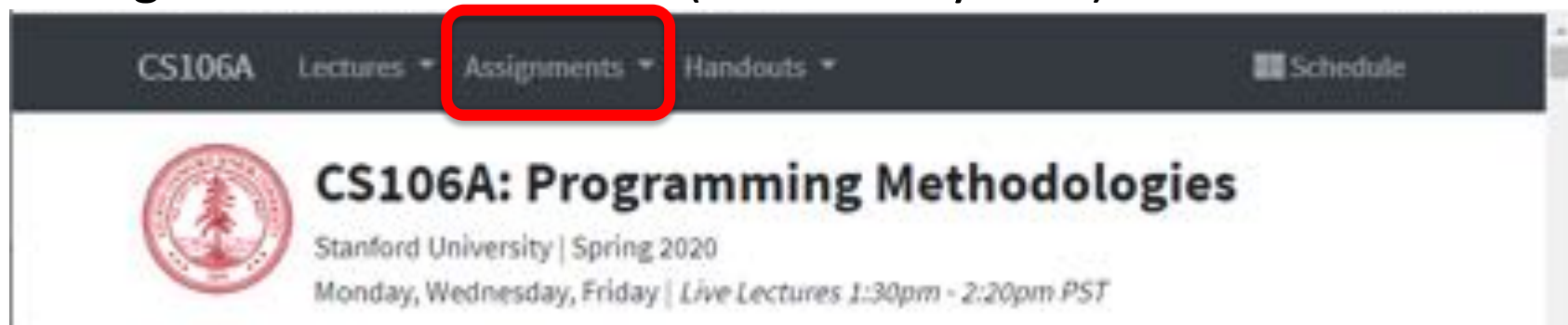


Prerequisite Test



Getting To Know You

- Assignment #0 on website (“Who are you?”)



- Some initial responses (~125 responses so far)
 - Class is 60% women, 39% men, 1% prefer not to say
 - 4 students are former/current members of the armed forces
 - 15 students have founded socially-focused ventures
 - 1 student attacked by kangaroo when they were younger
 - “It is a really difficult time for my family right now, but I will still be trying my best in this class.”
- Please be safe, compassionate, and kind. So will we.



Lectures and Sections

- Lectures MWF 1:30-2:20pm
 - Will be recorded (available on Canvas)
- Weekly 50-min section led by awesome section leaders (the backbone of the class!)
 - Section signups will be on class webpage (not Axxess)
 - Signups begin on Thursday at 5pm and close Sunday at 5pm.



Office Hours



LaIR: evenings Sunday through Thursday
(starting Sunday)

Piech and Sahami, CS106A, Stanford University



Grading Scale

Functionality and **style** grades for the assignments use the following scale:

- ++** A submission so good it “makes you weep”
- +** Exceeds requirements (and has great style)
- ✓+** Satisfies all requirements, with good functionality and style
- ✓** Meets the requirements, but perhaps with small problems
- ✓-** Has some somewhat serious problems
- Is worse than that, but shows real effort and understanding
- Better than nothing

You are only competing against yourself.



Interactive Grading



One on one feedback
from your section leader

- Chance for you to get more feedback than just a grade
- Opportunity to really develop “style” as a programmer
 - We’ll talk more about that soon
- This quarter, especially, we can put much more focus on *learning* rather than grading



What we will ask you to do

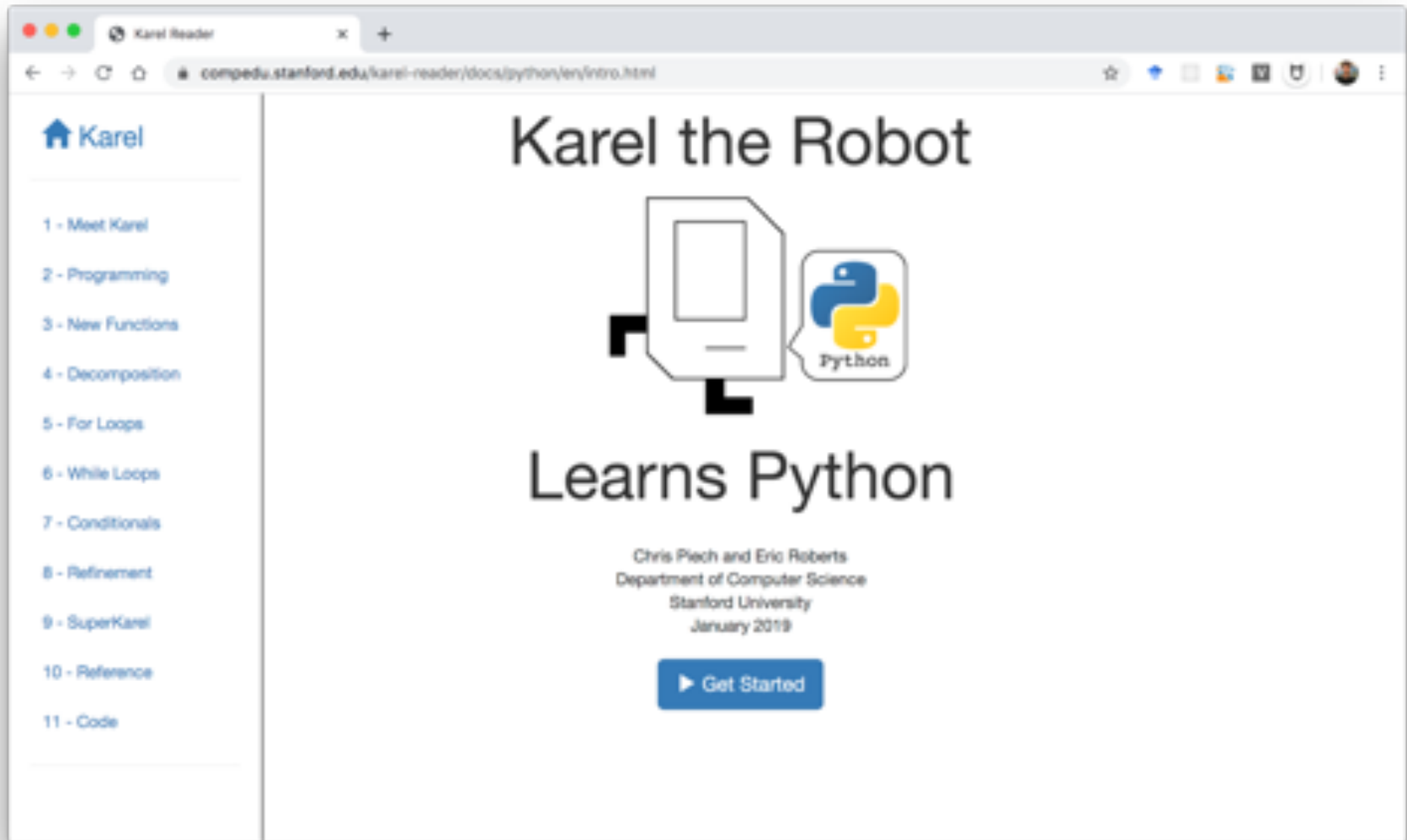
- 7 programming assignment 75%
 - Get more complicated as quarter progresses
- In-class diagnostic assessment (exam) 15%
- Section participation 10%
- Get 4 free “late days” (on assignments)
 - Each “late day” is a 24-hour period
 - Allows for turning in assignment late without penalty
 - After free late days are used, assignments penalized one grade bucket per day late
 - For extensions beyond free late days, contact Brahm (head TA)



Optional Contest



Online Text Books



Online Karel Reader

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Karel Reader" with the URL `compedu.stanford.edu/karel-reader/docs/python/en/chapter2.html`. The page is titled "Chapter 2: Programming Karel".

On the left is a sidebar with a "Karel" logo and a list of chapters: 1 - Meet Karel, 2 - Programming, 3 - New Functions, 4 - Decomposition, 5 - For Loops, 6 - While Loops, 7 - Conditionals, 8 - Refinement, 9 - SuperKarel, 10 - Reference, and 11 - Code.

The main content area explains that the simplest Karel program uses text to specify a sequence of built-in commands. It shows a sample program in a text editor:

```
# File: FirstKarel.py
#
# -----
# The FirstKarel program defines a "main"
# function with three commands. These commands cause
#
# Karel to move forward one block, pick up a beeper
# and then move ahead to the next corner.
from karel.stanfordkarel import *

def main():
    move()
    pick_beeper()
    move()
```

Below the code is a "Run Program" button. To the right of the code is a 6x6 grid representing Karel's world. Karel is a small robot icon at the bottom-left corner (1,1). A blue diamond (beeper) is at (2,1). A wall is at the bottom-right corner (6,6).

Below the grid, the text says: "Press the 'Run' button to execute the program. Programs are typically written in a special application called an **Integrated Development Environment (IDE)** and most Karel programs are written in an IDE called PyCharm. Like an IDE, this reader has the ability to execute programs in order to help you see how things work as you learn."

The text continues: "The program is composed of several parts. The first part consists of the following lines:"

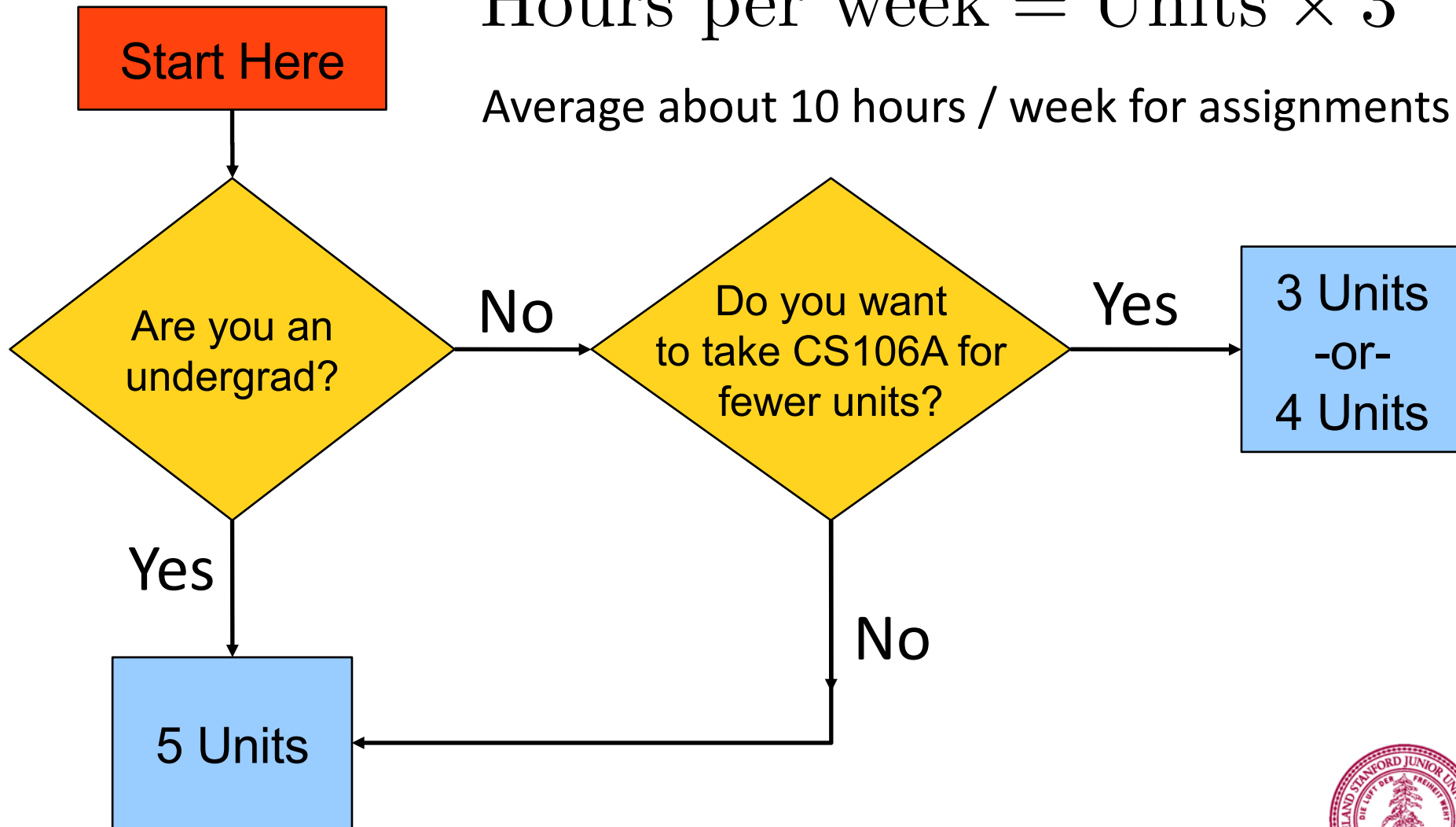
```
# File: FirstKarel.py
#
```



CS106A Units

$$\text{Hours per week} = \text{Units} \times 3$$

Average about 10 hours / week for assignments



Are you in the right place?

What is CS106A?

Computer Science

“Computer science is no more about computers than astronomy is about telescopes, biology is about microscopes or chemistry is about beakers and test tubes. Science is not about tools, it is about how we use them and what we find out when we do.”

— Michael Fellows and Ian Parberry

“You must unlearn what you have learned”

— Yoda



Learning Goals

- *Learn how to harness computing power to solve problems.*
- To that end:
 - Explore fundamental techniques in computer programming.
 - Develop good software engineering style.
 - Gain familiarity with the Python programming language.



There are a lot of cool
programs you may one day
write

Computer Graphics



Pat Hanrahan, one of the founders of Pixar is a professor here.
He just won the Turing Award – the Nobel Prize of Computer Science

Piech and Sahami, CS106A, Stanford University



Consumer Applications



Autonomous Surgery



(c) 2012 Intuitive Surgical, Inc.

Self-Driving Car

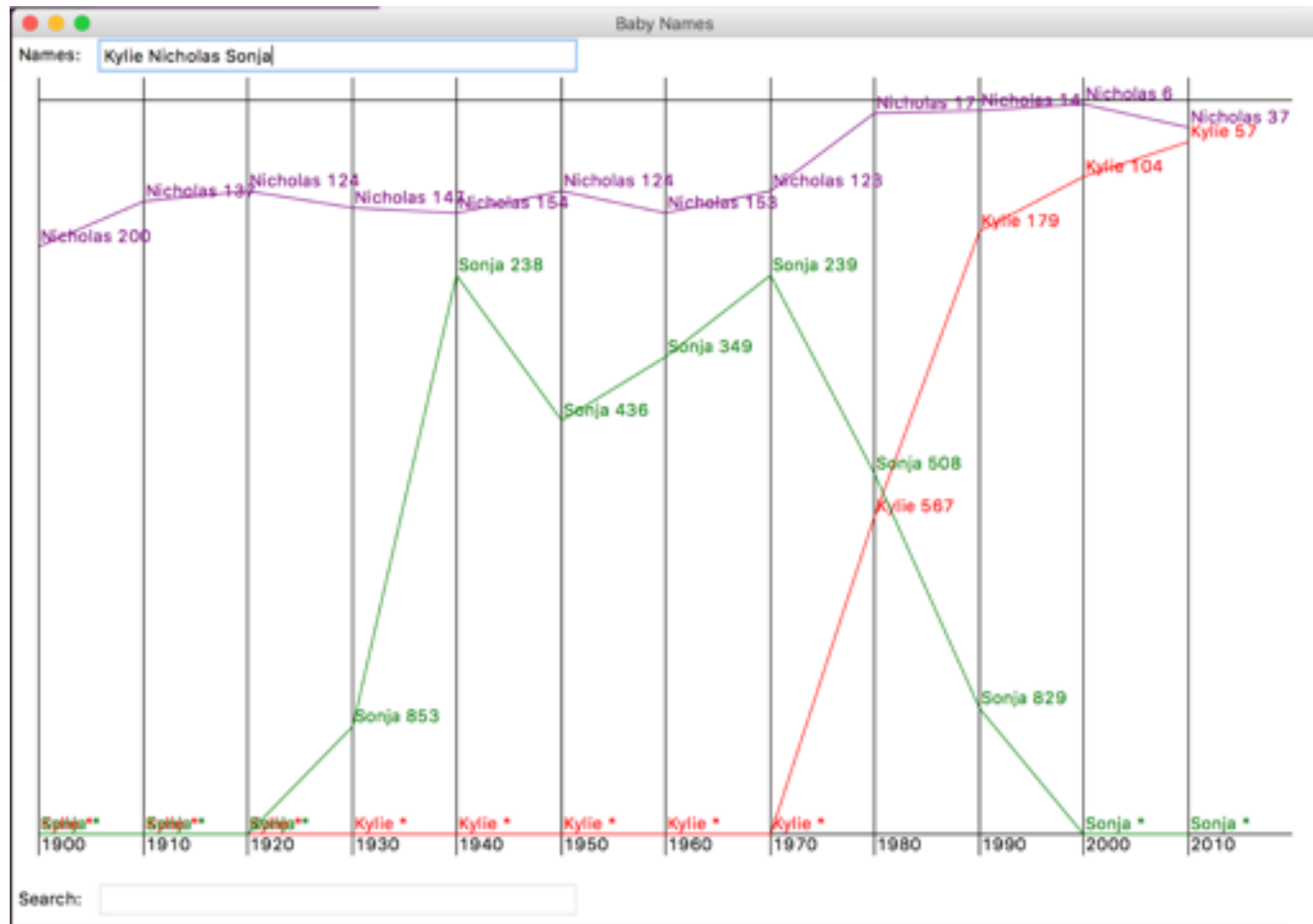


If only we could program
self-driving cars...

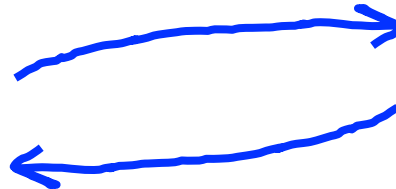
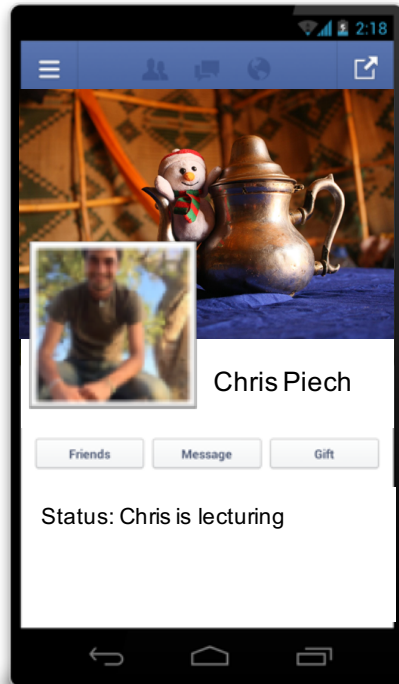
Image Transformation



Data Visualization



Internet Applications



```
FacePamphletServer
Starting server on port 8000...
addProfile (name=Mehran)
=> success
addProfile (name=Chris)
=> success
addProfile (name=Chris)
=> Error: Database already contains Chris.
getStatus (name=Chris)
=> none
setStatus (name=Chris, status=teaching)
=> success
getStatus (name=Chris)
=> teaching
addFriend (name2=Mehran, name1=Chris)
=> success
getFriends (name=Chris)
=> [Mehran]
addProfile (name=Julie)
=> success
getImg (name=Julie)
=> none
getStatus (name=Julie)
=> none
getFriends (name=Julie)
=> []
setImg (img=JulieZ.jpg, name=Julie)
=> success
getImg (name=Julie)
=> JulieZ.jpg
getStatus (name=Julie)
=> none
getFriends (name=Julie)
=> []
addFriend (name2=Chris, name1=Julie)
=> success
getImg (name=Julie)
=> JulieZ.jpg
getStatus (name=Julie)
=> none
```



Art of Computer *Science*



Strive for Everyone to Succeed



Lets Get Started



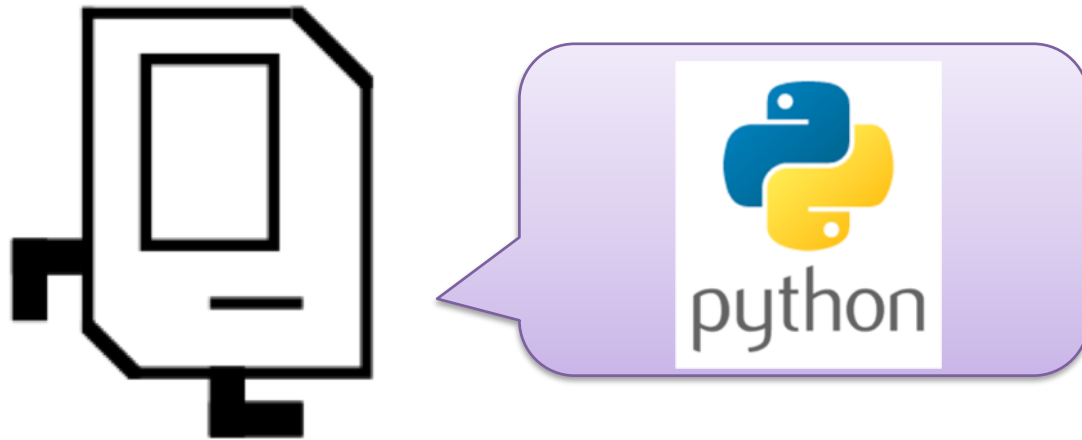
Meet Karel the Robot



Good morning

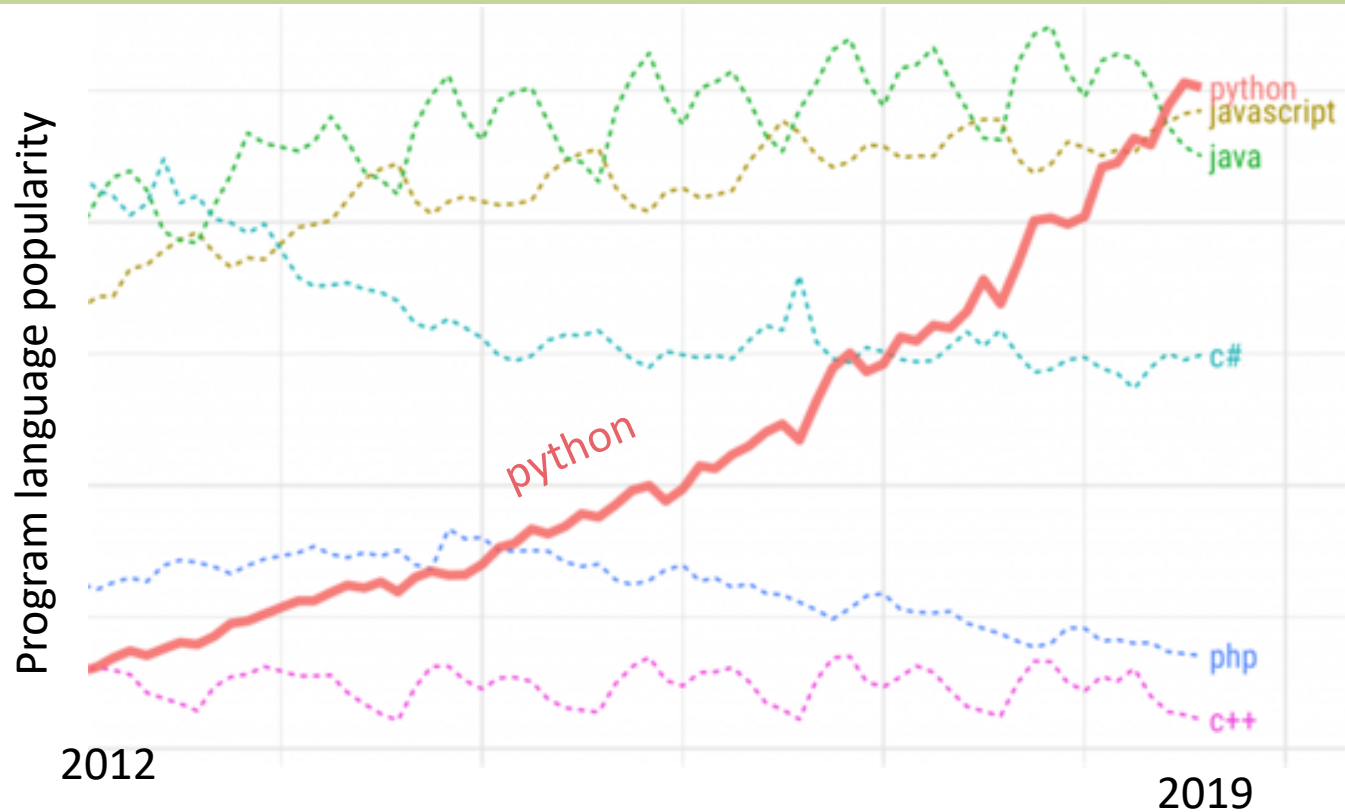


Karel Speaks Python



Why Python?

1



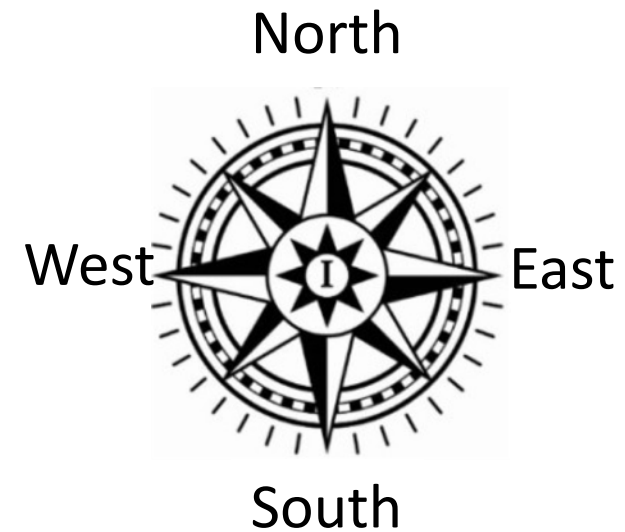
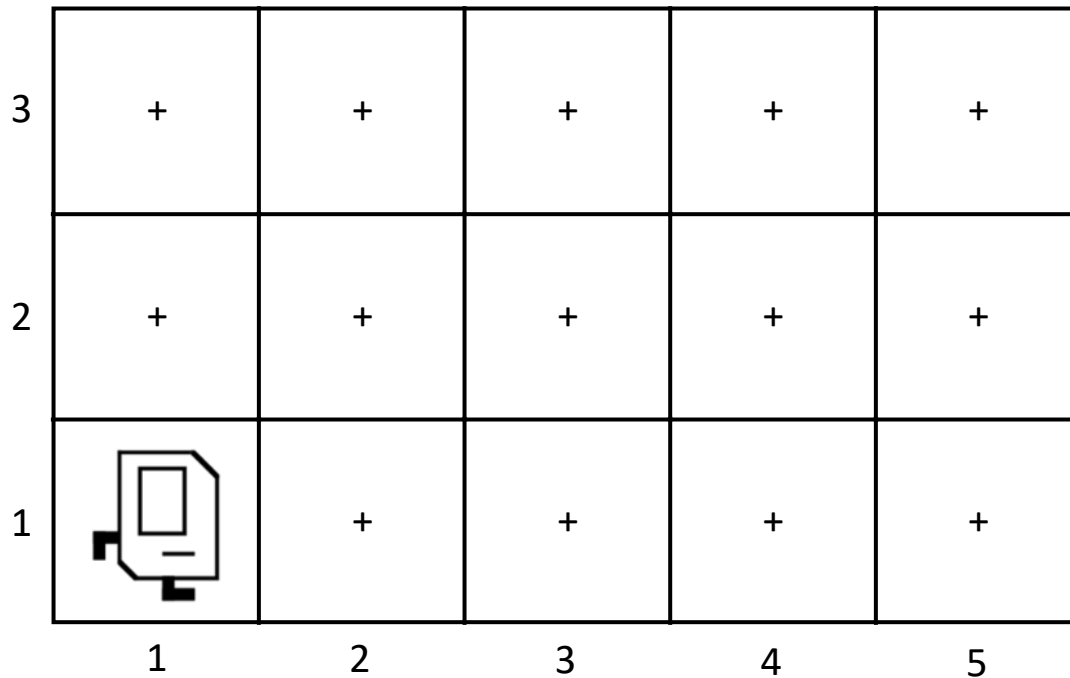
2



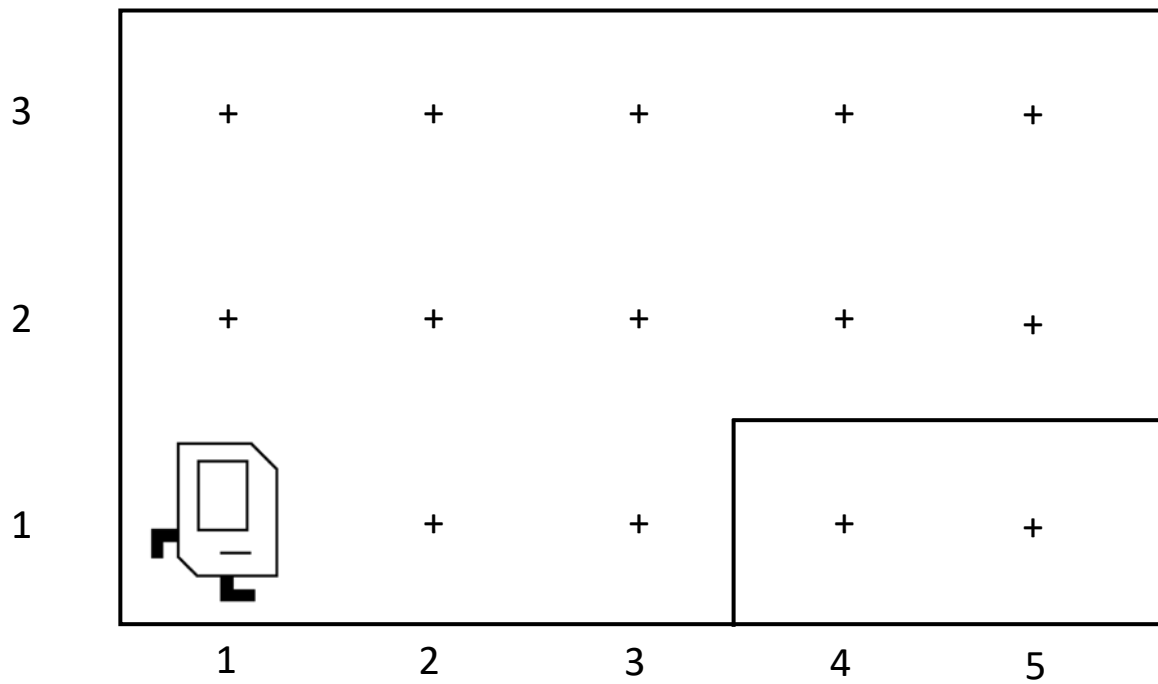
Guido van Rossum



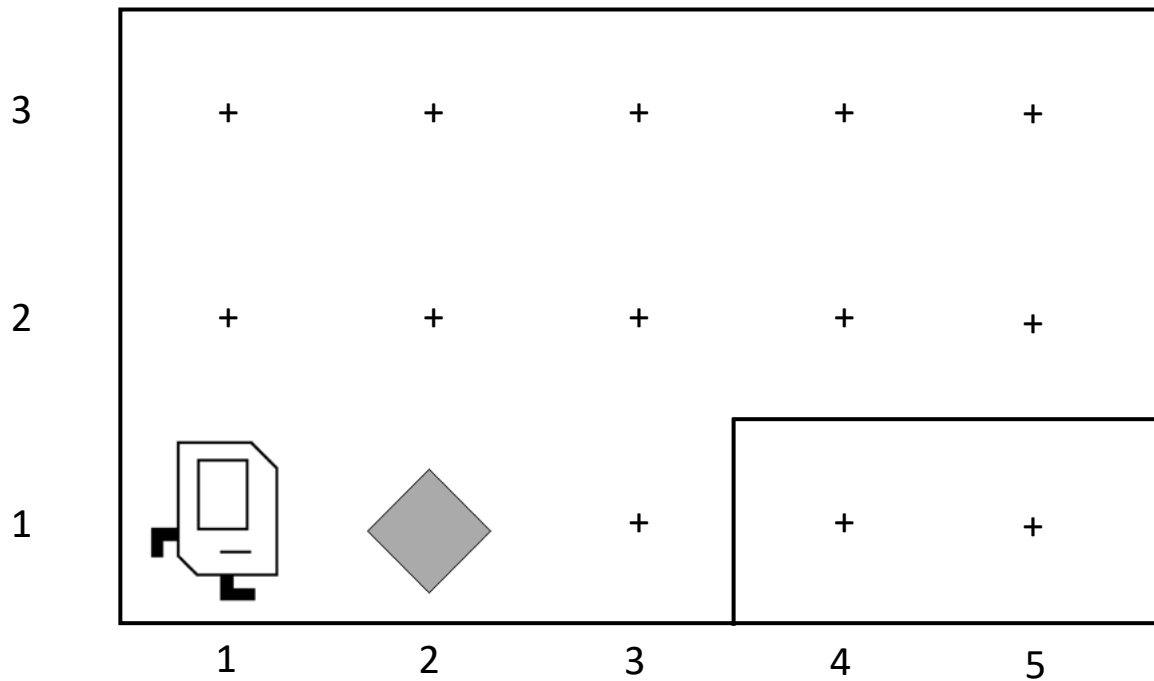
Karel's World



Walls



Beeper



Knows Four Commands



`move ( )`

`turn_left ( )`

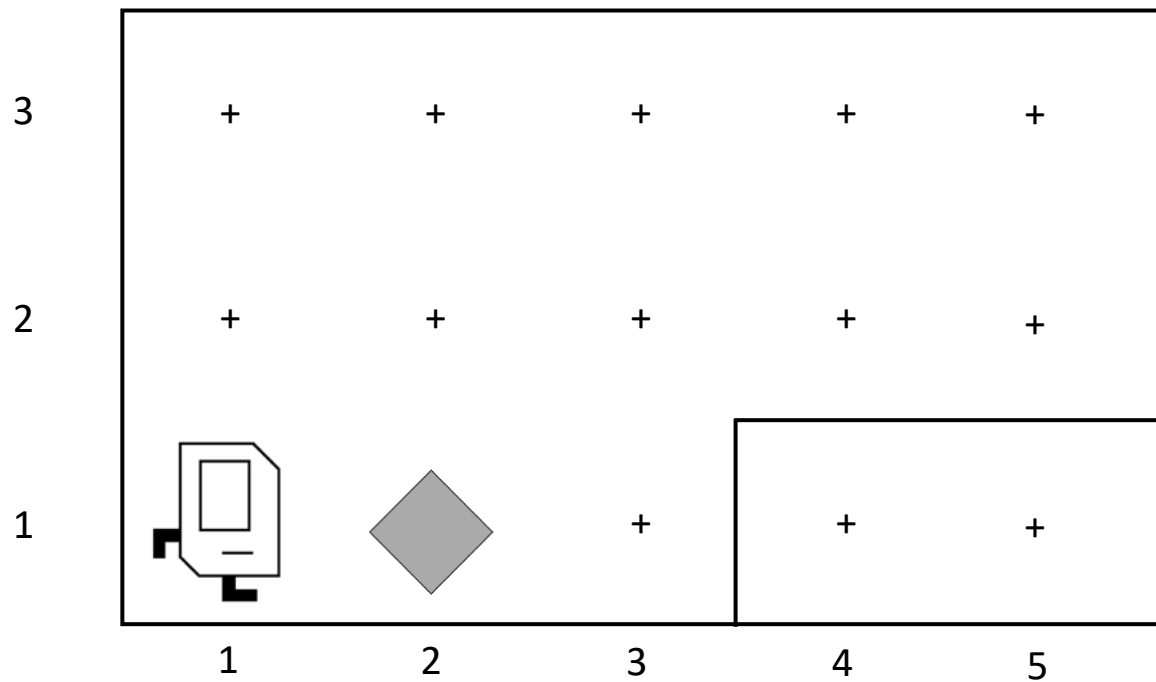
`put_beeper ( )`

`pick_beeper ( )`

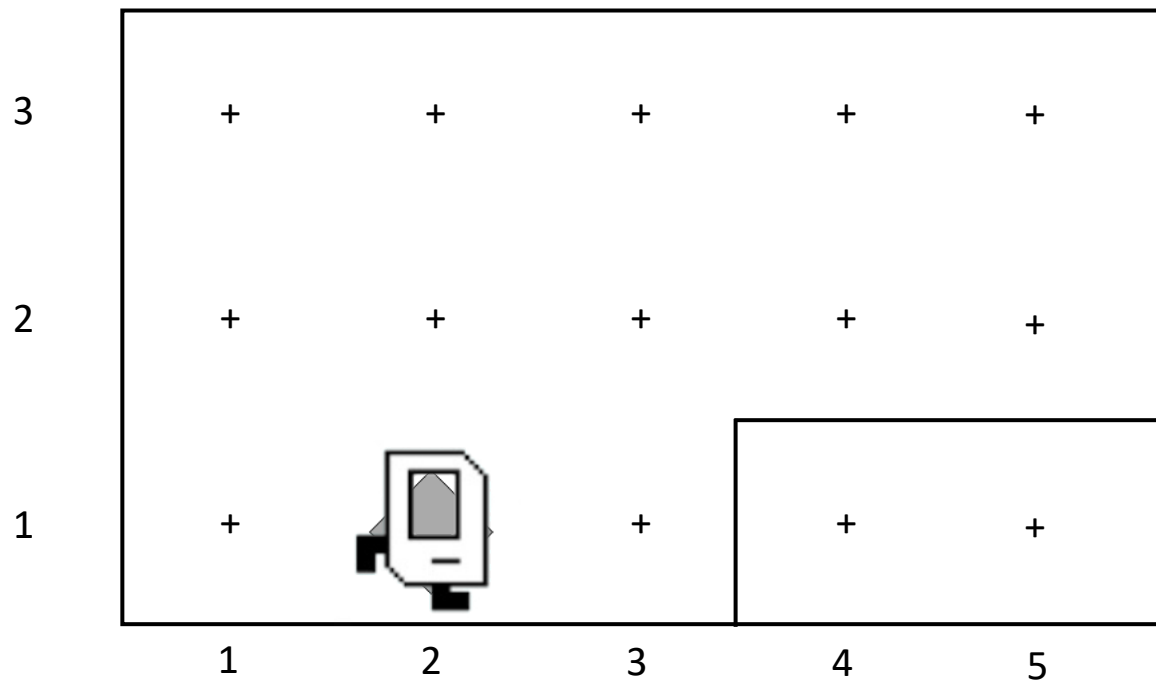


move ()

move ()

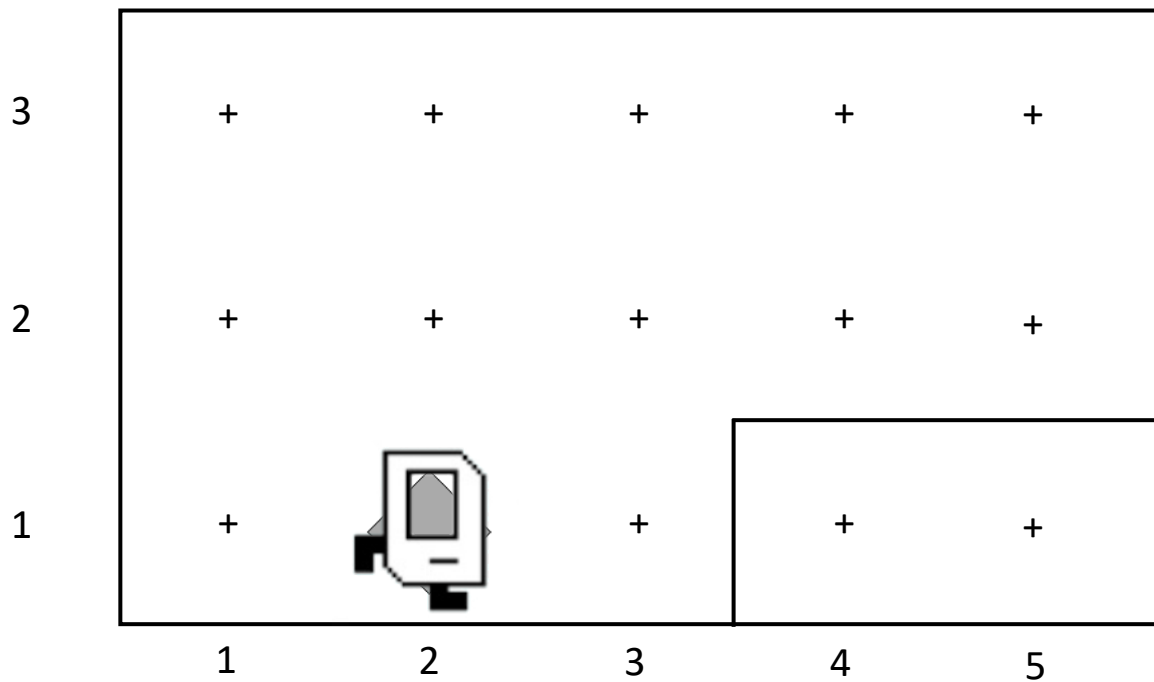


move ()

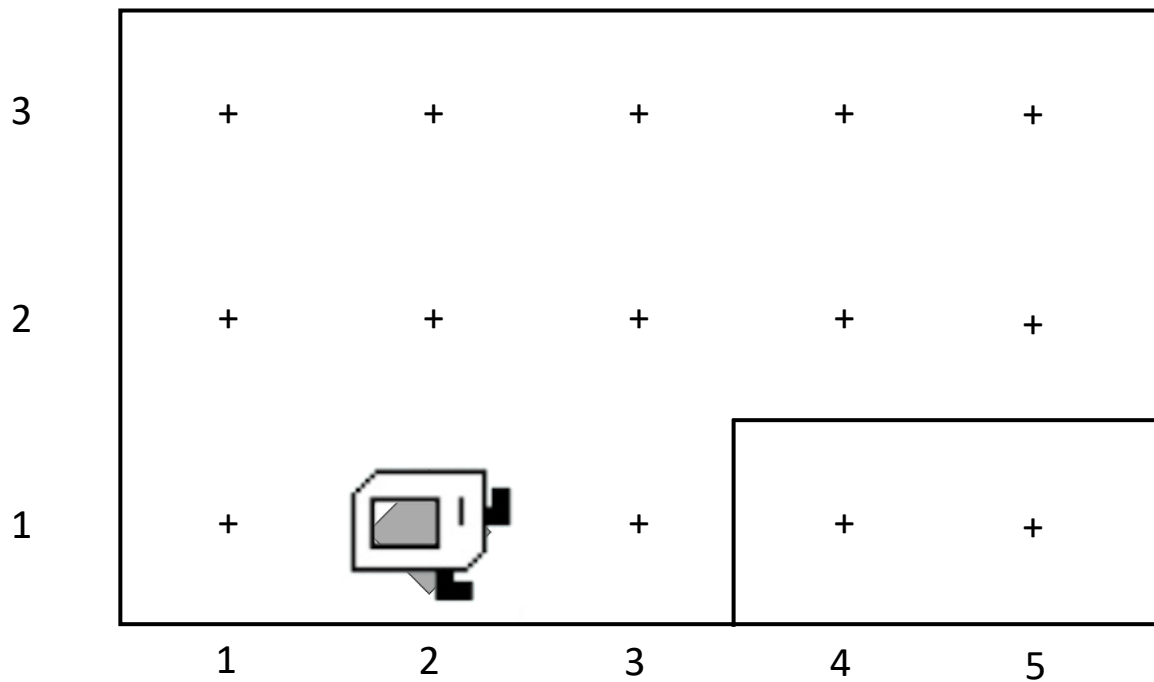


```
turn_left()
```

turn_left()

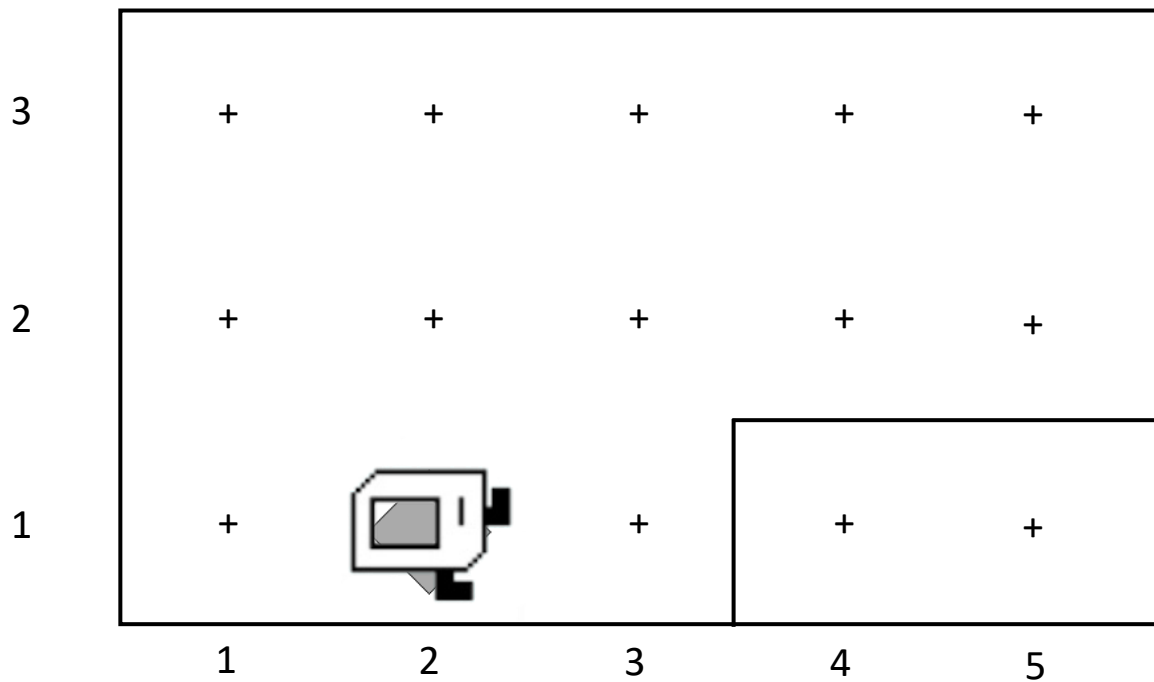


turn_left()

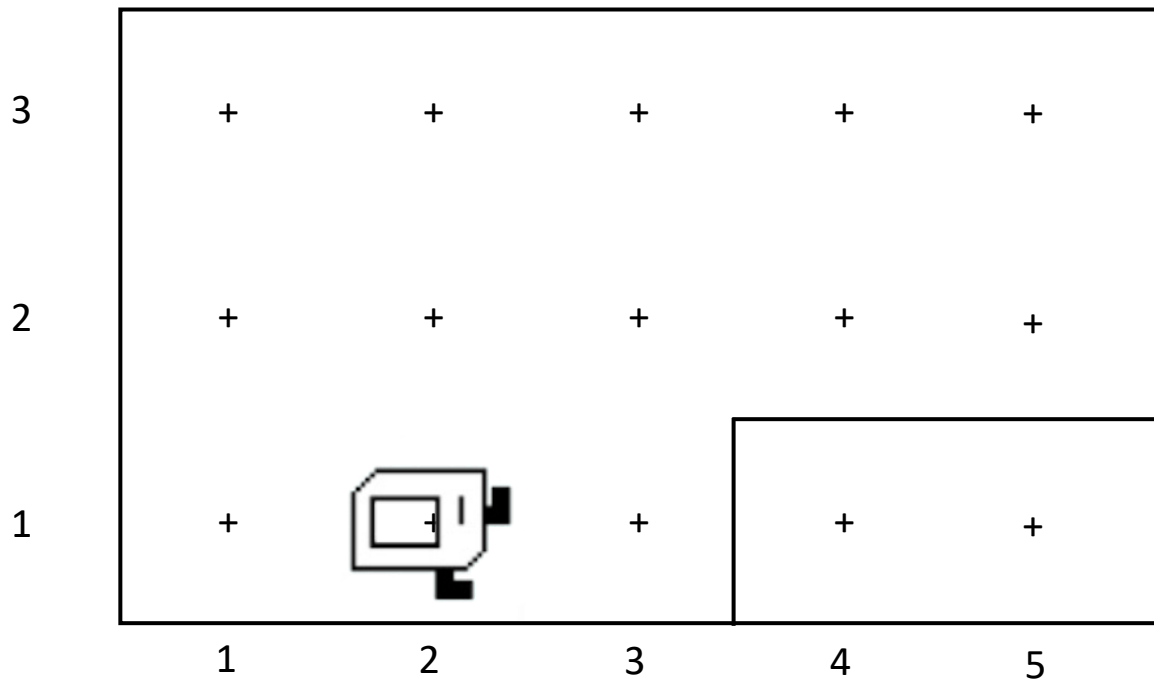


```
pick_beeper( )
```

turn_left()

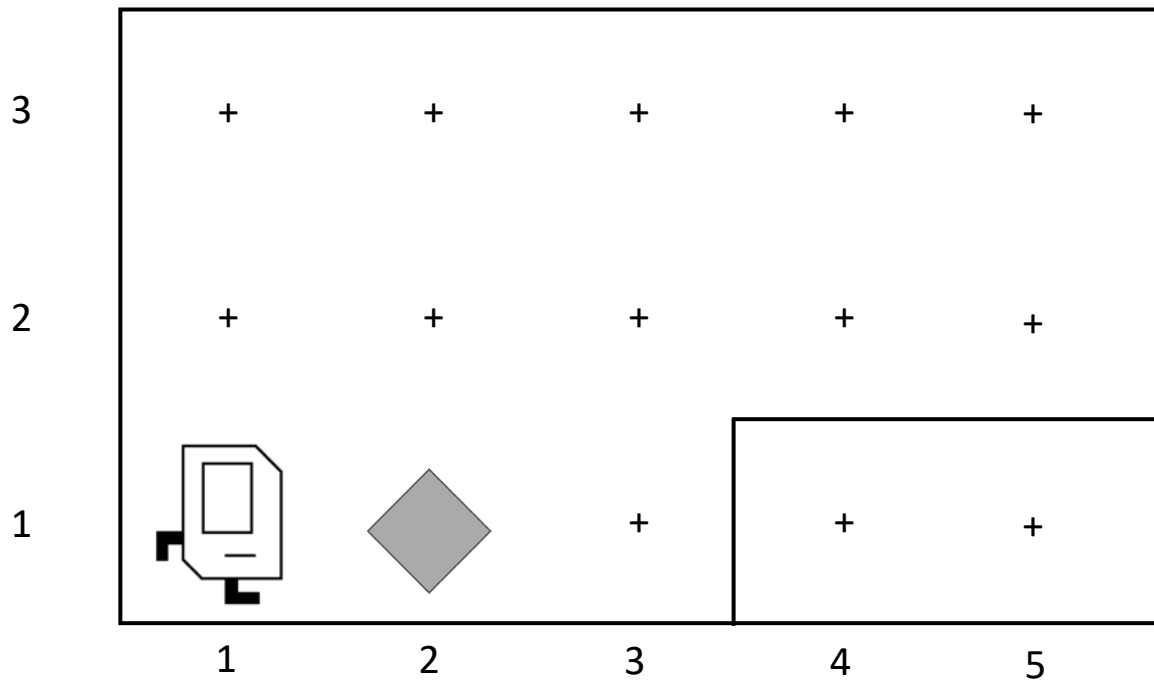


turn_left()

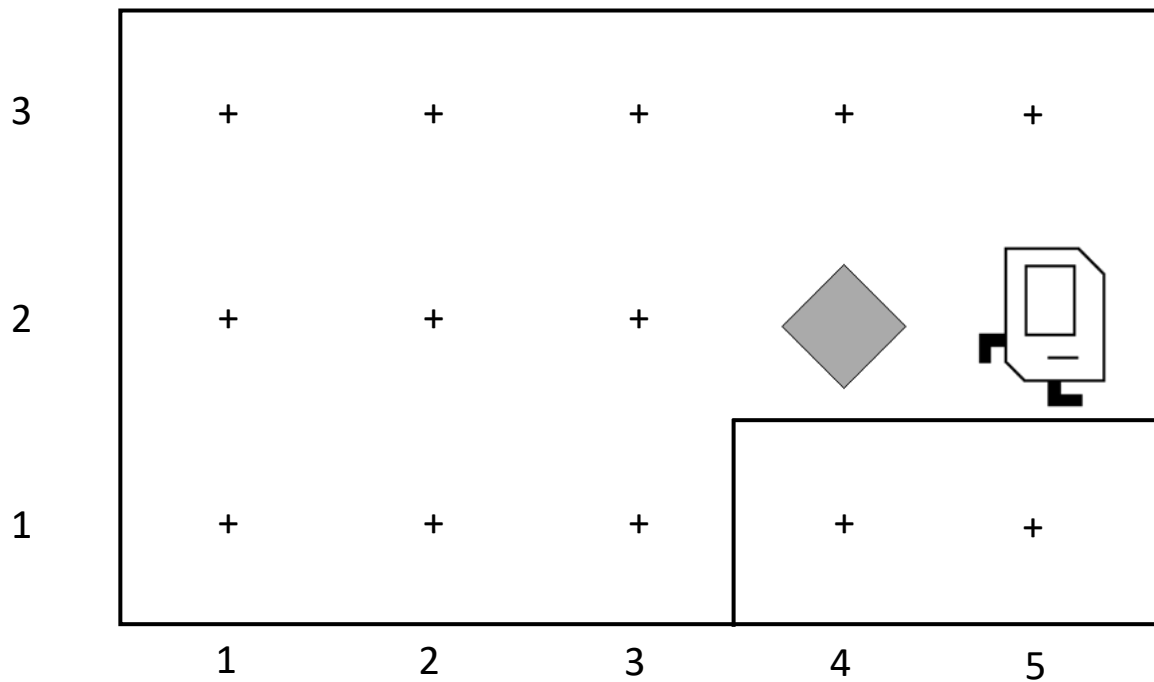


Make Sense?

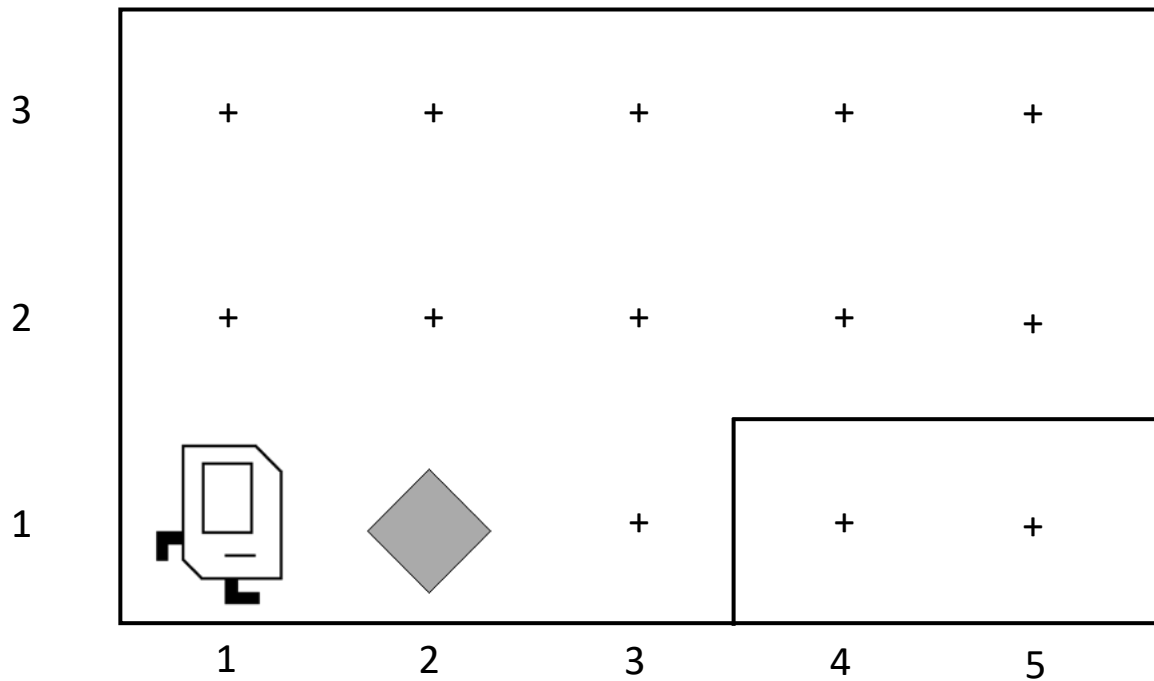
First Challenge



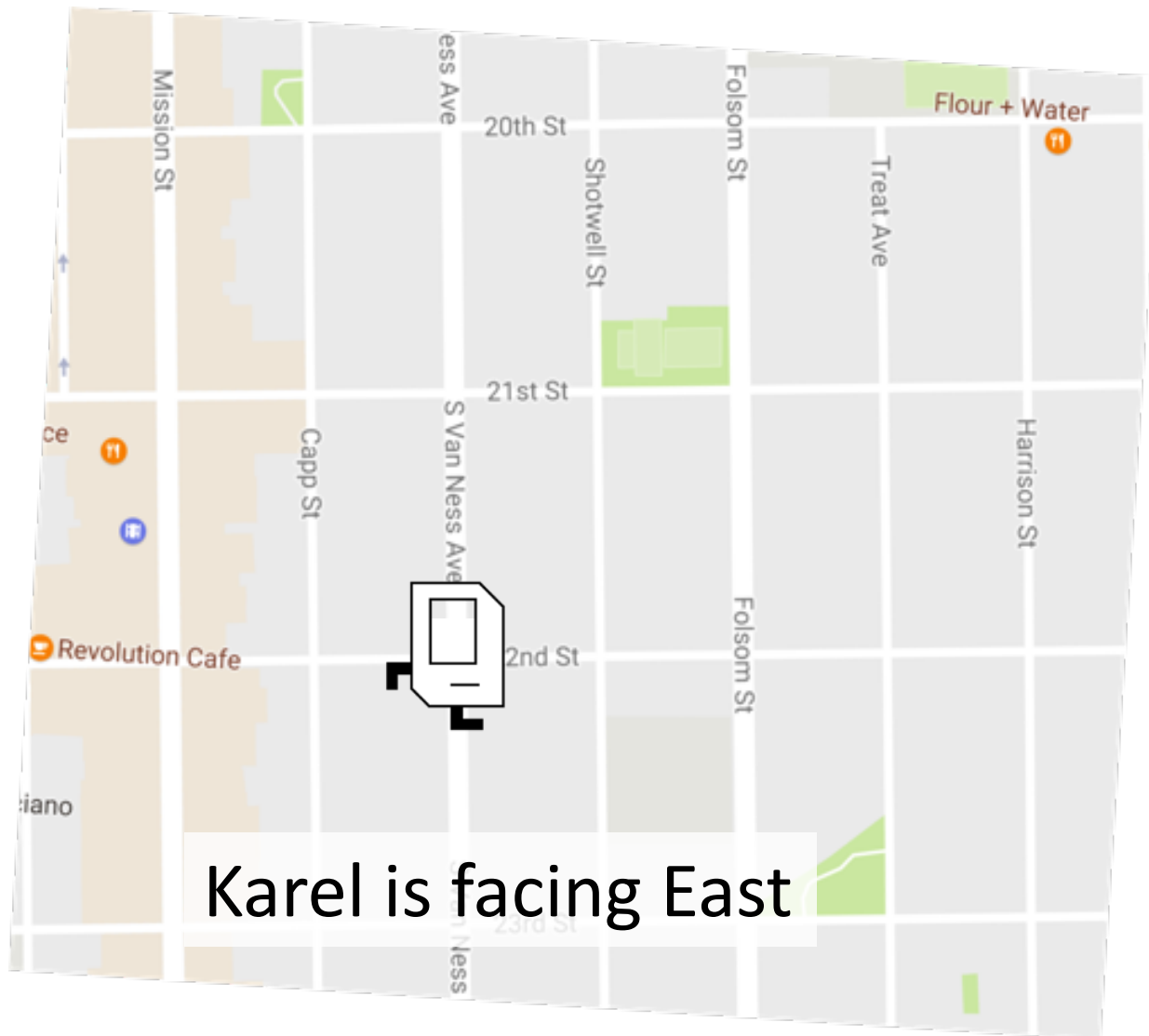
First Challenge



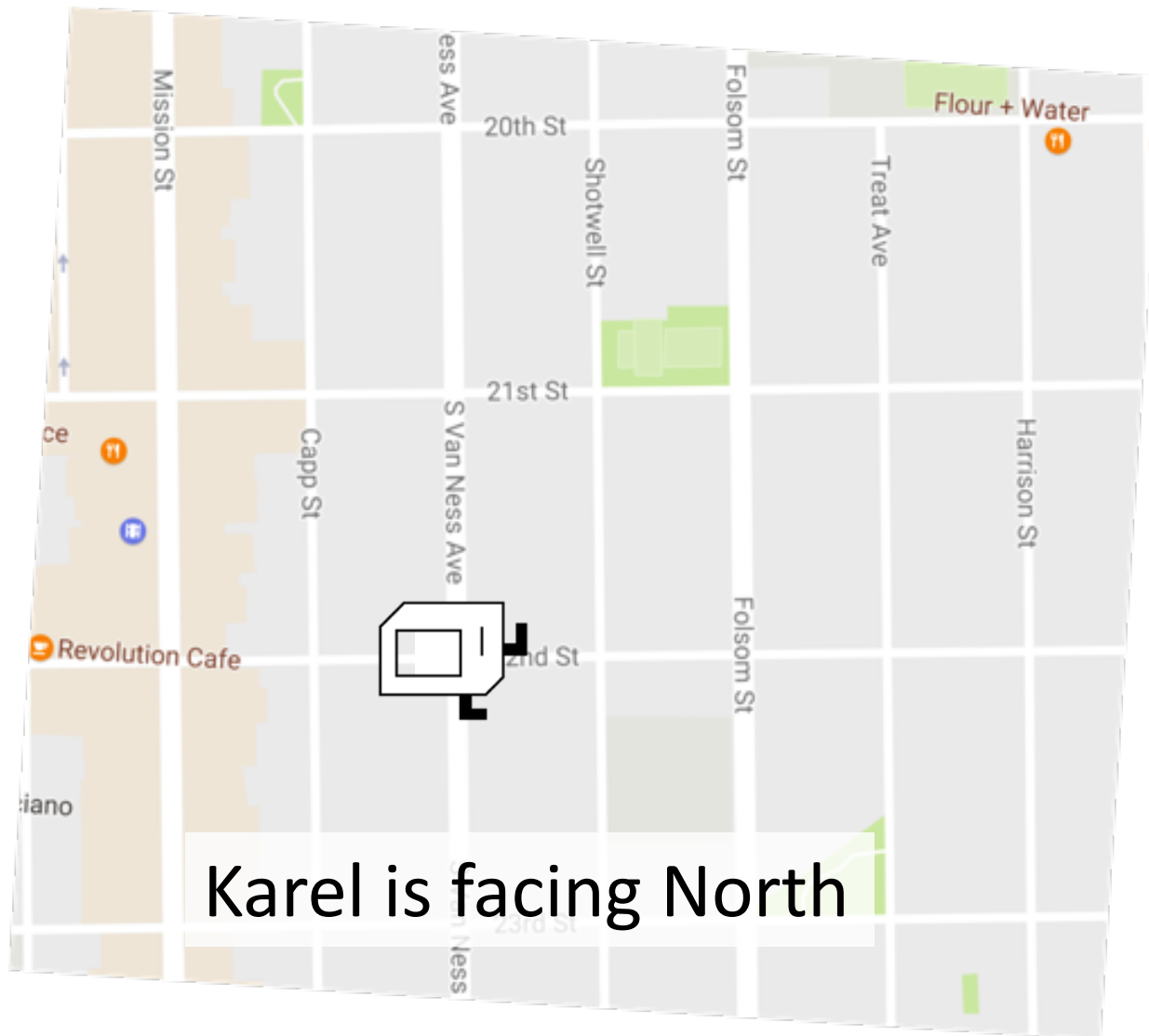
Bird's Eye View



Bird's Eye View



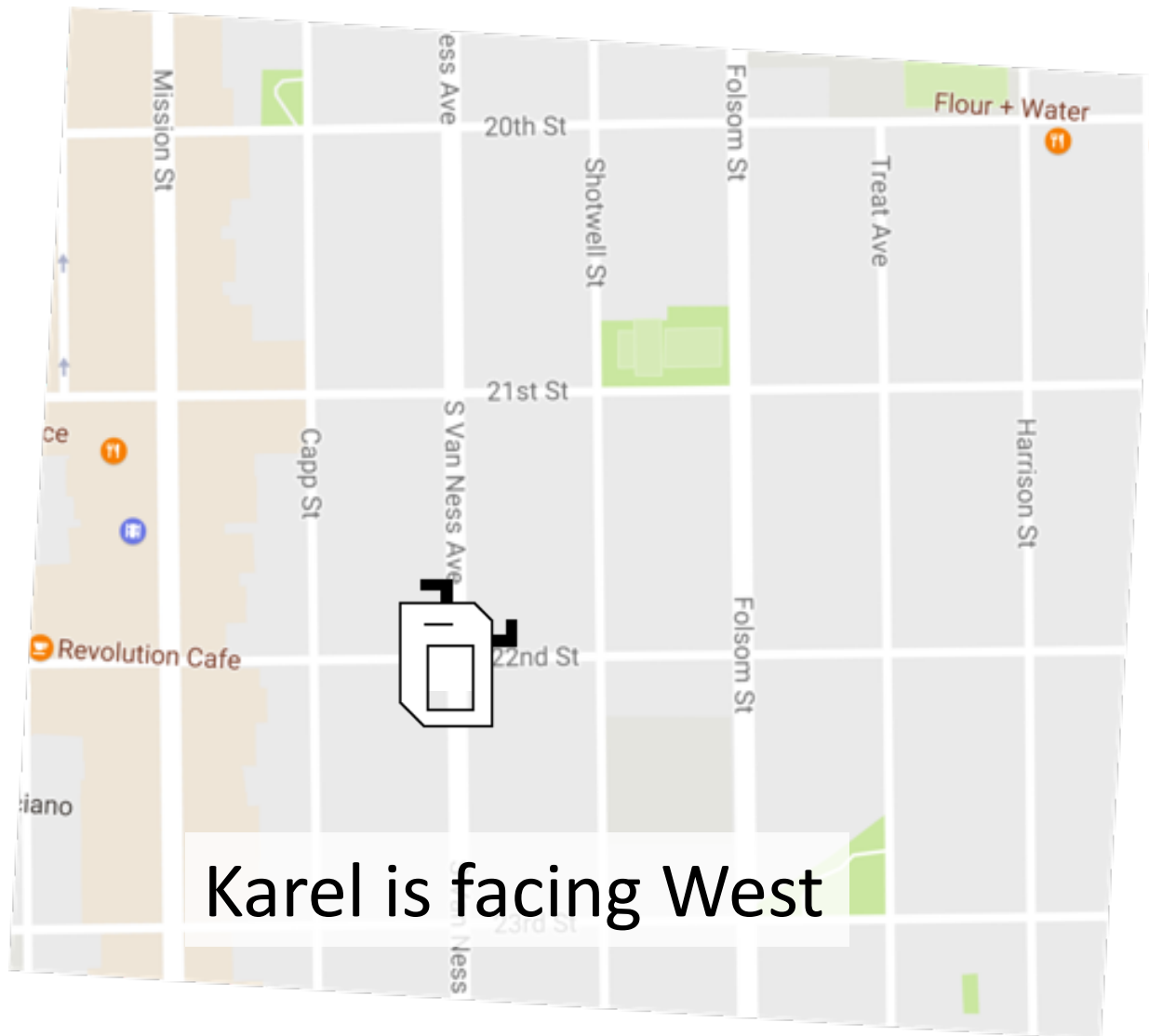
Turn Left



Karel is facing North



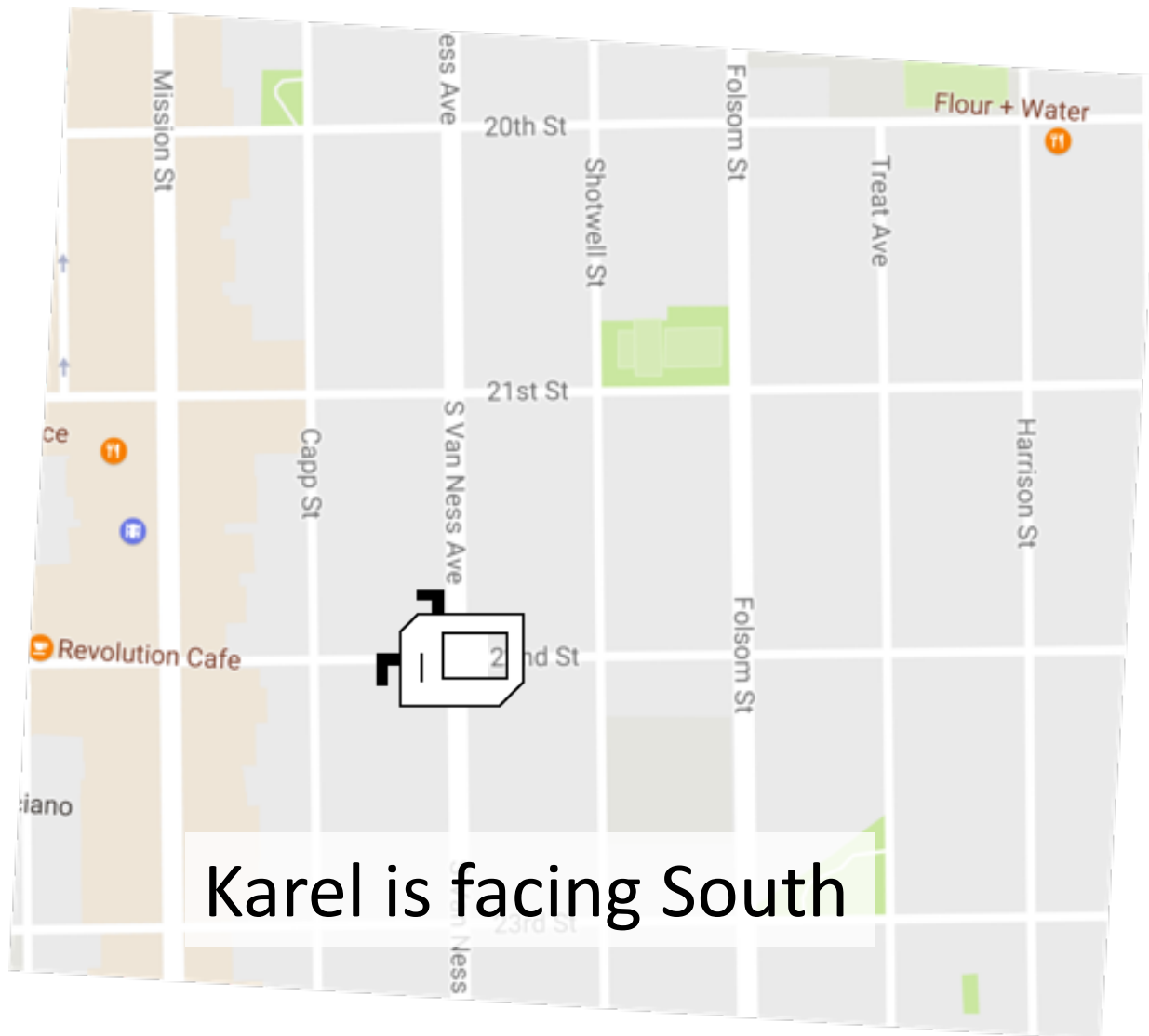
Turn Left



Karel is facing West



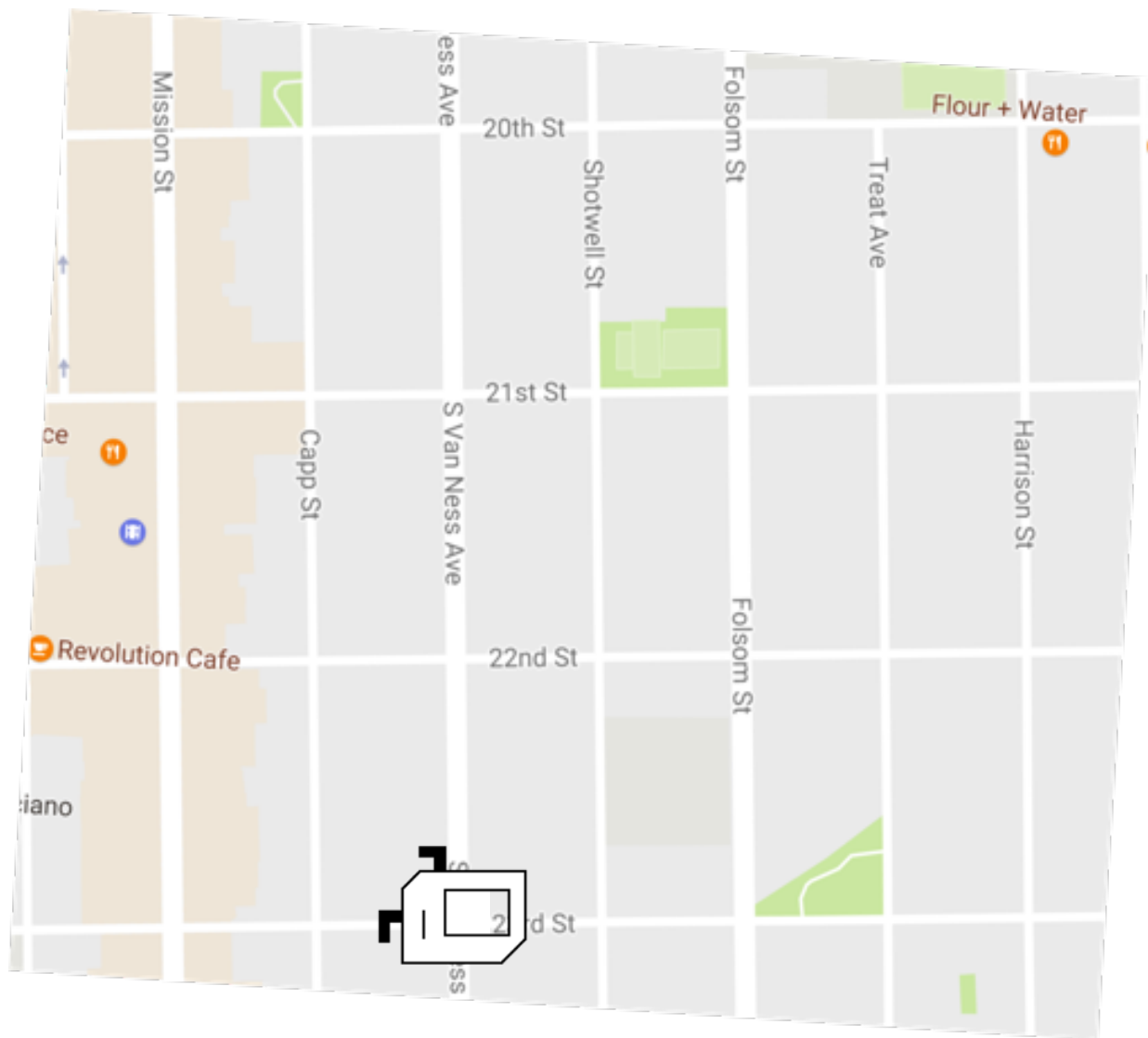
Turn Left



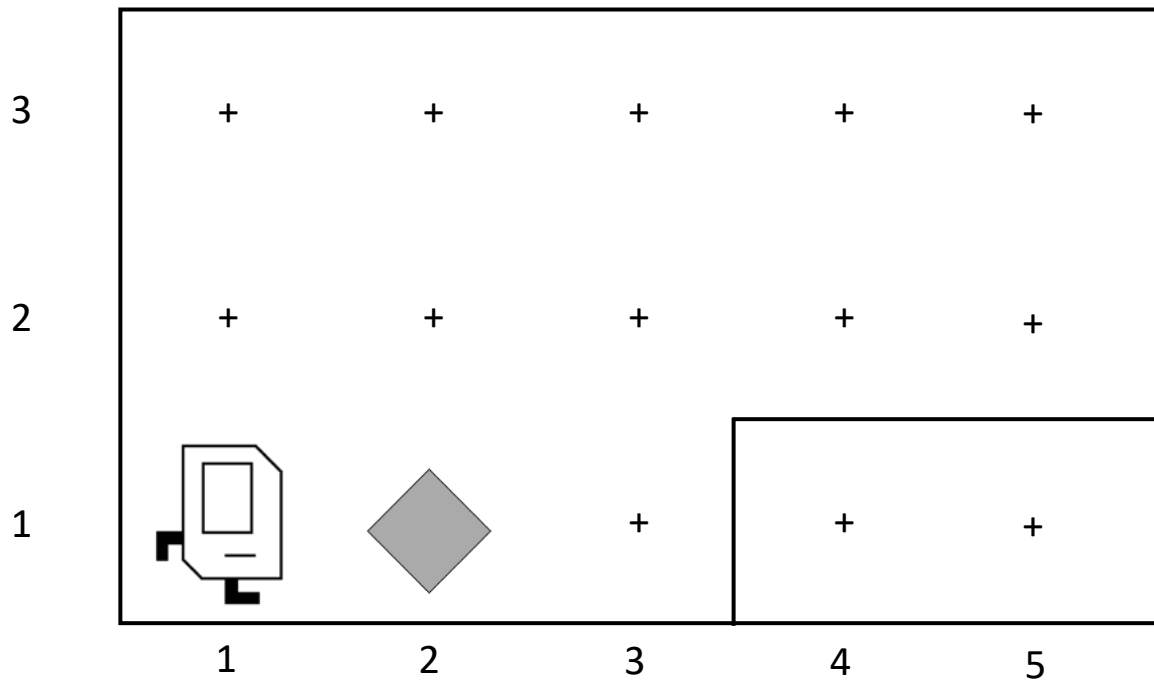
Karel is facing South



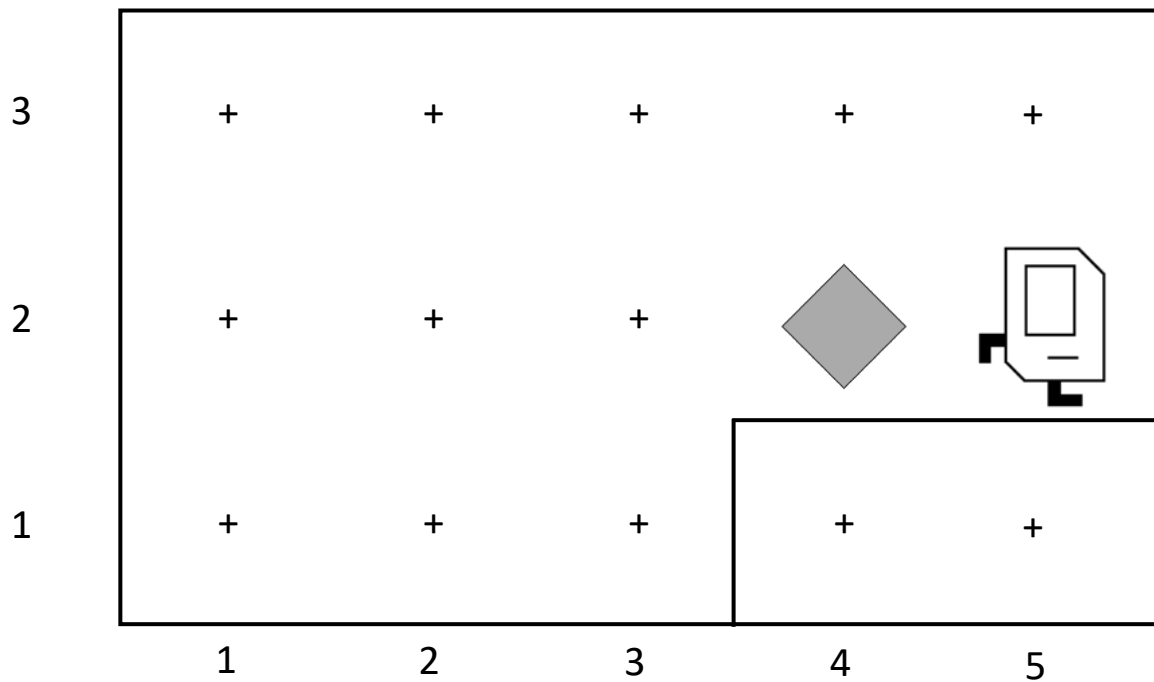
Move



First Challenge



First Challenge





Learn By Doing





PyCharm

The Python IDE
for Professional
Developers

DOWNLOAD

Full-fledged Professional or Free Community



Function Definition

```
def name( ) :  
    function statements
```

This adds a new
command to Karel's
vocabulary



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages

Program



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages

main function

helper functions

start program



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

helper functions

start program



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()  
  
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

start program



Anatomy of a Program

Import Packages

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()  
  
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
  
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This piece of the program's
source code is called a
function.

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This line of code gives the
name of the function
(here, run)

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This line of code gives the
name of the function
(here, turn_right)

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():
```

```
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This is called a *code block*

```
def turn_right():
```

```
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
```

```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This is called a *code block*

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Anatomy of a Program

```
from karel.stanfordkarel import *
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```
def main():  
    move()  
    pick_beeper()  
    move()  
    turn_left()  
    move()  
    turn_right()  
    move()  
    put_beeper()  
    move()
```

This is called a *code block*

```
def turn_right():  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()  
    turn_left()
```

```
if __name__ == "__main__":  
    run_karel_program()
```



Why Study CS?

Joy of Building



Interdisciplinary



Piech and Sahami, CS106A, Stanford University



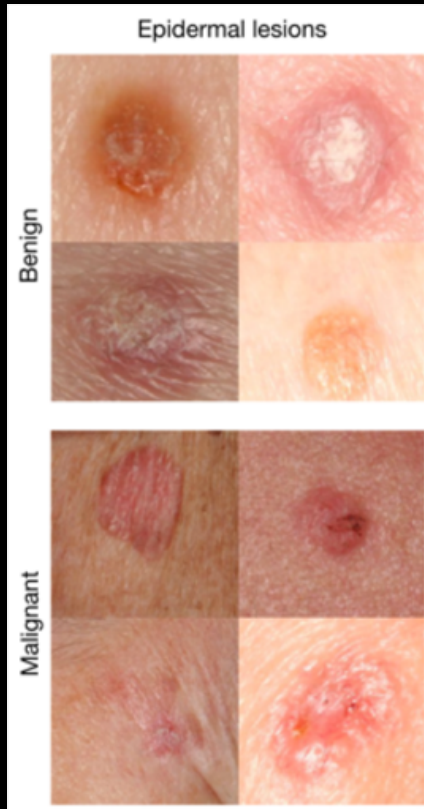
Closest Thing To Magic



Now is the Time



Now is the Time

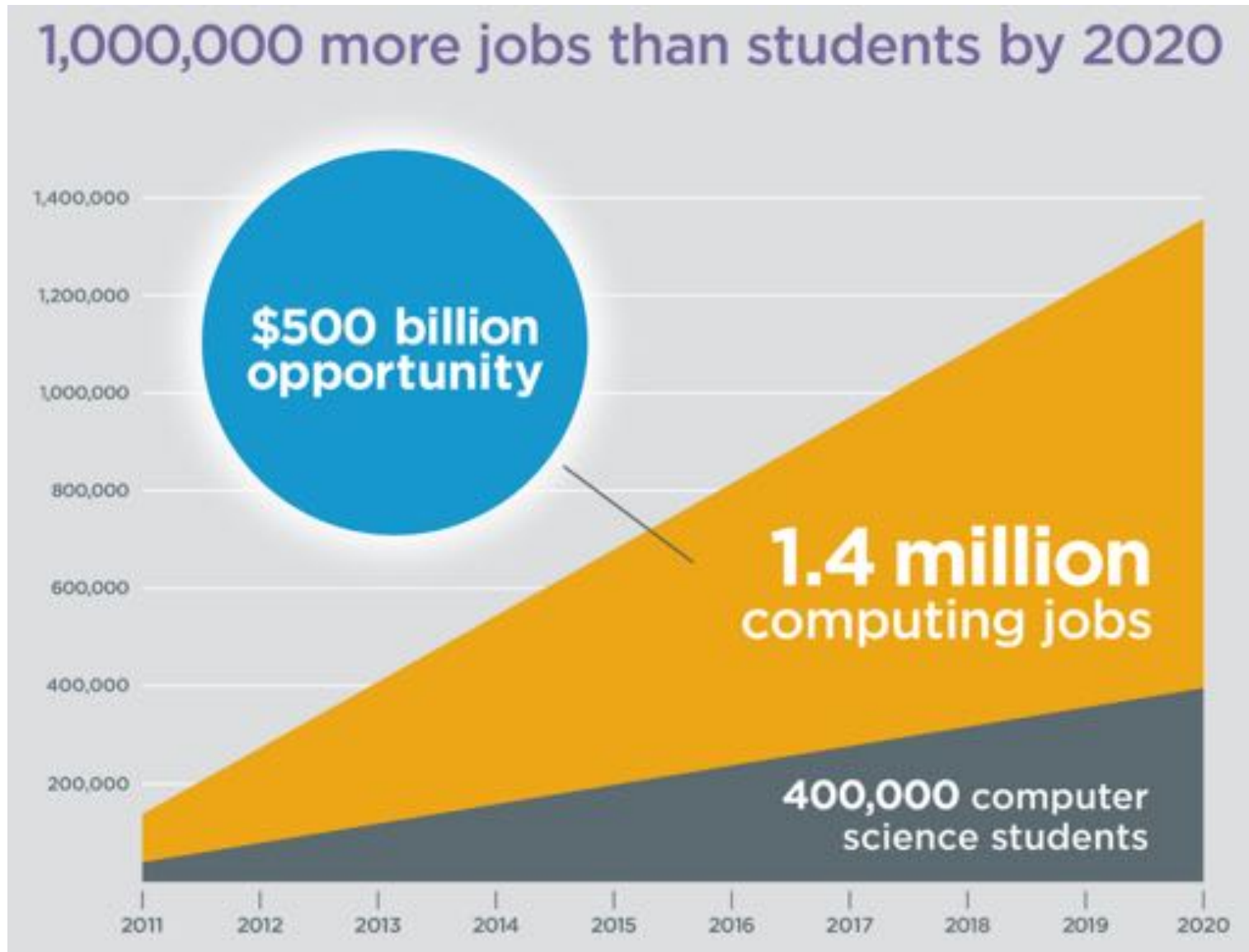


A machine learning algorithm performs **better than** the best dermatologists.

Developed this year, at Stanford.

Esteva, Andre, et al. "Dermatologist-level classification of skin cancer with deep neural networks." *Nature* 542.7639 (2017): 115-118.

Oh and Its Useful



Everyone is Welcome



The End

A black and white photograph of a spinning top toy, which is a dark, elongated, spindle-shaped object with a sharp point at the bottom. It is balanced on its point on a light-colored, textured surface. The background is a blurred, warm-toned wall. The text "The End?" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font in the center of the image.

The End?