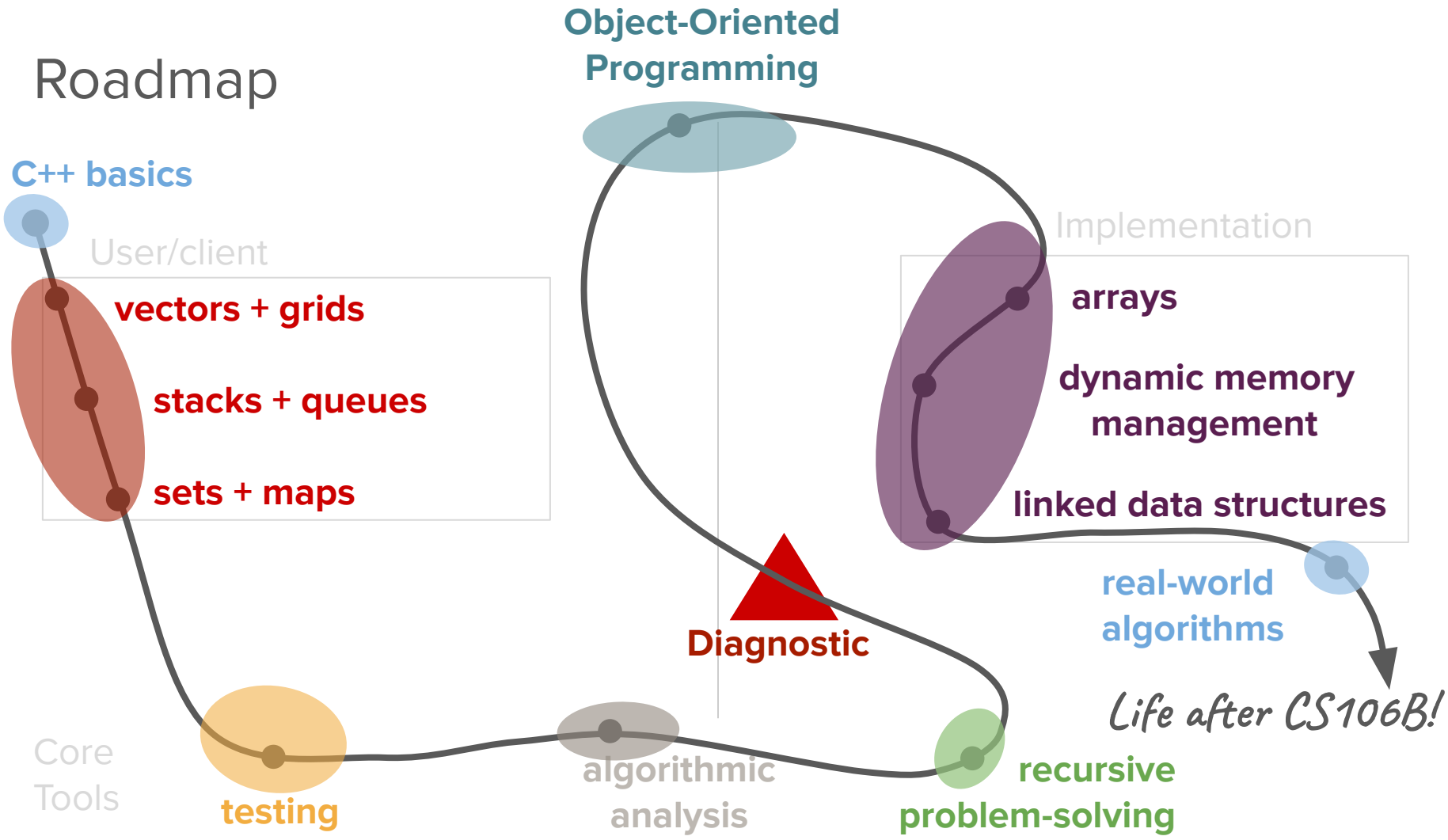
Dynamic Memory and Arrays

What are real-world examples of classes and abstractions?

(put your answers the chat)

Roadmap


Object-Oriented Programming
C++ basics
User/client
vectors + grids
stacks + queues
sets + maps
Implementation
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dynamic memory management
linked data structures
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Diagnostic
Life after CS106B!
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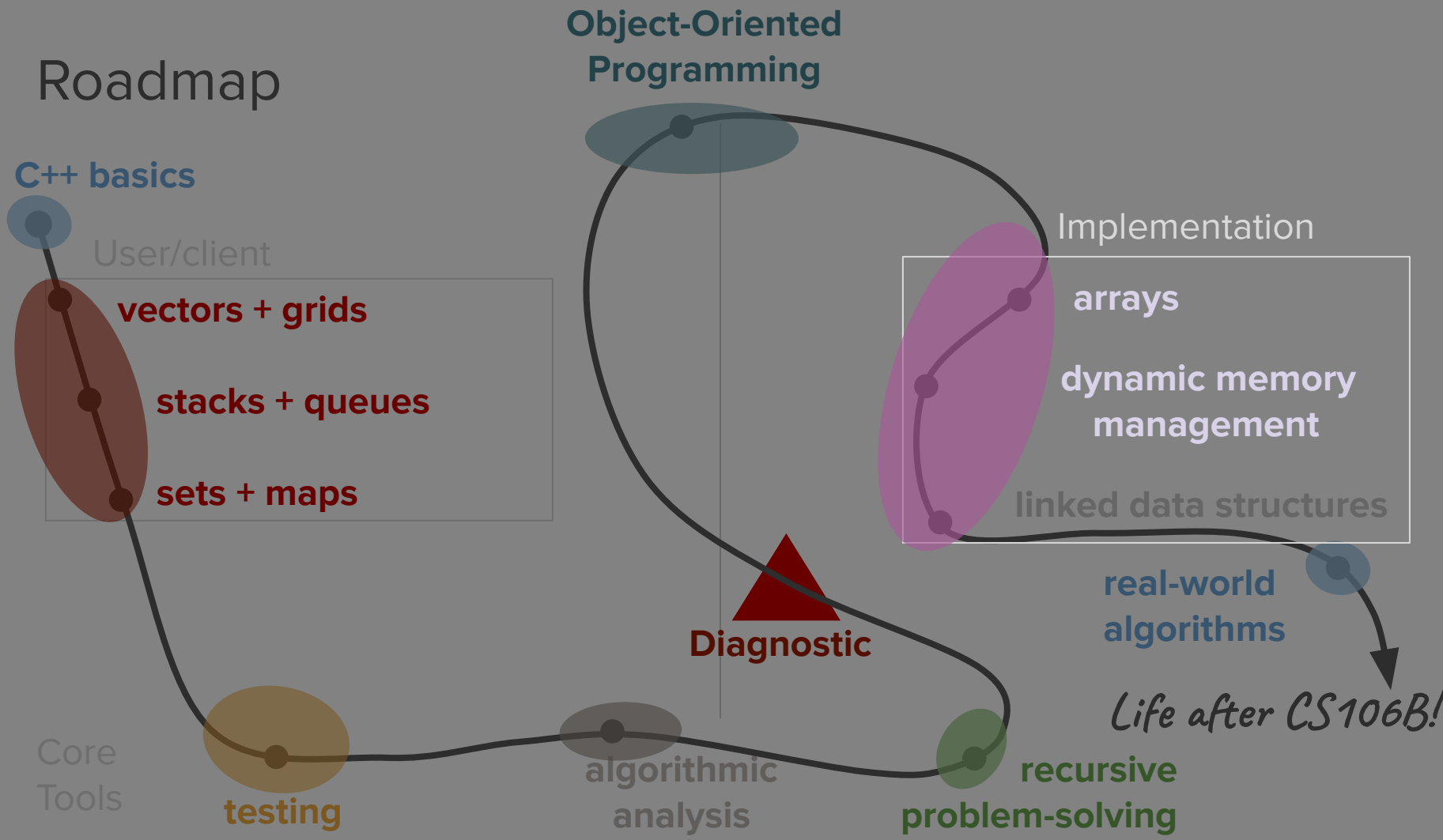
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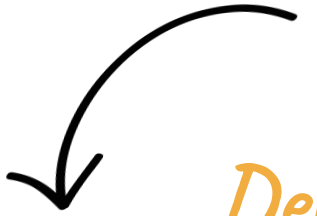
Today's question

What are the fundamental building blocks of data storage provided by C++?

Today's topics

1. Review
2. Classes Wrap-up (Bank Account)
3. Dynamic Allocation and Arrays
4. Implementing OurVector

Review



How do we accomplish this in C++? With classes!

Definition

abstraction

Design that hides the details of how something works while still allowing the user to access complex functionality

Definition

class

A class defines a new data type for our programs to use.

Definition

encapsulation

The process of grouping related information and relevant functions into one unit and defining where that information is accessible

What is a class?

- Examples of classes we've already seen: **`Vector`**s, **`Map`**s, **`Stack`**s, **`Queue`**s

- Every class has two parts:
  - an **interface** specifying what operations can be performed on instances of the class (this defines the abstraction boundary)
  - an **implementation** specifying how those operations are to be performed

- The only difference between structs + classes are the **encapsulation** defaults.
  - A struct defaults to **public** members (accessible outside the class itself).
  - A class defaults to **private** members (accessible only inside the class implementation).

Another way to think about classes...

- A blueprint for a new type of C++ **object**!
  - The blueprint describes a general structure, and we can create specific **instances** of our class using this structure.

Definition

instance

When we create an object that is our new type, we call this creating an instance of our class.

Three main parts

- Member variables
  - These are the variables stored within the class
  - Usually not accessible outside the class implementation

- Member functions (methods)
  - Functions you can call on the object
  - E.g. **`vec.add()`**, **`vec.size()`**, **`vec.remove()`**, etc.

- Constructor
  - Gets called when you create the object
  - E.g. **`Vector<int> vec;`**

How do we design a class?

We must specify the 3 parts:

1. Member variables: *What subvariables make up this new variable type?*

2. Member functions: *What functions can you call on a variable of this type?*

3. Constructor: *What happens when you make a new instance of this type?*

In general, classes are useful in helping us with complex programs where information can be grouped into objects.

Classes in C++

- Defining a class in C++ (typically) requires two steps:
  - Create a **header file** (typically suffixed with `.h`) describing what operations the class can perform and what internal state it needs.
  - Create an **implementation file** (typically suffixed with `.cpp`) that contains the implementation of the class.

- Clients of the class can then include (using the `#include` directive) the header file to use the class.

Takeaways

- Public member variables declared in the header file are automatically accessible in the **`.cpp`** file

- As a best practice, member variables should be private, and you can create public member functions to allow users to edit them

- Member functions have an implicit parameter that allows them to know what object they're operating on

- When you don't have a constructor, there's a default 0 argument constructor that instantiates all private member variables
    - (We'll see an explicit constructor tomorrow!)

An example:
Structs vs. classes
(BankAccount)

Takeaways

- The constructor is a specially defined method for classes that initializes the state of new objects as they are created.
  - Often accepts parameters for the initial state of the fields.
  - Special naming convention defined as **`ClassName()`**
  - You can never directly call a constructor, but one will always be called when declaring a new instance of an object

- **`this`**
  - Refers to the current instance of an object that a method is being called on
  - Similar to the **`self`** keyword in Python and the **`this`** keyword in Java
  - Syntax: **`this->memberVariable`**
  - Common usage: In the constructor, so parameter names can match the names of the object's member variables.

Announcements

Announcements

- The mid-quarter diagnostic will be released later tonight!
  - The link to access your personalized diagnostic access portal will be posted on the homepage of the website tonight at 12:01am PDT Friday and will remain up until 11:59pm PDT Sunday.
  - Do not visit this link until you are ready to complete the diagnostic.
  - We are logging download and submission times – you must download and submit the diagnostic within a 3-hour time span.
- Assignment 3 is due tonight, **Thursday, July 16 at 11:59pm.**
- Trip is hosting a diagnostic review session **tonight at 7pm PDT**.
- Revisions for Assignment 2 are now available.

Words of Advice

- Best of luck on the diagnostic! We hope that you all rock it!
- This is chance to demonstrate how much you've learned in just 3 weeks. The purpose of the diagnostic is truly "diagnostic" – to help you self-assess your own areas of strength and areas of potential growth. We expect everyone to have areas of improvement!
- Make sure to collect the resources that you plan to use in advance.
- Get a good night's sleep, eat a solid meal, get some exercise, and rock the diagnostic!

Where are we now?

classes

object-oriented programming

abstract data structures
(vectors, maps, etc.)

arrays

dynamic memory
management

linked data structures

testing

algorithmic analysis

recursive problem-solving

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We've now crossed the abstraction boundary!

abstract data structures
(vectors, maps, etc.)

arrays

dynamic memory management

linked data structures

testing *algorithmic analysis* *recursive problem-solving*

RandomBag Revisited

```
#pragma once
#include "vector.h"

class RandomBag {
public:
  void add(int value);
  int removeRandom();
  int size() const;
  bool isEmpty() const;

private:
  Vector<int> elems;
};
```

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- But the **`Vector`** type is itself an abstraction (provided library) – what is it layered on top of?

Turtles All the Way Down?

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- But the **`Vector`** type is itself an abstraction (provided library) – what is it layered on top of?

- **Question:** What are the fundamental building blocks provided by the language, and how do we use them to build our own custom classes?

What are the fundamental building blocks of data storage provided by C++?

Getting Storage Space

- The **`Vector`**, **`Stack`**, **`Queue`**, etc. all need storage space to put the elements that they store.

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- Essentially:
  - You can, at runtime, ask for extra storage space, which C++ will give to you.
  - You can use that storage space however you'd like.
  - You have to explicitly tell the language when you're done using the memory.

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  - Contiguous means that each slot is located directly next to the others. There are no "gaps".
  - All arrays have a specific type. Their type dictates what information can be held in each slot.
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Dynamically Allocating Arrays

- First, declare a variable that will point at the newly-allocated array. If the array elements have type `T`, the pointer will have type `T*`.
  - e.g. `int*, string*, Vector<double>*`

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- In two separate steps:

```
T* arr;
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- Or, in the same line:

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- The meaning of these values is what's important. **A pointer always stores a memory address**, which is like the specific coordinates of where a piece of memory exists on the computer.

- Thus, they quite literally "point" to another location on your computer.

Dynamic Allocation Demo

```
int main() {
    int numValues = getInteger("How many lines? ");
    string* arr = new string[numValues];
    for (int i = 0; i < numValues; i++) {
        arr[i] = getLine("Enter a string: ");
    }
    for (int i = 0; i < numValues; i++) {
        cout << i << ": " << arr[i] << endl;
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Because the variable arr points to the array, it is called a pointer.

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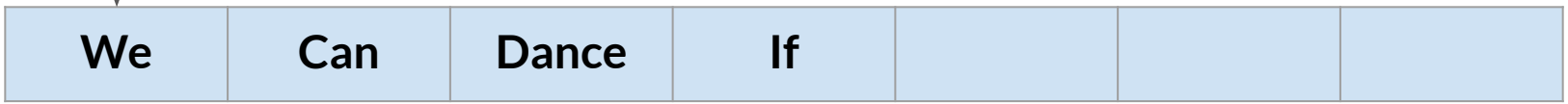

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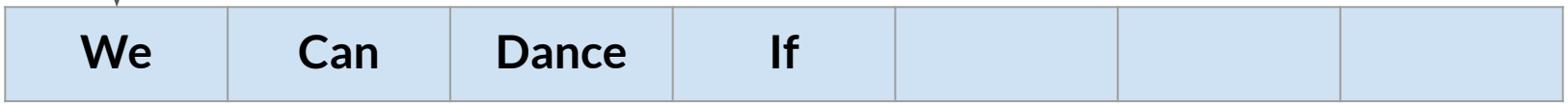

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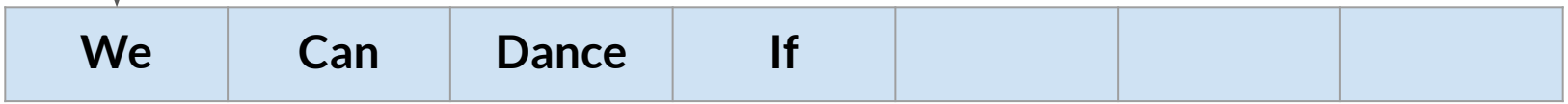

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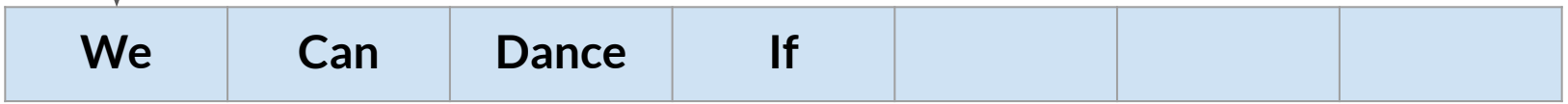

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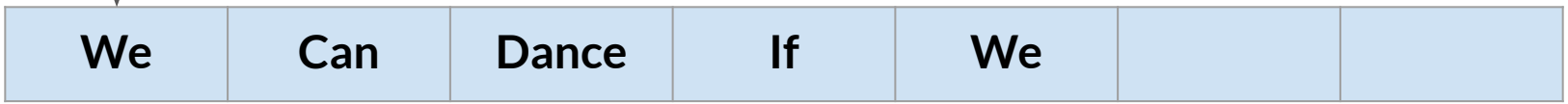

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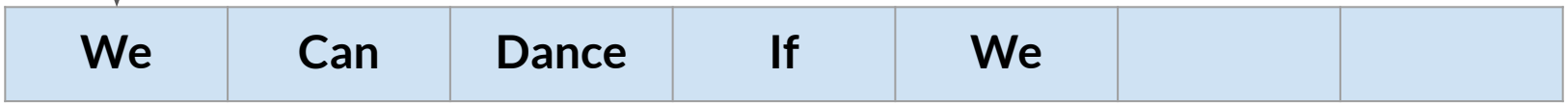

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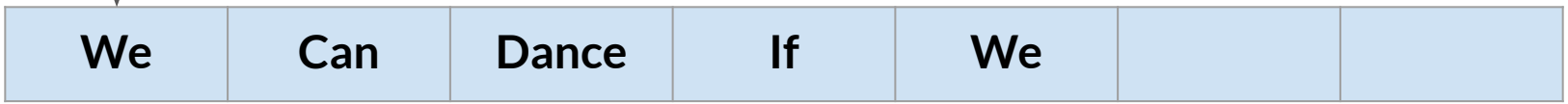

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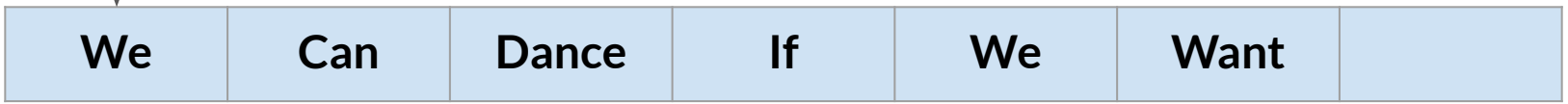

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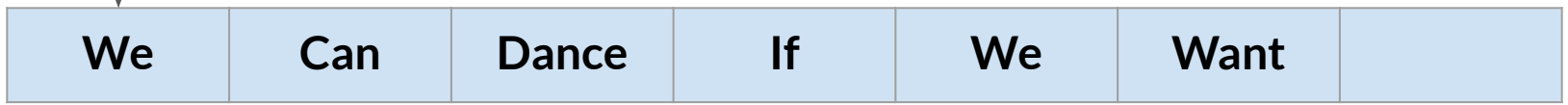

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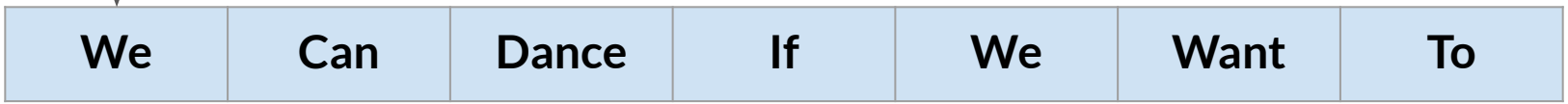

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Dynamically Allocating Arrays

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  - The programmer's version of "conservation of mass."

- The array you get from new[] has **no bounds-checking.** Walking off the beginning or end of an array triggers *undefined behavior*.
  - Literally anything can happen: you read back garbage, you crash your program, you let a hacker take over your computer, or you make the front page of the New York Times...

"All the News That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Late Edition
New York: Today, partly sunny, milder. High 59-64. Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low 48-54. Tomorrow, cloudy, windy, rain developing. High 57-62. Yesterday: High 58, low 41. Details, page D16.

VOL. CXXXVIII... No. 47,679 | NEW YORK, FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1988 | 35 CENTS

The New York Times/Ira Wyman

Gov. Michael S. Dukakis having his picture taken by a 10-year-old fan at a town meeting in Fairless Hills, Pa., during a tour of the Northeast in which he emphasized the drug problem. Page A19. Vice President Bush addressed supporters a rally in Columbus, Ohio. Less than a week after Mr. Dukakis acknowledged being a liberal, Mr. Bush said yesterday that "this election is not about labels." Page A18.

'Virus' in Military Computers Disrupts Systems Nationwide

By JOHN MARKOFF

In an intrusion that raises questions about the vulnerability of the nation's computers, a Department of Defense network has been disrupted since Wednesday by a rapidly-spreading "virus" program apparently introduced by a computer science student.

The program reproduced itself through the computer network, making hundreds of copies in each machine it reached, effectively clogging systems linking thousands of military, corporate and university computers around the nation and preventing them from doing additional work. The virus is thought not to have destroyed any files.

By late yesterday afternoon computer experts were calling the virus the largest assault ever on the nation's computers.

'The Big Issue'

"The big issue is that a relatively benign software program can virtually bring our computing community to its knees and keep it there for some time," said Chuck Cole, deputy computer security manager at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in Livermore, Calif., one of the sites affected by the intrusion. "The cost is going to be staggering."

Clifford Stoll, a computer security expert at Harvard University, added: "There is not one system manager who is not tearing his hair out. It's causing enormous headaches."

The affected computers carry a tremendous variety of business and research information among military officials, researchers and corporations.

While some sensitive military data are involved, the computers handling the nation's most sensitive secret information, like that on the control of nuclear weapons, are thought not to have been touched by the virus.

Parallel to Biological Virus

Computer viruses are so named because they parallel in the computer world the behavior of biological viruses. A virus is a program, or a set of instructions to a computer, that is either planted on a floppy disk meant to be used with the computer or introduced when the computer is communicating over telephone lines or data networks with other computers.

The programs can copy themselves into the computer's master software, or operating system, usually without calling any attention to themselves. From there, the program can be passed to additional computers.

Depending upon the intent of the software's creator, the program might cause a provocative but otherwise harmless message to appear on the computer's screen. Or it could systematically destroy data in the computer's memory. In this case, the virus program did nothing more than reproduce itself rapidly.

The program was apparently a result of an experiment, which

Continued on Page A21, Column 3

Registration Off Since 1984 Vote

There has been a pronounced decline in the percentage of eligible Americans who are registered to vote, a research group reports.

Nationally, the percentage of eligible Americans who are registered is estimated to be 78.3 percent, down 2.2 points from the 1984 level.

The group's study concluded that in many of the 30 states where final figures are available the decline was among

PENTAGON REPORTS IMPROPER CHARGES FOR CONSULTANTS

CONTRACTORS CRITICIZED

Inquiry Shows Routine Billing of Government by Industry on Foes, Some Dubious

By JOHN H. CUSHMAN Jr.
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3 — A Pentagon investigation has found that the nation's largest military contractors routinely charge the Defense Department for hundreds of millions of dollars paid to consultants, often without justification.

The report of the investigation said that neither the military's current rules nor the contractors' own policies are adequate to assure that the Government does not improperly pay for privately arranged consulting work. Senior Defense Department officials said the Pentagon was proposing changes to correct the flaws.

While it is not improper for military contractors to use consultants in performing work for the Pentagon, the work must directly benefit the military if it is to be paid for by the Defense Department. Often, Pentagon investigators discovered, this test is not met.

Broader Look at Consultants

The Justice Department's continuing criminal investigation has focused attention on consultants and their role in the designing and selling of weapons, and the Defense Department has been criticized for using consultants too freely. Now the Pentagon's own inves-

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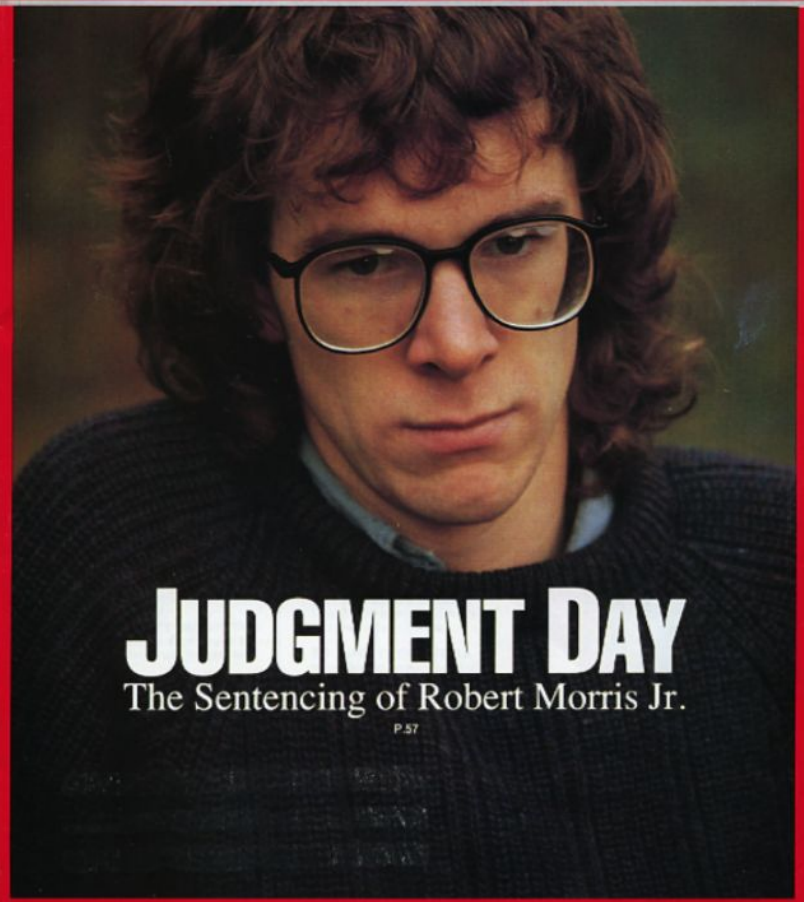

JUDGMENT DAY

The Sentencing of Robert Morris Jr.

P.57

Late Edition

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Memory from the Stack vs. Heap

```
Vector<string> varOnStack;
```

- Until today, all variables we've created get defined on the **stack**
- This is called static memory allocation
- Variables on the stack are stored directly to the memory and access to this memory is very fast
- We don't have to worry about memory management

```
string* arr = new string[numValues];
```

- We can now request memory from the **heap**
- This is called dynamic memory allocation
- We have more control over variables on the heap
- But this means that we also have to handle the memory we're using carefully and properly clean it up when done

Cleaning Up

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- When using **`new`**, you are responsible for deallocating the memory you allocate.

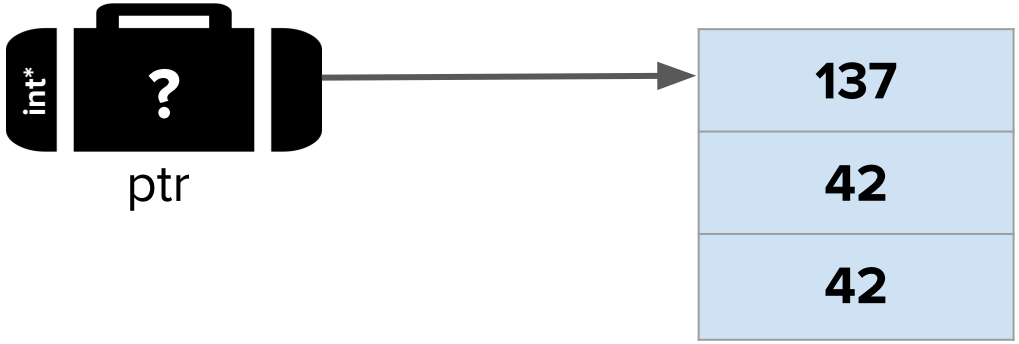
- If you don't, you get a **memory leak**. Your program will never be able to use that memory again.
  - Too many leaks can cause a program to crash – it's important to not leak memory!

Cleaning Up

- You can deallocate (free) memory with the `delete[]` operator:

```
delete[] ptr;
```

- This destroys the array pointed to by the given pointer, not the pointer itself.
  - You can think of this operation as relinquishing control over the memory back to the computer.



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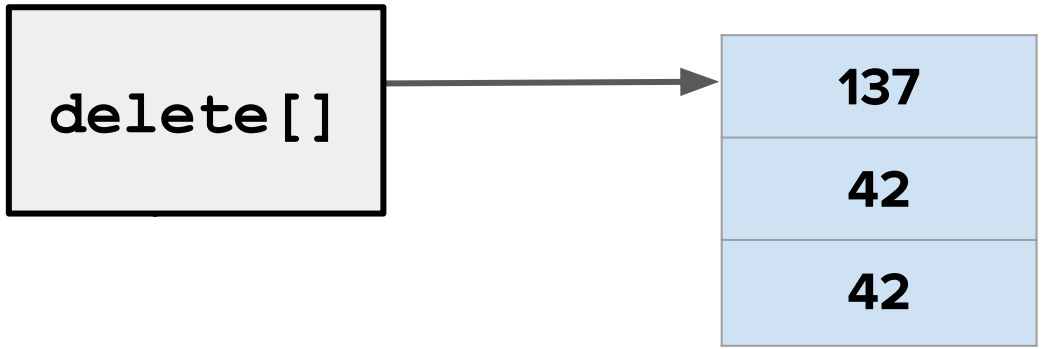

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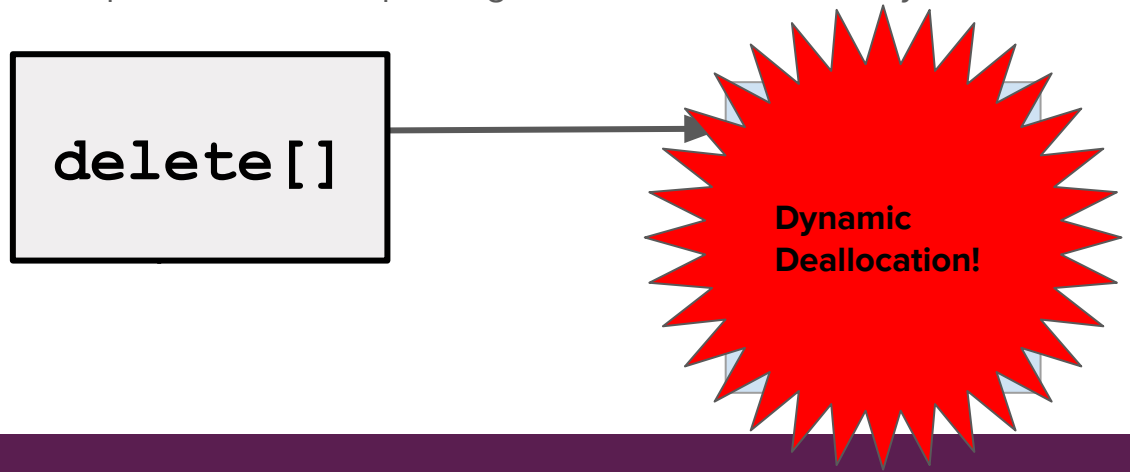

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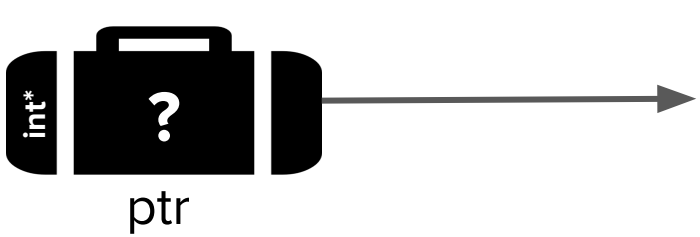

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ptr

`ptr` is now a **dangling pointer**. We can re-assign it to point somewhere else, but if we try to read from it or write to it, very bad, bad things will happen!

Takeaways

- You can create arrays of a fixed size at runtime by using **`new[]`**.
- C++ arrays don’t know their lengths and have no bounds-checking. With great power comes great responsibility.
- You are responsible for freeing any memory you explicitly allocate by calling **`delete[]`**.
- Once you’ve deleted the memory pointed at by a pointer, you have a dangling pointer and shouldn’t read or write from it.

Designing OurVector

Arrays vs. Vectors – A Common Mistake

- Notice that we access the elements of an array just like we access them in a Vector, with square brackets.
- **BUT arrays are not objects** – they don't have any functions associated with them.
- So, you can't do this:

```
int len = firstTen.length(); // ERROR! No functions!
firstTen.add(42); // ERROR! No functions!
firstTen[10] = 42; // ERROR! Buffer overflow!
```

Breakout Activity: **`OurVector`** class design

Summary

Dynamic Memory and Arrays

- We’ve learned about **classes**, which have an **interface** and **implementation**.

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  - We use the keyword **new** to allocate dynamic memory.
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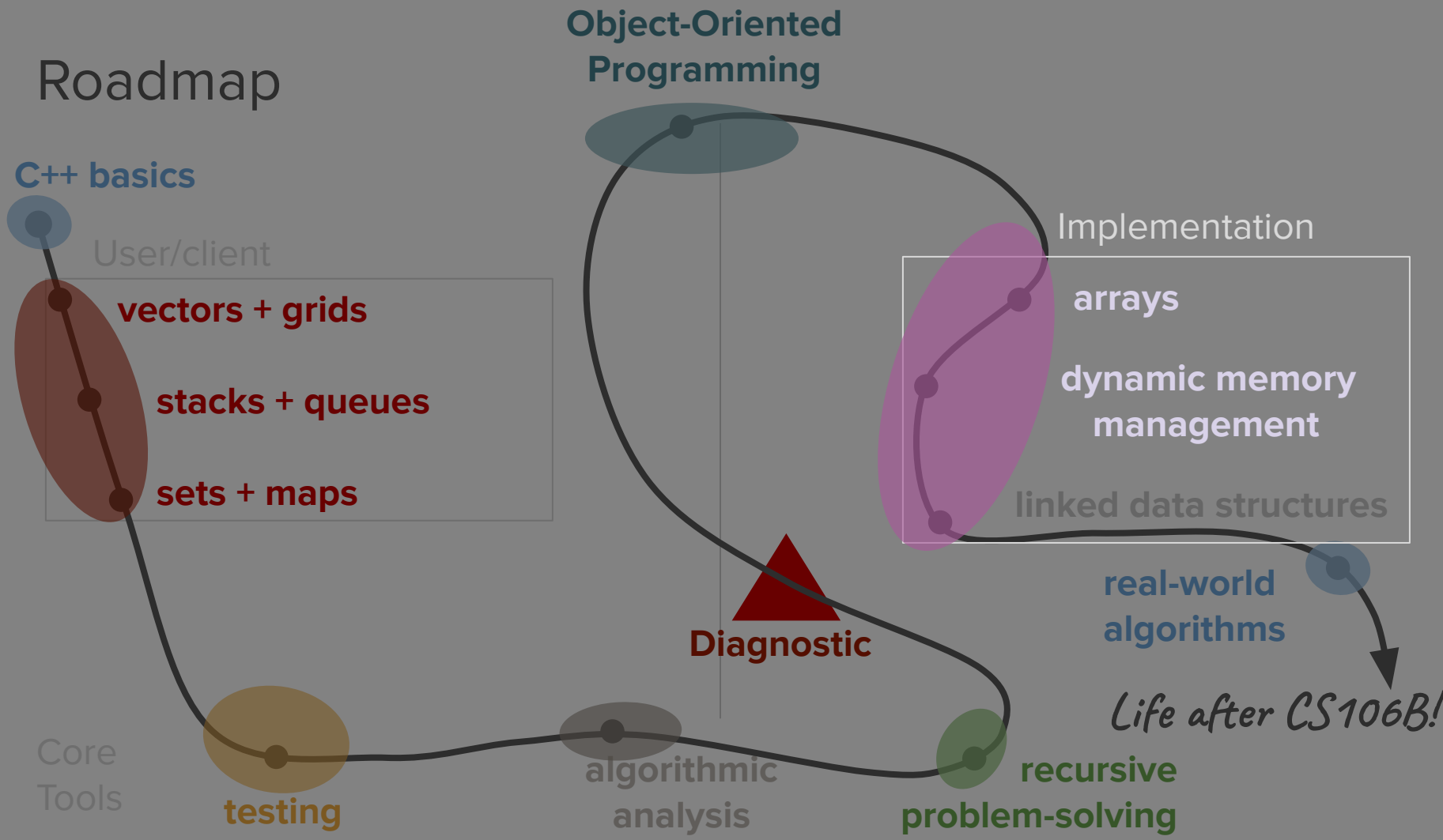
- So far, we've learned how to allocate dynamic memory using **arrays**, which give us a contiguous block of memory that all stores one particular type (int, string, double, etc.).

What’s next?

Roadmap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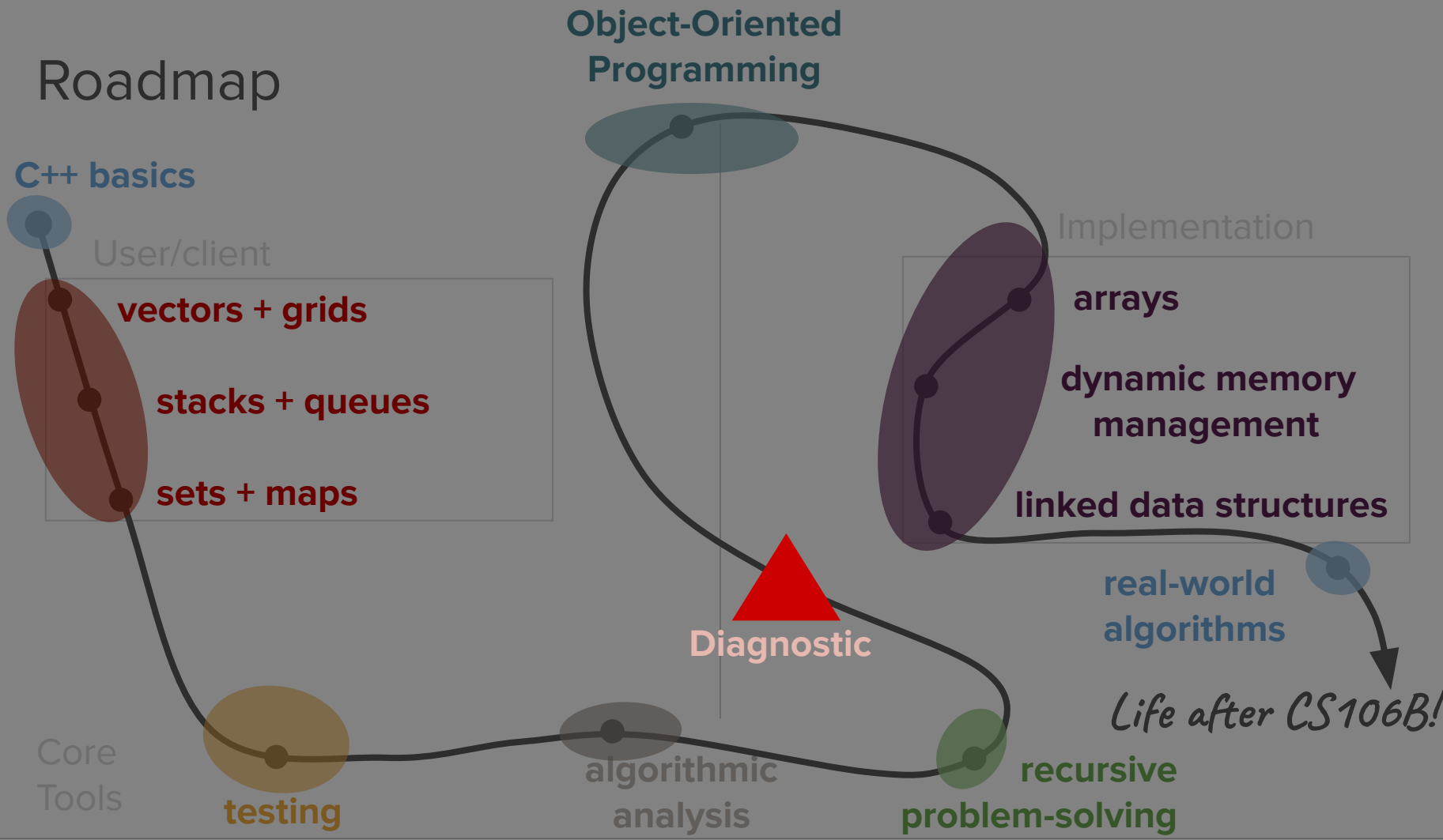
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