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What is a “Better” Program?



C++ Object Oriented Programming

Pei-yih Ting

NTOU CS

軟體的特性

- ◇ 軟體之所謂軟...因為沒有“硬性”不可變、不可挑戰的規則

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模型化 (資料結構, 演算法, 物件化, 設計樣版)

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Source code is the design

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正確性無關：接下來是一個很簡單的例子，共有七個版本，執行結果都是正確的

Version 1

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void main()
04 {
05     int d[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
06     int n = 8;
07     int *d1, *d2;
08     int *p;
09     int *e;
10
11     d1 = d;
12     d2 = d+n;
13     while (d1<d2)
14     {
15         p = d1;
16         e = d1 + 1;
17         while (e<d2)
18         {
19             if (*e<*p) p = e;
20             e++;
21         }
22         n = *p;
23         *p = *d1;
24         *d1 = n;
25         d1++;
26     }
27     printf("Sorted data:\n");
28     d1 = d;
29     while (d1<d2)
30         printf(" %d", *d1++);
31     printf("\n");
32 }
```

Execution Results

Sorted data:

3 5 8 12 15 24 33 37

由小至大按順序排列

What is this program doing?

Initial view

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Don't like it!!??

What is this program doing?

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- ✧ Input array initialized with unordered integers
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Don't like it!!??

- ✧ Pointers

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- ✧ Pointers
- ✧ Generic while loops

What is this program doing?

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- ✧ Pointers
- ✧ Generic while loops
- ✧ Mysterious variable names (identifier means nothing)

What is this program doing?

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- ✧ Pointers
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- ✧ Deep control structures

What is this program doing?

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Don't like it!!??

- ✧ Pointers
 - ✧ Generic while loops
 - ✧ Mysterious variable names (identifier means nothing)
 - ✧ Deep control structures
- Looks like a snippet of low level assembly instructions

Remove Unnecessary Pointers

- ❖ Pointers are sophisticated and sometimes inevitable, but not always.

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Array syntax has much better semantic meaning than the generic **pointer dereferencing and arithmetics**.

```
int array[100];  
int *ptr=array;  
int i, sum = 0;  
...  
for (i=0; i<100; i++)  
    sum += *ptr++;
```

Remove Unnecessary Pointers

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- ❖ In the case of **accessing memory blocks**, pointers are error prone, use array whenever possible.

Array syntax has much better semantic meaning than the generic **pointer dereferencing and arithmetics**.

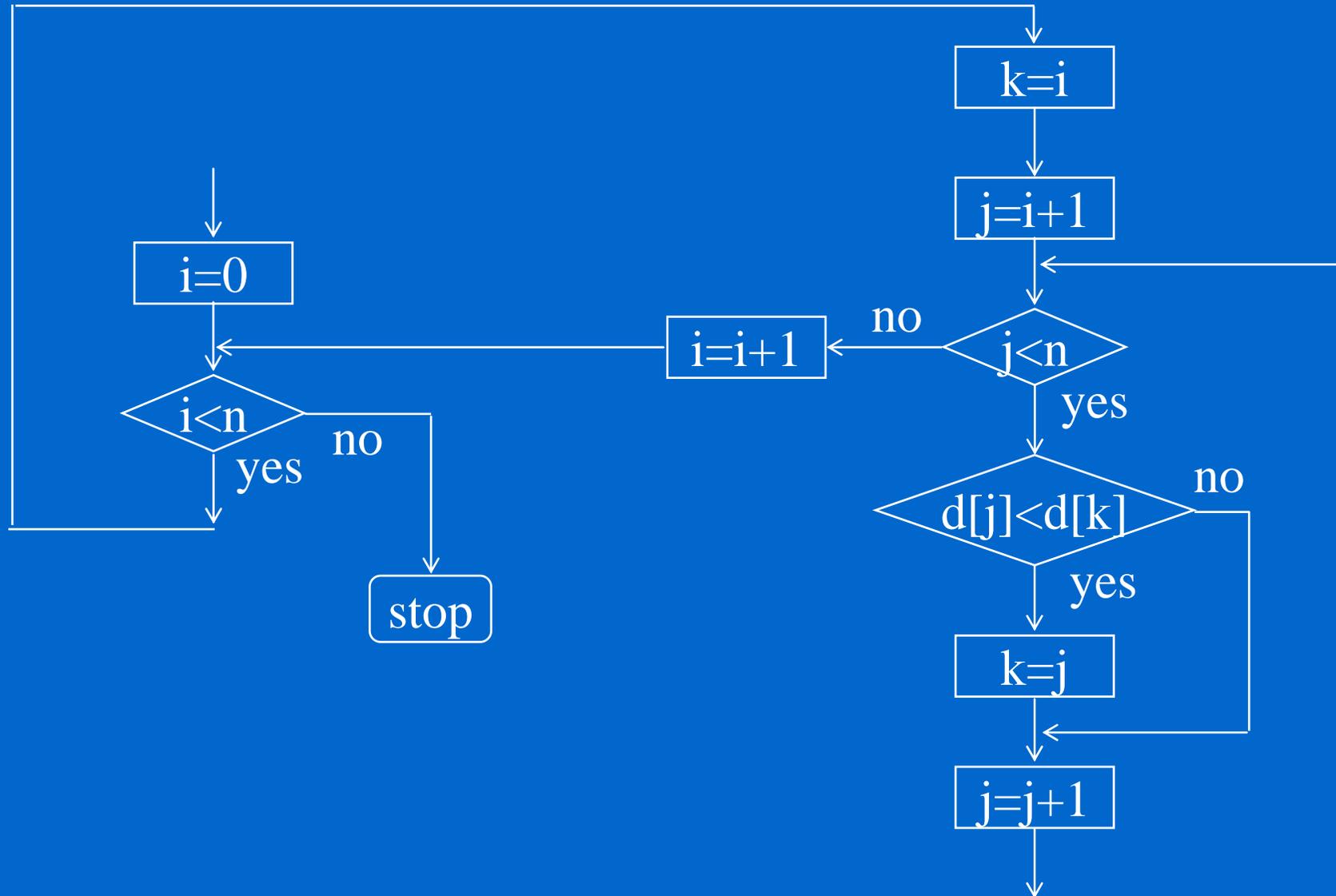
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int array[100];
int *ptr=array;
int i, sum = 0;
...
for (i=0; i<100; i++)
    sum += *ptr++;
```

```
int array[100];
int i;
int sum = 0;
...
for (i=0; i<100; i++)
    sum += array[i];
```

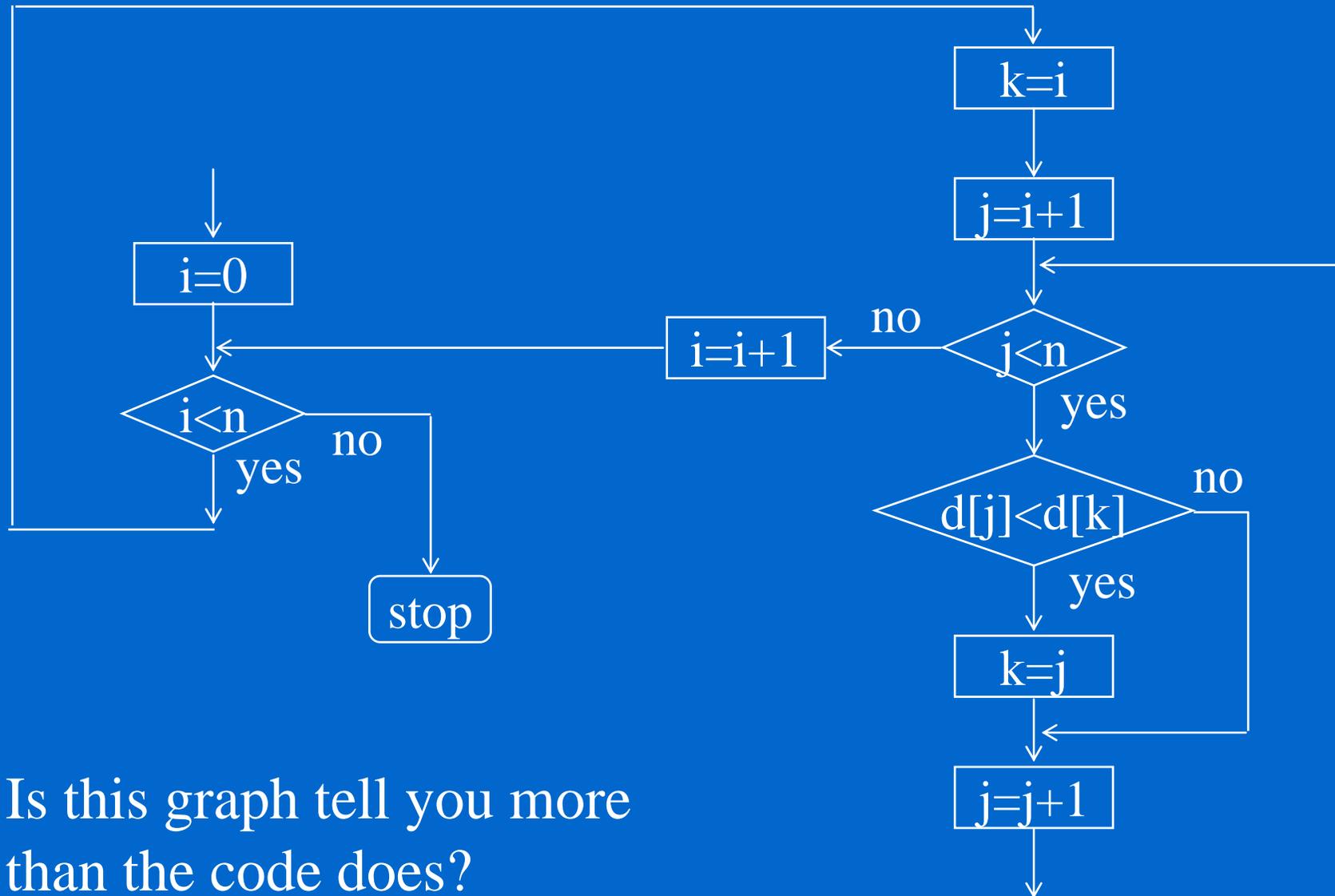
Version 2

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void main()
04 {
05     int d[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
06     int n = 8;
07     int i, j, k;
08
09     i = 0;
10     while (i<n)
11     {
12         k = i;
13         j = i + 1;
14         while (j<n)
15         {
16             if (d[j]<d[k]) k = j;
17             j = j + 1;
18         }
19         j = d[k];
20         d[k] = d[i];
21         d[i] = j;
22         i = i + 1;
23     }
24     printf("Sorted data:\n");
25     i = 0;
26     while (i<n)
27     {
28         printf(" %d", d[i]);
29         i = i + 1;
30     }
31     printf("\n");
32 }
```

Flowchart of the Program



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Is this graph tell you more than the code does?

Meaningful Identifiers

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- ❖ Why does the version 1 or version 2 program look like gibberish to well trained programmers?

Meaningful Identifiers

- ❖ A program is composed with a language. Just like any language in your daily life, language itself should **tell good stories** when it is used properly.
- ❖ Why does the version 1 or version 2 program look like gibberish to well trained programmers?

Are the **identifiers** used meaningful??

e.g.

Hw ds Jhn lk th stk?

or

How does John like the steak?

Version 3

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void main()
04 {
05     int data[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
06     int ndata = sizeof(data) / sizeof(int);
07     int i, j;
08     int min;
09     int swapTmp;
10
11     i = 0;
12     while (i<ndata)
13     {
14         min = i;
15         j = i + 1;
16         while (j<ndata)
17             {
18                 if (data[j]<data[min]) min = j;
19                 j = j + 1;
20             }
21         swapTmp = data[min];
22         data[min] = data[i];
23         data[i] = swapTmp;
24         i = i + 1;
25     }
26
27     printf("Sorted data:\n");
28     i = 0;
29     while (i<ndata)
30     {
31         printf(" %d", data[i]);
32         i = i + 1;
33     }
34     printf("\n");
35 }
```

Version 3

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01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void main()
04 {
05     int data[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
06     int ndata = sizeof(data) / sizeof(int);
07     int i, j;          avoid magic constants
08     int min;
09     int swapTmp;
10
11     i = 0;
12     while (i < ndata)
13     {
14         min = i;
15         j = i + 1;
16         while (j < ndata)
17             {
18                 if (data[j] < data[min]) min = j;
19                 j = j + 1;
20             }
21         swapTmp = data[min];
22         data[min] = data[i];
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Advanced View of the Codes

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Advanced View of the Codes

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Is it changing?

- ❖ Input array initialized with unordered integers
- ❖ Two layers of while loops, the outer one prepares ndata sub-arrays, the inner one goes through each sub-array to find something minimal.
- ❖ Another while loop for output the results

Advanced View of the Codes

Initial view

- ❖ Input array initialized with unordered integers
- ❖ Two layers of while loops
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- ❖ Another while loop for output the results

Is it changing?

- ❖ Input array initialized with unordered integers
- ❖ Two layers of while loops, the outer one prepares ndata sub-arrays, the inner one goes through each sub-array to find something minimal.
- ❖ A snippet of memory swapping code
- ❖ Another while loop for output the results

More Meaningful Language Construct

- ✧ **While loop** is the most generic repetition construct in C language

More Meaningful Language Construct

❖ **While loop** is the most generic repetition construct in C language

Forget about *goto* please!!!

More Meaningful Language Construct

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initialize the loop condition

```
while (condition)
```

```
{
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
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More Meaningful Language Construct

❖ **While loop** is the most generic repetition construct in C language

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    ...
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- ❖ When you see this construct in a program, you expect some sort of job repetition, could be an easy one or a complex one.

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For loop is a more semantically specific repetition construct in C language --- **repeat for a predetermined number of times**

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For loop is a more semantically specific repetition construct in C language --- **repeat for a predetermined number of times**

```
for (i=0; i<count; i++)
```

```
{
```

```
    ...
```

```
}
```

Version 4

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void main()
04 {
05     int data[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
06     int ndata = sizeof(data) / sizeof(int);
07     int i, j;
08     int min;
09     int swapTmp;
10
11     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++)
12     {
13         min = i;
14         for (j=i+1; j<ndata; j++)
15         {
16             if (data[j]<data[min]) min = j;
17         }
18         swapTmp = data[min];
19         data[min] = data[i];
20         data[i] = swapTmp;
21     }
22
23     printf("Sorted data:\n");
24     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++)
25         printf(" %d", data[i]);
26     printf("\n");
27 }
```

Code That Further Illustrates Itself

- ✧ **Function** is a powerful construct to **abstract** ideas, to **hide** distracting details, not just a utility for saving your typing time and removing redundancy.

--- Version 5

Code That Further Illustrates Itself

- ❖ **Function** is a powerful construct to **abstract** ideas, to **hide** distracting details, not just a utility for saving your typing time and removing redundancy.

--- Version 5

- ❖ A construct like “**loop inside a loop**” is somehow beyond the concrete control of common human mind. A single layer of “loop” is better for most people to visualize in mind.

--- Version 6

Version 5

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void swap(int *, int *);
04 void printArrayContents(int [], int);
05
06 void main()
07 {
08     int data[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
09     int ndata = sizeof(data) / sizeof(int);
10     int i, j;
11     int min;
12
13     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++)
14     {
15         min = i;
16         for (j=i+1; j<ndata; j++)
17         {
18             if (data[j]<data[min]) min = j;
19         }
20         swap(&data[i], &data[min]);
21     }
22
23     printArrayContents(data, ndata);
24 }
25
26 void swap(int *x, int *y)
27 {
28     int tmp;
29     tmp = *x;
30     *x = *y;
31     *y = tmp;
32 }
```

Version 5 (cont'd)

```
33
34 void printArrayContents(int data[], int ndata)
35 {
36     int i;
37     printf("Sorted data:\n");
38     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++)
39         printf(" %d", data[i]);
40     printf("\n");
41 }
```

Version 6

```
01 #include <stdio.h>
02
03 void selectionSort(int[], int);
04 void findMinimumOfAnArray(int[], int);
05 void swap(int*, int*);
06 void printArrayContents(int[], int);
07
08 void main()
09 {
10     int data[] = {12, 3, 37, 8, 24, 15, 5, 33};
11     int ndata = sizeof(data) / sizeof(int);
12
13     selectionSort(data, ndata);
14     printArrayContents(data, ndata);
15 }
16
```

Version 6 (cont'd)

```
17 void selectionSort(int data[], int ndata) | 36 void swap(int *x, int *y)
18 { | 37 {
19     int i; | 38     int tmp;
20     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++) | 39     tmp = *x;
21     putMinimalElementInPlace(&data[i], ndata-i); | 40     *x = *y;
22 } | 41     *y = tmp;
23 | 42 }
24 void putMinimalElementInPlace(int data[], int ndata) | 43
25 {
26     int i, min; | 44 void printArrayContents(int data[], int ndata)
27 | 45 {
28     min = 0; | 46     int i;
29     for (i=1; i<ndata; i++) | 47     printf("Sorted data:\n");
30     { | 48     for (i=0; i<ndata; i++)
31         if (data[i]<data[min]) min = i; | 49         printf(" %d", data[i]);
32     } | 50     printf("\n");
33     swap(&data[0], &data[min]); | 51 }
34 }
35
```

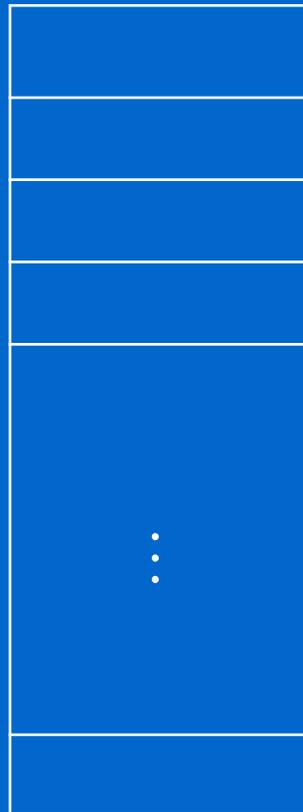
suitable level of details

Codes with a Conceptual Model

- ❖ Flowchart is no longer needed but definitely requires a conceptual **model** for the codes to work with.

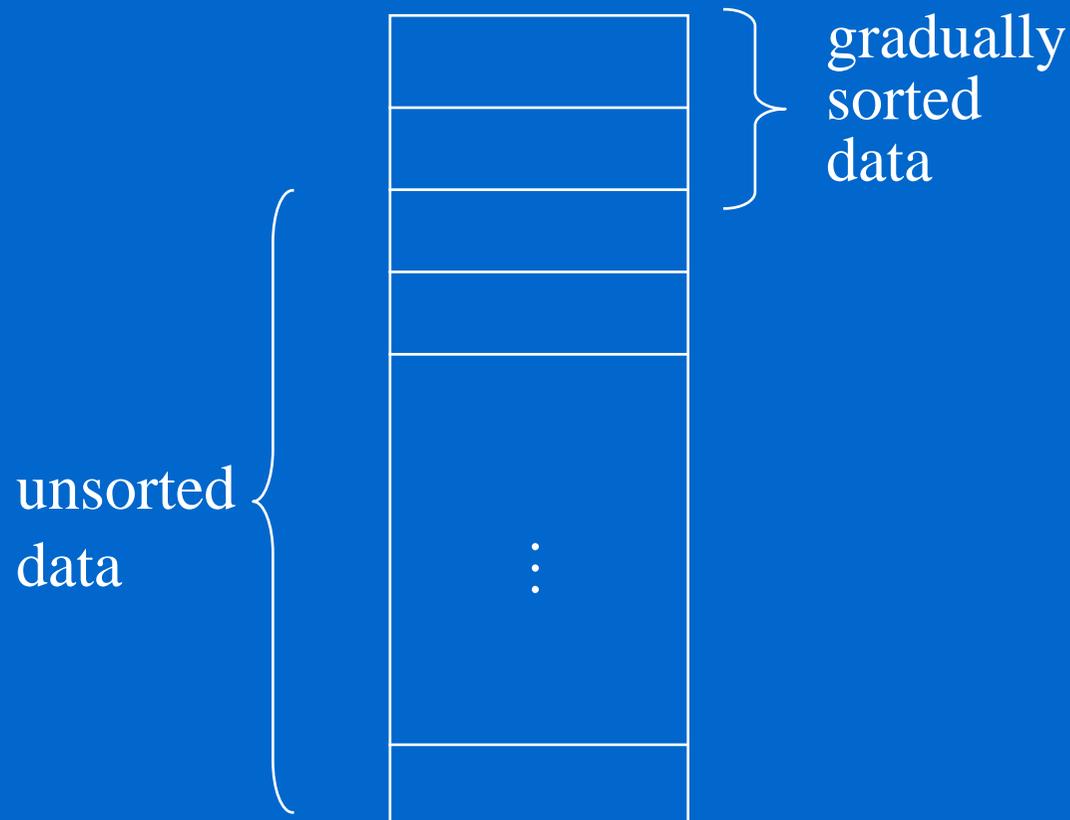
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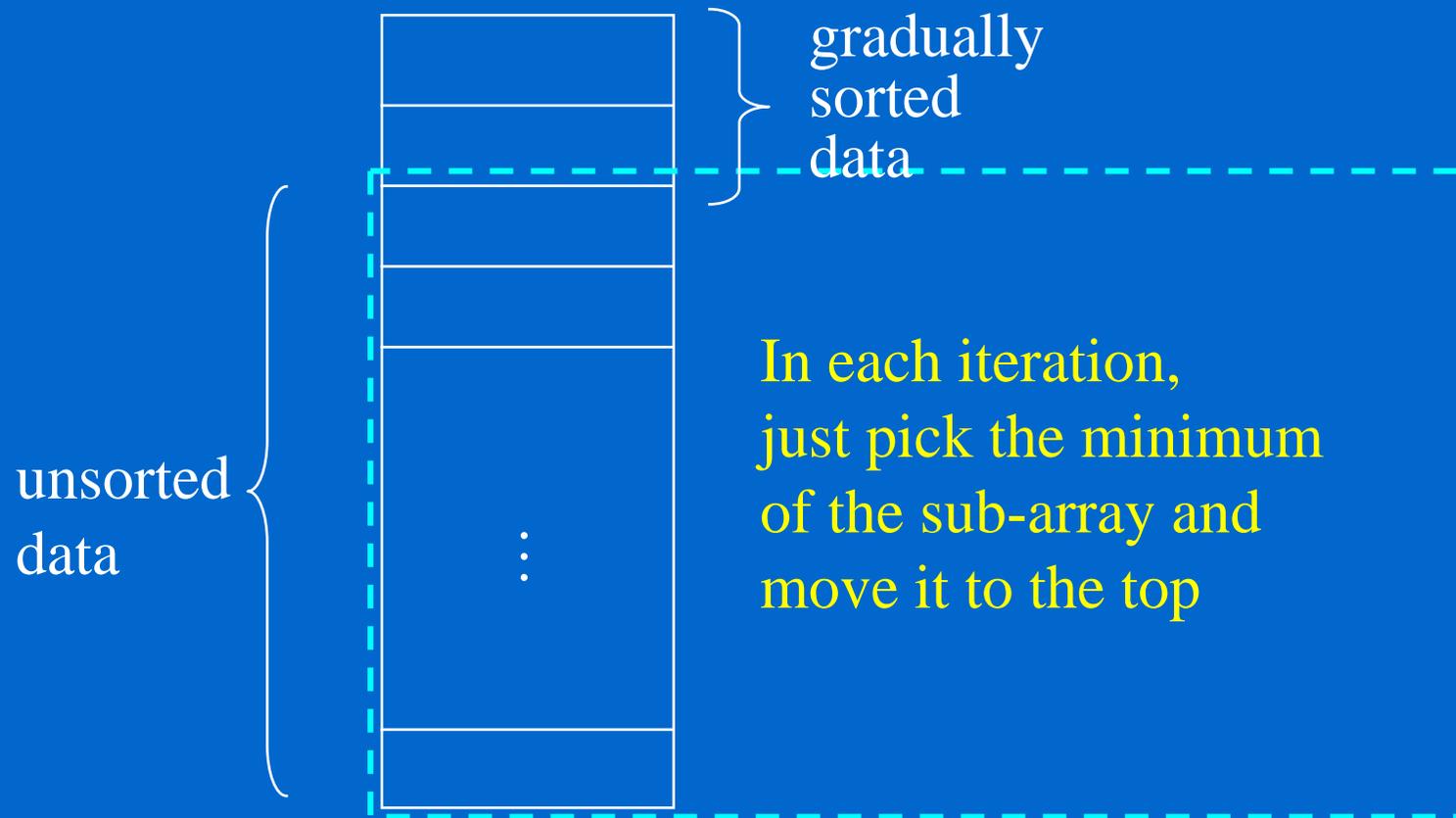
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A piece of code is to implement some engineering design, **simplicity** is the best engineering principle. Try your best to think and express ideas in an intuitive way.

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```
void selectionSort(int data[], int ndata)
{
    putMinimalElementInPlace(data, ndata);
    if (ndata>2)
        selectionSort(&data[1], ndata-1);
}
```

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Assignments

- ✧ Bubble Sort
- ✧ Quick Sort
- ✧ Minimum Spanning Tree
- ✧ Tree Traversal
- ✧ ...