



PROGRAMMING IN C++

# Logistics

- Introductions
- Go over syllabus
- About programming and languages
- A little history
- About C++ as a language
- How to write and compile a simple program
- How to write programs in general

# What is Programming?

- Computers are dumb - making them do useful things involves telling them *exactly* what to do, step by step.
- Programming is the process of taking a program and breaking it down into a sequence of steps the computer can handle (CPU instructions).
- CPU instructions are *very* simple: e.g. add two numbers, fetch a number from memory, see if a number is equal to zero, etc.

# Low Level Language

- Usually this refers to assembly code
- Each code instruction becomes a single CPU instruction
- Hard to write, hard to read, hard to maintain
- Not portable between different CPU families
- ... but great for control freaks, and can result in very efficient code

# High Level Languages

- ◆ Most programming languages are high-level (C++, C, Perl, PHP, Java, Pascal, Python...)
- ◆ Easy to write, easy to read (easier, anyway)
- ◆ Not (usually) machine specific
- ◆ Must be translated into assembly language
  - ◆ ... meaning it often loses something in efficiency

# A Bit 'o History

- Before C++ came C, in the early 1970s
- C was originally invented (no kidding) to play Space Travel, a video game
- Developed along with UNIX
- C was designed to be minimalist:
  - Easy to compile into fast machine code
  - Nothing “behind the scenes”
  - Low level access to memory

# ...and then came C++

- C++ is an extension to C, from the early 1980s
- C++ is “C with classes”, and a few extra language features
- ... but still with most of the low-level-ness of C (no hand-holding)
- Fast, powerful, standardized, and very popular
- ... but error prone if you are not careful!

# C++ is:

- ◆ **Compiled** (translated into machine code in advance, before run-time)
- ◆ **Strongly typed**, meaning that each variable has a type associated with it (float, int, whatever)
- ◆ **High level...** but still pretty low
- ◆ **Portable** - the same code can often be compiled on many different kinds of computers with little or no modification



# Writing a C++ program

- ◆ Programs can be written in any text editor
- ◆ On the lab machines try gedit, nedit, emacs, KDevelop, etc.
- ◆ Via SSH ([linux.cs.uiowa.edu](http://linux.cs.uiowa.edu)) try pico
- ◆ Use whatever text editor or platform or compiler you are most comfortable with, but your program **must** compile on Linux using g++!

```
// a sample program, by Greg
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    int baz = 2;
    int foo = 21;
    int result;

    // multiply some stuff
    result = foo * baz;

    // output the result
    cout << "Hello world: "
         << result << endl;

    return 0;
}
```

# Compiling/Running it

- 1. Compile with g++
- 2. If it works, run the resulting executable
- 3. Like this:

```
[gbnichol@serv16 ~/cpp]$ ls
```

```
main.cpp
```

```
[gbnichol@serv16 ~/cpp]$ g++ -o program main.cpp
```

```
[gbnichol@serv16 ~/cpp]$ ls
```

```
main.cpp program
```

```
[gbnichol@serv16 ~/cpp]$ ./program
```

```
Hello world: 42
```

```
[gbnichol@serv16 ~/cpp]
```

# Errors!

- Errors are problems with your program
- Different kinds of errors:
  - Compiler errors
  - Linker errors
  - Runtime errors

# Compiler Errors

- Compiler errors are problems with your code that result in it not compiling
- Code errors, typos, spelling errors, etc.
- Errors must be fixed before the code will compile; warnings don't *have* to be fixed (but you should probably fix them anyway, if you can)

# Linker Errors

- Each cpp file is compiled into an *object file*, which contains the compiled version of that code
- All the object files are “linked” together into a single executable program
- If the object files don’t mesh together well (missing functions, duplicate functions, etc.) you get linker errors
- These must be fixed before you can run your program

# Runtime Errors

- You know... bugs!
- Anytime your program crashes or in general doesn't work correctly
- Divide by zero, running out of memory, or just doing the wrong thing

# Errors

- Finding and fixing errors can be tricky and sometimes frustrating - some errors can be hard to find (= vs == for example)
- Solution: practice and be patient.
- The only way to get good at this is to do lots of it!



# Thoughts on Programming

- Programming is the process of taking a program and breaking it down into a sequence of steps you can put into code.
- This is not always easy.
- Doing it *well* requires patience and practice.
- It can be fun, though. Really. :-)

# Programming (in general)

- Divide the project up into small chunks.
- Write each chunk independently. Use comments to document anything that needs it.
- *Test* that chunk. Make sure it works.
- *Then* move onto other chunks.
- Compile early and often, and fix any errors and warnings before moving on.

# Variables and Memory

- Each variable:
  - has a name (identifier)
  - has a type (bound at compile-time)
  - has its own location in memory (address)
  - takes up a certain number of bytes
  - ... and of course has a value

# Variable Names

- Rules for variable names in C++:
  - Can contain letters, numbers, or underscores
  - Must begin with a letter or an underscore
  - Usually a length limit (compiler dependent) but long enough to not matter
  - Can't be a reserved word
- C++ is *case sensitive*
  - varName != VARNAME != VarName != varname

# Which variable names are valid?

```
int 8pmDinner;  
char test-case;  
int this_is_a_really_long_variable_name;  
float isThisValid;  
double wake_up;  
char $bob;  
double return;  
gregWasHere;
```

# C++ Reserved Words

asm	dynamic_cast	public	unsigned
auto	else	register	using
bool	enum	reinterpret_cast	virtual
break	explicit	return	void
case	export	short	volatile
catch	extern	signed	wchar_t
char	false	sizeof	while
class	float	static	
const	for	static_cast	
const_cast	friend	struct	
continue	goto	switch	
default	if	template	
delete	inline	this	
do	int	throw	
double	long	true	
	mutable	try	
	namespace	typedef	
	new	typeid	
	operator	typename	
	private	union	
	protected		

# Basic Data Types

The types you might care about:

- **int** - 124, 3, -100
- **float** - 12.4, 45.68, -34.22
- **char** - 'a', 'b', '\$', '%', 128, 7, 254
- **bool** - true, false

Except for **bool**, any of these can be **signed** or **unsigned**.

# Variable Types (32-bit)

char	character, small integer	1 bytes	signed: -128 to 127 unsigned: 0 to 255
short	short integer	2 bytes	signed: -32768 to 32767 unsigned: 0 to 65535
int / long	integer	4 bytes	signed: -2147483648 to 2147483647 unsigned: 0 to 4294967295
bool	boolean value	4 bytes	true or false
float	floating point value	4 bytes	3.4e +/- 38 (7 digits)
double	double precision floating point value	8 bytes	1.7e +/- 308 (15 digits)
wchar_t	wide character	2 bytes	1 wide character



# Declaring Variables

- All variables must be **declared** before they can be used.
- Declarations allocate memory for that variable.

```
int result = 25;
```

semicolon  
*every statement  
ends with one*

type (implies size)  
*required*

name (identifier)  
*required*

initial value  
*optional*

# Declaring Variables

Variables can be declared one per line:

```
int type;  
int score = 3;  
int aliensKilled;  
bool awesome = true;
```

Or, variables of the *same type* can be declared on the same line:

```
int type, score = 3, aliensKilled;  
bool awesome = true;
```

# Variable Initialization

- Variable initializations are optional...
- What happens if a variable is not initialized with a value?

```
int result = 25;
```

initial value is 25

```
int result;
```

initial value is **what?**

# Variable Initialization

- Answer: initial value ends being whatever was in that chunk of memory beforehand
- Probably a garbage value
- C++ compilers do *not* pre-initialize variables!
- Rule of thumb: always initialize variables

```
int result = -19358221;
```

# Assigning stuff to variables

- Using the = operator ( aka `i = 25.3;` )
- We can assign numeric literals:
  - int types: 3, 0, -42, 167, *not* 1,345,293
  - float types: 2.0, -0.33365f, 3.0e5
  - bool: true or false
- ... or an expression of some sort

# Arithmetic Operators

- Assignment (`=`), as in `a = 4;`
- Addition (`+`)
- Subtraction (`-`)
- Multiplication (`*`)
- Division (`/`)
- Modulo (`%`)
  - this only works for integers
  - `5 % 3 = 2`

*a quick note about...*

# Integer Division

- The result of an integer divide is an integer - the remainder is discarded
  - $5 / 3 = 1$
  - what about  $3 / 5$ ?
- Division by zero causes a runtime error

# More Operators!!!!

As a shortcut for this:

```
aliensKilled = aliensKilled + 10;
```

You can do this:

```
aliensKilled += 10;
```

Operators of this style:

```
+=
```

```
-=
```

```
*=
```

```
/=
```

```
%=
```



# Wow! Even More Operators!!!1!1!

Stuff like this happens a lot:

```
numberOfLives = numberOfLives + 1;
```

You can do this instead:

```
numberOfLives++;           (post-increment)
```

*or*

```
++numberOfLives;       (pre-increment)
```

In the above case, the two are equivalent - but they're not always.

Any idea what the difference is?

# Pre-Increment vs Post Increment



- **Pre-increment:**

- first increments the value, then returns it

- **Post-increment:**

- first returns the value, *then* increments it
- this involves making a copy of the original value, which is in theory less efficient
- doesn't matter all that much for built-in types

# Pre-increment vs Post-increment

post-increment:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    int a = 10;
    cout << a++ << endl;
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

pre-increment:

```
#include <iostream>
using namespace std;

int main()
{
    int a = 10;
    cout << ++a << endl;
    return EXIT_SUCCESS;
}
```

There are similar operators for decrementing:  
aka **var--** and **--var**

# Examples

```
int john = 5, chris = 5, bob = 5;  
float perry = 2.5;
```

```
john++ * 3;  
++chris * 3;
```

```
bob / 2; // doesn't change the  
bob % 2; // value of bob
```

```
bob *= 3;  
perry %= 2;
```

# Conditional Execution

- Most programs don't unconditionally compute things straight through
- Often we need to decide whether to execute a chunk of code, based on some condition
- Enter conditional statements!

# Example

a code snippet...

This code chunk reads in two numbers, and prints out the bigger one.

Note that { and } are used to group blocks of statements.

```
int num1, num2;

// get two numbers from the user
cin >> num1;
cin >> num2;

// compare the numbers
if( num1 > num2 )
{
    // this gets executed if the above
    // condition is true
    cout << num1;
}
else
{
    // and this gets executed if not
    cout << num2;
}
```

# Comparison Operators (!!!1!!)

- Equality: `==`      `if ( a == b )`
- Not Equal; `!=`      `if ( a != b )`
- Greater: `>`      `if ( a > b )`
- Less: `<`      `if ( a < b )`
- Greater or Equal: `>=`      `if ( a >= b )`
- Less or Equal: `<=`      `if ( a <= b )`

# Boolean Logic:

## combining comparisons

**And** operator: &&

**Or** operator: ||

**Not** operator: !

### Examples:

- `if ( (x > 0) && (x < 12) )`
- `if ( (x % 2 == 0) || (x < 2) )`
- `if ( (x < 3) && !(x < 0) )`



# Boolean Logic

```
!true == false
```

```
!false == true
```

```
(true && true) == true
```

```
(true && false) == false
```

```
(false && true) == false
```

```
(false && false) == false
```

← both must  
be true

```
(true || true) == true
```

```
(true || false) == true
```

```
(false || true) == true
```

```
(false || false) == false
```

← either can  
be true

# Operator Precedence

()	left to right
++X; --X	left to right
X++; X--; +X; -X	right to left
*; /; %	left to right
+; -	left to right
<<; >>	left to right
<; <=; >; >=	left to right
==; !=	left to right
&&	left to right
	left to right
=; +=; -=; *=; /=; %=	right to left

a few quick

# Examples

```
int foo = 5, bat = 5;
```

```
bat++ * 3 / 2 + 1
```

```
foo * 3 % 4 / 2
```

```
foo *= 2*2
```

- Tip: just use parenthesis to make your meaning clear

# ... back to **if** statements

- if the condition is true, an **if** statement executes the following single statement or block of statements
  - A statement is any valid expression followed by a semicolon
  - A block of statements is anything contained within a set of { } brackets

```
if( !milkSmellsBad )  
{  
    drinkMilk();  
}
```

=

```
if( !milkSmellsBad )  
    drinkMilk();
```

# else statements

- an **else** statement is optional; it is executed if the matching **if** statement is *not* true
- same rules apply; the statement or block immediately following the else is what gets executed

```
if( jokeIsFunny )
    humor += 10;

else
{
    throwTomatoes();
    humor -= 10;
}
```

# fun with if and else

- you can pile together multiple if/else statements to produce a chain of conditions

```
if( scrubsIsOn )
    watchScrubs();

else if( theOfficeIsOn )
    watchTheOffice();

else if( isNiceDay )
    goOutside();

else
    doHomework();
```

# nested if statements

if/else statements can be nested in practically any pattern to produce complicated conditional execution

```
if( tornadoSirenIsSounding )
{
    if( !(isFirstMondayOfMonth && is9AM) )
    {
        if( houseHasBasement )
            hideInBasement();
        else
            runAway();

        whimper();
    }
}
```

# But be ye careful!



```
if( value == true )
  doThis();
  doThat();
  playCheckers();

watchScrubs();
```

what does this *really* do?

how 'bout  
this one?

```
if( selfDestructInitiated );
  blowUpShip();
```



# Sample Program

- Formula to convert Celsius to Fahrenheit:
  - $F = C * 1.8 + 32$
- Write a program that:
  - Accepts Celsius temperature as input
  - Converts it to Fahrenheit and displays result
  - Classifies the result as too cold, too hot, or just right