PROGRAMMING BASICS

OVERVIEW

What is computer programming?

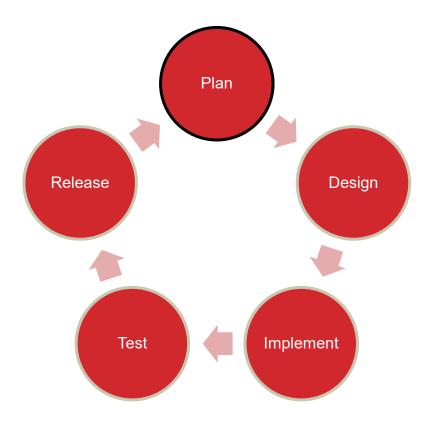
- The objective of programming is to give the computer detailed instructions to solve a desired problem
- Computers have to read and process these instructions so they have to be written clearly and unambiguously
- Hundreds of programming languages have been invented for this purpose over last 60 years

Why learn Java?

- This class will use the Java programming language because it is very powerful and widely used in industry
- Java is an object oriented programming language (OOP) that evolved from C++ (simplifying and improving syntax)
- Java provides over 4000 libraries of functions we can use in our program to solve a wide range of problems

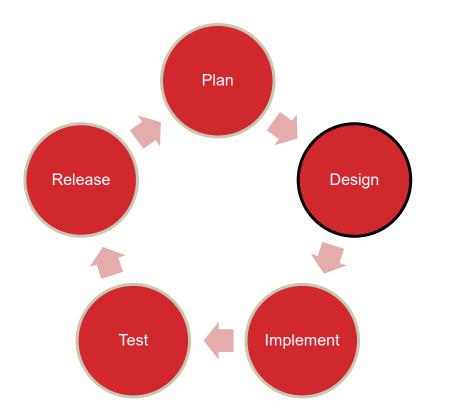
Software development cycle

- Tools and techniques for writing programs have evolved over the last 50 years, and continue to evolve today
- The goal is to convert abstract goals (what we want the program to do) into clear and unambiguous instructions for the computer (in our case Java code)
- The classic software development cycle we will be using has five stages: plan, design, implement, test, and release



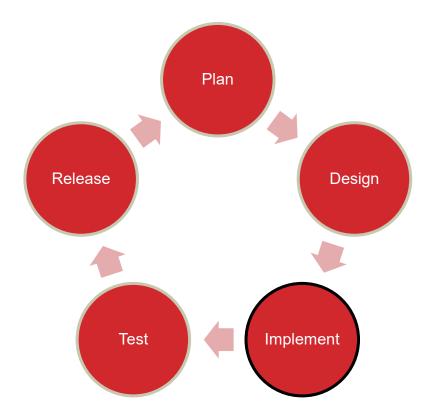
Plan:

- Decide what <u>problem</u> we are trying to solve
- What are program inputs?
- What should the program output or do?



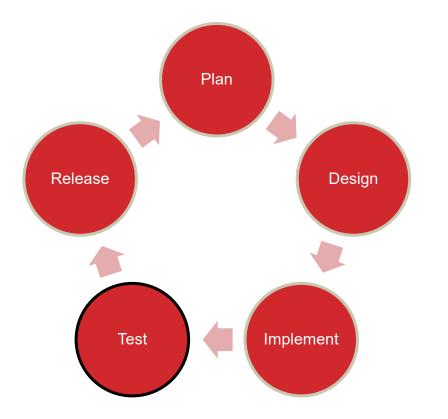
Design:

- Break the problem into smaller steps we know how to solve
- Describe how these steps should be combined to solve the problem



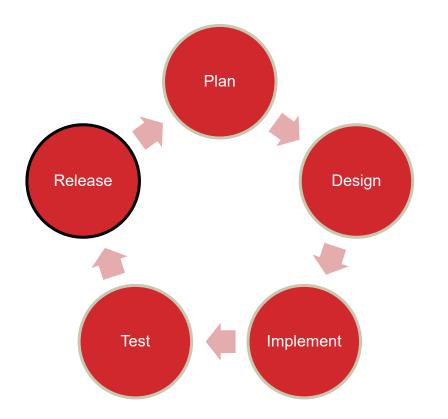
Implement:

- Write code that performs the steps needed to solve the problem
- Use existing code and software libraries whenever possible



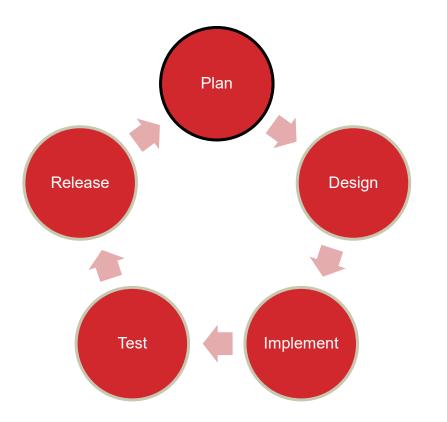
Test:

- Run the program with normal inputs to see if it produces correct outputs
- Run the program with incorrect inputs to check the error handling



Release:

- Distribute the working program to users
- Collect user feedback to identify problems to fix and new features to add



Plan:

- Decide what to do next with the program
- What new features to add
- What problems/bugs to fix

There are many ways to create programs

- Manager: Buy all or part of solution from someone else
- Mimic: Extend or improve solution to similar problem
- Inventor: Create new solution from scratch
- We must be part manager, part mimic, part inventor

How can we become great programmers?

- Learn programming tools by looking at libraries
- Learn programming patterns by looking at examples
- Learn programming skills by writing a lot of code

How will we learn to program?

- We will learn the syntax of the language
 - How to write instructions
- We will learn semantics of the language
 - What the computer does with instructions
- We will learn problem solving techniques
 - How to break problems into smaller pieces to solve
- We will learn how to test and evaluate programs
 - How to find and fix bugs

Lesson objectives:

- Learn the structure of Java programs
- Learn how program input / output works
- Learn about Java variables and data types
- Study example program using programming basics
- Complete programming project on programming basics

PROGRAMMING BASICS

PART 1 WHAT MAKES A PROGRAM?

• A program is a sequence of instructions to a computer

- Every programming language has its own "rules" describing how these instructions should be written
- These rules define the "syntax" of the language
- When the program runs, it will execute your written instructions one line at a time
- For us to understand what a program will do, we need to know the meaning or "semantics" of each instruction
- In this section, we will focus on the basic layout of a Java program and fundamental Java instructions

- All Java programs have the following structure:
 - Comments explain the purpose of program
 - Import commands give access to existing function libraries
 - Classes and methods used to decompose problem (later)
 - Main method variables and statements for program
- The following example Java program prints the message "Hello Mom" to the screen

// This program prints a message

import java.util.Scanner;

```
public class Main
```

```
{
  public static void main(String[] args)
  {
    System.out.println("Hello Mom");
  }
}
```

This Java comment starts with a // and describes the purpose of the program

// This program prints a message

import java.util.Scanner;

public class Main

{

```
This command tells the
Java compiler that we
want to use Scanner
library for user input
```

```
public static void main(String[] args)
```

```
{
   System.out.println("Hello Mom");
}
```

// This program prints a message

import java.util.Scanner;

public class Main

{

The main method is where the Java program begins executing instructions

public static void main(String[] args)

System.out.println("Hello Dad");

This is the line of code that prints the "Hello Mom" message on the screen



- In this section we have studied what a program is and what the basic parts of a Java program are:
 - Comments describing the goals of the program
 - Import commands that let us use the input/output libraries
 - The main method containing the code we want to run
- In the next section we will talk about variables, numerical calculations and program input/output

PROGRAMMING BASICS

PART 2 STORING DATA

The most common Java data types are:

- byte stores 8-bit integer values
- short stores 16-bit integer values
- int stores 32-bit integer values
- Iong stores 64-bit integer values
- float stores 32-bit floating point numbers
- double stores 64-bit floating point numbers
- bool stores Boolean values (true/false)
- char stores a single character like 'A' .. 'Z'
- String stores sequences of characters like "hello mom"

- Variables are used to store and manipulate data in a program
 - The amount of memory used depends on the data type
- The syntax for variable declaration is: "data_type name;"
 - data_type: This specifies what kind of data can be stored
 - name: We refer to variables by name to perform operations

Example:

int Age; float Height; char Gender; String Name; // Can store age in years

- // Can store height in meters
- // Can store 'M' or 'F' for gender
- // Can store "John" or "Susan" for name

Syntax rules for variable names:

- Names may contain upper or lower case characters
- Names may also contain the digits 0..9 and the underscore character, but NO other characters are allowed
- Names must start with an upper or lower case character

Incorrect variable declarations

int float;// Can not use reserved word 'float' as a namefloat 2pi;// Can not start the name of a variable with digitint num// Semi-colon at end of line is missing

- Make your variable names meaningful
 - "the_persons_middle_name" is a bit much to type
 - "n" is just to short to have any meaning
 - "per_mid_nme" is too cryptic
 - "middle_name" is about right
- There are several programming conventions for variables with multi-part names
 - Use underscore characters: "person_age"
 - Use capital letters for each part: "PersonAge"
 - Use capital letters for all but first part: "personAge"

- It is possible to save space in your program by declaring several variables of the same data type on one line
 - Generally these variables logically belong together
- The syntax for this is: "type name1, name2, name3;"

float x, y, z; int height, length, width; String first_name, last_name; // Student's full name

// Coordinates of 3D point

// Dimensions of a box

- It is a good programming practice to initialize all variables when they are declared
 - This way we know for sure what the variables contain
- The syntax for this is: "data_type name = value;"

int Answer = 42; float Height = 0.0; char Gender = (F'); string Name = "Susan"; // Name of person

- // Answer to ultimate question
- // Height in meters
- // Gender of person

CONSTANTS

Constants are like variables but they never change value

- For example, the quantity PI = 3.14159265 should remain unchanged throughout the program
- We define constants in Java by adding the reserved word "public static" before the variable declaration
- We must provide the <u>value</u> of constant at declaration time
- Constants can be of any variable data type

CONSTANTS

Example:

public static int SILLY = 42; public static float PI = 3.14159; public static char YES = 'Y'; // My favorite number// My second favorite number// A character constant

Conventions when using constants:

- Constant names are normally written in upper case
- Constants are typically added just before the main method so they can be used by the whole program

ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

- The operator "=" is used to assign data into a variable
- The Java syntax for assignment is: "name = value;"
 - name: the variable we wish to copy data into
 - value: the data we want to store in the variable
 - Be sure to put a semicolon at end of the statement

ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

Java will automatically convert data types if possible

- If variable and value are same type no conversion
- If variable is more accurate no data loss will occur
- If variable is less accurate conversion will lose data (most compilers will give you a warning message)

Example:

int data1 = 42; // int value 42 is stored
float data2 = 42; // float value 42.0 is stored
int data3 = 4.2; // int value 4 is stored (0.2 is discarded)
float data4 = 4.2; // float value 4.2 is stored
int data5 = "hello"; // will not compile

ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

Example:

int Value, Number; float Data;

Data = 2.158; Value = 17; Number = Value; Data = 42; Number = 3.14159; // Data variable now equals 2.158
// Value variable now equals 17
// Number variable now equals 17
// Data variable now equals 42.0
// Number variable now equals 3

The floating point value will be <u>truncated</u> and the 0.14159 will be discarded



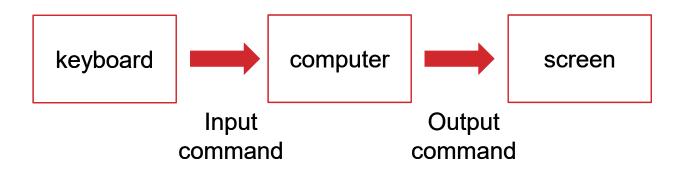
- In this section, we have studied how Java variables are declared and to store information
 - Basic data types of the language
 - Rules for choosing variable names
 - How to initialize variables
- Then, we showed how Java constants can be created
- Finally, we described the Java assignment statement
 - What happens if we store integer values in float variables
 - What happens if we store float values in integer variables

PROGRAMMING BASICS

PART 3 PROGRAM INPUT / OUTPUT

We need some way to get data in and out of program

- Input commands read values entered on the keyboard
- Output commands write values onto the screen



Many programs have the following pattern:

- Print a message to the user with input instructions
- Read the input typed by the user
- Do some calculations based on user input
- Print the results of the calculations

Next we will go over Java commands for input / output

- System.in and Scanner commands for input
- System.out commands for output
- Formatted output with Java

- Java input is done using the following commands
 - System.in gives us access to a stream of characters that are typed in by the user
 - Scanner commands let us convert characters into Java data types (int, float, string, etc.)

How is this done?

- Scanner will skip over spaces or return characters
- Scanner will read characters from the keyboard
- Scanner will convert characters to desired data type
- Scanner will store this value in a variable
- Read and convert steps will **vary** for different data types

- Java input is done using Scanner commands
 - First, we have to create a Scanner object called "scanner"

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);

 Then, we use the Scanner object scanner to read the sequence of characters that are typed by the user

String input = scanner.next();

• There are also ways to read into other data types

Integer input example:

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);
int number1 = scanner.nextInt();

The user types in a sequence of characters "123"

- The Scanner skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- The Scanner reads all characters that are digits
- The Scanner converts "123" into an integer 123 and stores this value in the variable number1

Float input example:

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);

float number2 = scanner.nextFloat();

- The user types in a sequence of characters "3.14159"
- The system skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- Then the system reads all characters that are digits then it reads the "." then it reads more digit characters
- Then the system converts "3.14159" into a float value
 3.14159 and stores this value in the variable number2

- More on reading float variables...
- The user can omit the digits after the decimal point and the Scanner command will assume they are 0
 - User input "42." will be treated like "42.0"
- The user can omit the digits before the decimal point and the Scanner command will assume they are 0
 - User input ".125" will be treated like "0.125"

• String input example:

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);

String message = scanner.next();

- The user types in a sequence of characters "hello"
- The system skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- Then the system reads sequence of characters "hello"
- Then the system stores this string in the variable message

Longer string input example:

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in); String str = scanner.nextLine();

- The user types in "hello mom please send money"
- The system skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- Then the system reads "hello mom please send money"
- Then the system stores this string in the variable str

Example reading sequence input values:

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);
int number1 = scanner.nextInt();
float number2 = scanner.nextFloat();
String message = scanner.next();

- When user types in "42 3.14 hello" these three values will be stored in variables number1, number2 and message
- User inputs can have any number of spaces, tabs or new line characters between them

- To output data in Java we use the following command System.out.println(output);
 - "System.out" is a built in Java library
 - "println" is the name of the output command
 - "output" is the variable (or message) to print

How is this done?

- First, println will look at variable to get its value
- Then, it will convert value to sequence of characters
- Then, it will output these characters on the monitor
- The conversion step will **vary** for different data types

Integer output example:

int number 1 = 123;

System.out.println(number1);

- The system converts the integer value of the variable 123 to a sequence of ascii characters "123"
- The system displays the characters "123" on the screen at the current cursor position

• Float output example:

float number2 = 3.14;

System.out.println(number2);

- The system converts the float value of the variable 3.14 to a sequence of ascii characters "3.14"
- The system displays the characters "3.14" on the screen at the current cursor position

• String output example:

String message = "hello mom"; System.out.println(message);

- No conversion to ascii character is needed since the variable is already a sequence of ascii characters
- The system displays the character "hello mom" on the screen at the current cursor position

- Java has two output commands: println and print.
 - System.out.println(output) will print the value of output and then go to the **next line**. The next print will start there.
 - System.out.print(output) will print the value of output and stop at that point. The next print will start there.

Example of println:

int num1 = 17;

int num2 = 42;

System.out.println(num1);

System.out.println(num2);

• This will print "17" on first line and "42" on next line

Example of print:

int num1 = 17;

int num2 = 42;

System.out.print(num1);

System.out.print(num2);

• This will print "1742" on one line.

 We can use the Java string concatenation operator "+" to output multiple values in one println command.

float value = 12.34;

System.out.print("value = " + value);

- This will print "value = 12.34" and go to the next line
- This only works when print contains at least one string
- System.out.println(12+34) will output "46".
- System.out.println(12 + "" + 34) will output "12 34".

- In many applications, the program output must be in a specific format to users to read and understand.
 - Example: Bank statements showing dates, transactions and the current balance in separate columns
- The System.out.print function can produce simple formatted output by printing spaces between data fields to get columns to line up correctly
 - This process is tedious and time consuming.
- A better option is to print tabs to line up columns.

 Java uses the following symbols to print tabs and other special characters inside a string

\n	Carriage return
\t	Tab character
\b	Back space
١f	Form feed
\a	Bell sound
۱'	Single quote
\"	Double quote
W	Backslash character

Example:

String first = "John"; String last = "Smith"; int age = 42; double gpa = 3.14; System.out.println("First Name:\t" + first); System.out.println("Last Name:\t" + last); System.out.println("Age:\t\t" + age); System.out.println("GPA:\t\t" + gpa);

Sample program output:

First Name: John Last Name: Smith Age: 42 GPA: 3.14

> Notice how all output is nicely aligned with each other

- Java also provides the System.out.printf function to print out data according to a "format" string.
 - This format string can contain textual information and format commands that specify how and where the variables should be displayed

%d – print an integer

%f – print a float

%s – print a String

 The width of the display field can be specified by putting integers between the % and the letter

Example:

String name = "John"; int age = 42; float GPA = 3.14;

System.out.printf("Name: %10s\n", name); System.out.printf("Age: %10d\n", age); System.out.printf("GPA: %10.2f\n", GPA); Format strings

Example:

String name = "John"; int age = 42; float GPA = 3.14;

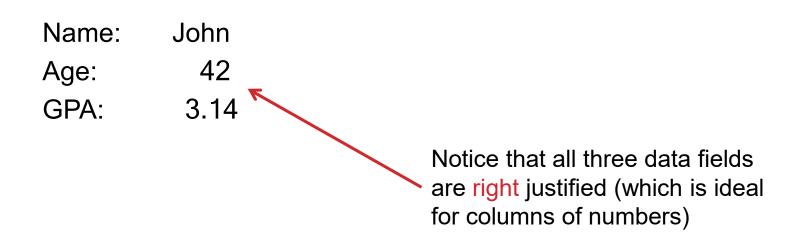
System.out.printf("Name: %10s\n", name); System.out.printf("Age: %10d\n", age); System.out.printf("GPA: %10.2f\n", GPA); Variables to print

Example:

String name = "John"; int age = 42; float GPA = 3.14; System.out.printf("Name: %10s\n", name); System.out.printf("Age: %10d\n", age); System.out.printf("GPA: %10.2f\n", GPA); Float is printed in field 10 chains

Float is printed in field 10 chars wide and 2 digits after decimal

Sample program output:





Compile and run Name.java

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COMMENTS

Comments are an essential part of all programs

- Comments are used to explain the design and implementation of a program to other programmers
- They are human readable and are **ignored** by the compiler
- Programmers should write comments as the program is being written and when major changes are made
- You should NOT "wait until the program is finished" to write your comments
 - Comments are there to help you write the program
 - In real life, programs are never "finished", there are always security updates and new features added

COMMENTS

- Java supports two types of comments in programs
- C++ style comments are a single line long

These comments start with // and go to end of the line
// Here is a new C++ style comment
// This is the second line of the comment

C style comments can span multiple lines

- These comments start with /* and end with */
- /* Here is an old C style comment

This is the second line of the comment */



- In this section we have shown how the "Scanner" object can be used to read and store information from users
- We also shown how System.out" commands can be used to write variables and other information to the screen
- Finally, have described how Java comments are formed and their importance in writing clear programs

PROGRAMMING BASICS

PART 4 NUMERICAL CALCULATIONS

- Arithmetic expressions are used to perform numerical calculations using variables and arithmetic operators
- Once the values of arithmetic expressions are evaluated, they can be printed, or stored in variables using the assignment operator
- The rules for arithmetic expressions in Java are very similar to the rules we learn in mathematics, but there are some subtle differences we will discuss below

• What is the syntax for arithmetic expressions?

- Arithmetic expressions consist of an alternating sequence of values and arithmetic operators
- Values can be numerical literals, variables, or constants
- Arithmetic operators include
 - + Addition
 - Subtraction
 - * Multiplication
 - / Division
 - % Modulo (remainder after integer division)
- Parentheses () can be used to control the order of evaluation of sub-expressions

- **Examples of valid arithmetic expressions:**
 - -7+2*5
 - 21 num / 2
 - (2+2+2)/(3-3-3)
- Examples of invalid arithmetic expressions:
 - 17 * ← missing value after * operator

- (num 9 * 5 \leftarrow missing closing parenthesis
- int + 42 \leftarrow int is not a valid variable name

How are expressions evaluated?

- We follow the "natural" rules of mathematics
- Multiplication, division, modulo have high precedence
- Addition, subtraction have low precedence
- The result of high precedence operations are calculated before low precedence operations (i.e. * before +)
- Operations in the expression are calculated left to right at same precedence level
- Parenthesized expressions () are calculated first, and are evaluated from the inside out

- Evaluation examples:
 - 7 + 2 * 5
 - $= 7 + 10 \quad \leftarrow perform multiplication$
 - = 17 ← perform addition
 - 21 num / 2

= 21 - 5

= 16

- - \leftarrow perform division
 - ← perform subtraction

Evaluation examples:

•
$$(2 + 2 + 2) / (3 - 3 - 3)$$

= $(4 + 2) / (3 - 3 - 3)$
= $6 / (3 - 3 - 3)$
= $6 / (0 - 3)$
= $6 / -3$
= -2

- ← perform leftmost addition
- \leftarrow perform addition
- \leftarrow perform leftmost subtraction
- ← perform subtraction
- \leftarrow perform division

- What happens if we mix data types in expressions?
- Java will look at the data types and choose the <u>most</u> <u>accurate</u> data type for each arithmetic operation
- The ordering of data types from least accurate to most accurate is: byte, short, int, long, float, double

int OP int	\leftarrow int result
byte OP int	\leftarrow int result
int OP float	← float result
float OP double	\leftarrow double result

- Evaluation examples:
 - (2 + 2 + 2.0) / (3 3 3)= (4 + 2.0) / (3 - 3 - 3)= 6.0 / (3 - 3 - 3)= 6.0 / (0 - 3)= 6.0 / -3= -2.0
 - = $(4 + 2.0) / (3 3 3) \leftarrow$ perform leftmost addition
 - \leftarrow perform addition
 - \leftarrow perform leftmost subtraction
 - \leftarrow perform subtraction
 - \leftarrow perform division

- Mixed type examples:
 - **3***5+4.2
 - = 15 + 4.2 \leftarrow integer multiplication
 - = 19.2 ← float addition
 - (16 num) / 4.0
 = (16 10) / 4.0 ← variable substitution
 = 6 / 4.0 ← integer subtraction
 = 1.5 ← float division

- In Java there is an important difference between float division and integer division
- Float division always returns a <u>float</u> result
 - 3.0 / 2.0 = 1.5
- Integer division always returns an <u>integer</u> result
 - 3/2 = 1 \leftarrow the 0.5 is discarded !!

- Integer division examples:
 - (16 num) / 4
 - = $(16 10) / 4 \leftarrow$ variable substitution
 - $= 6 / 4 \quad \leftarrow$ integer subtraction
 - (1+2)/(3+6)
 - $= 3 / (3 + 6) \leftarrow$ integer addition
 - - ← integer division (0.333 discarded)

= 0

- In Java modulo operator % is used to calculate the value of the <u>remainder</u> after an integer division
 - Both arguments to the % operator must be integers
 - If not the compiler will give error messages
- Modulo operator examples:
 - 285 % 10
 - ϵ = 5 ϵ 285 / 10 = 28, remainder is 5
 - 285 % 100

TYPE CASTING

- Java will do implicit type conversion in assignment statements if the value type does not match variable type
 - The value is converted to match the variable type
 - Sometimes compilers will warn of possible loss of data

Examples:

- int num = 4.2; // value 4 is stored
- float val = 17; // value 17.0 is stored
- int sum = 1 + 2.0; // value 3 is stored
- float total = num + sum; // value of 7.0 is stored

TYPE CASTING

- Type casting in lets us convert a value from one data type to another in the middle of arithmetic expressions
 - This is very useful if we want to force the expression to use integer operations or float operations
- We specify the desired data type <u>before</u> the variable or expression we want to convert
 - (data_type) value
- Type casting has the highest precedence, so the type conversion is done <u>before</u> the next arithmetic operation

TYPE CASTING

- Type casting examples:
 - 2/3
 - $= 0 \qquad \leftarrow \text{ integer division}$
 - (float) 2 / 3
 - = 2.0 / 3

- ← converts 2 value to float
- = 0.666 \leftarrow float division
- 1 / (float) 3
 - = 1 / 3.0

= 0.333

- \leftarrow converts 3 value to float
- ← float division

- Assume we want to calculate the volume and surface area of a sphere of any size
- How can we perform this calculation?
 - Look up formulas for sphere volume and surface area
- How can we implement this?
 - Write a program to prompt user for sphere radius
 - Calculate sphere volume and surface area
 - Print the results of these calculations

import java.util.Scanner;

public class Sphere

{

```
public static void main(String[] args)
```

// Read sphere radius

- // Calculate volume
- // Calculate surface area
- // Print output

With the first version of the program we just type in comments to describe our approach

// Read sphere radius

Scanner scanner = new Scanner(System.in);

System.out.print("Enter sphere radius: ");

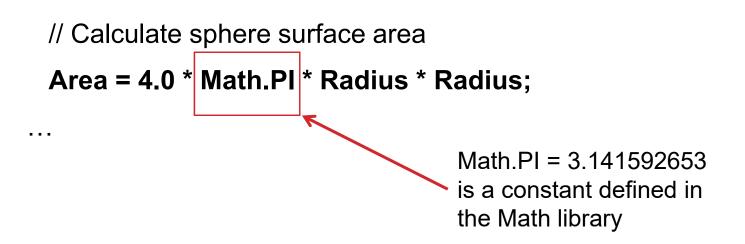
double radius = scanner.nextDouble();

System.out.println("Radius = " + radius);

It is always a good idea to print the values you have read from the user to verify input worked as expected

- - -

We are using float literals here to force the result to be a float value (using 4/3 would produce incorrect result due to integer division) Volume = (4.0 / 3.0) * Math.PI * Radius * Radius * Radius;



// Print output

. . .

. . .

System.out.println("Radius = " + radius);

System.out.println("Volume = " + volume);

System.out.println("Area = " + area);}

Finally we add code to output our answers

To compile on a Linux or MacOS system:

javac Sphere.java

To run on a Linux or MacOS system:

java Sphere

Sample program output:

Enter sphere radius: 1.0 Radius = 1.0 Volume = 4.1887902047863905 Area = 12.566370614359172

Enter sphere radius: 10 Radius = 10.0 Volume = 4188.790204786391 Area = 1256.6370614359173



Compile and run Cube.java Compile and run Sphere.java Compile and run Temperature.java Compile and run Statistics.java

- Think about the problem you are trying to solve before you start writing your program
 - What data do you need to solve problem?
 - What formulas are you going to use?
 - Work out a few examples by hand to be sure you understand the process you are going to use

Start your program by writing your comments

- Add your name and date at top of program
- Describe steps in program in point form
- Add code to your program a little at a time
- Compile and test program incrementally

- Top-down problem solving has the following steps:
 - Understand the problem to be solved
 - Decompose problem into smaller pieces you can solve
 - Write computer instructions for each piece
 - Combine pieces into a single program
 - Compile, test, and debug program
 - Use program to solve initial problem

Bottom-up problem solving has the following steps:

- Understand the problem to be solved
- Look at similar problems to identify common components
- Design and implement general purpose components
- Combine components into a single program
- Compile, test, and debug program
- Use program to solve initial problem

- Make your program easy to read and understand
 - Pick variable names that are meaningful to you and others
 - Add blank lines and white space to separate calculations
 - Indent your code using a consistent convention
- Make sure your program is running correctly
 - Initialize all variables before you use their values
 - Print out intermediate results as you debug code
 - Test with "normal" and "unexpected" input values
 - Document all known bugs/limitations in the code



- In this section we have studied the syntax and use of arithmetic expressions to do numerical calculations
- We also showed an example program demonstrating the use of arithmetic expressions and input/output
- Finally, have discussed several software engineering tips for creating and debugging programs