# PROGRAMMING BASICS

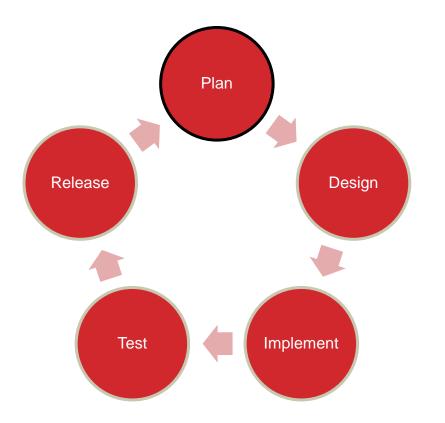
#### **OVERVIEW**

#### 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 50 years
- This class will use the programming language C++ because it is very powerful and widely used in industry

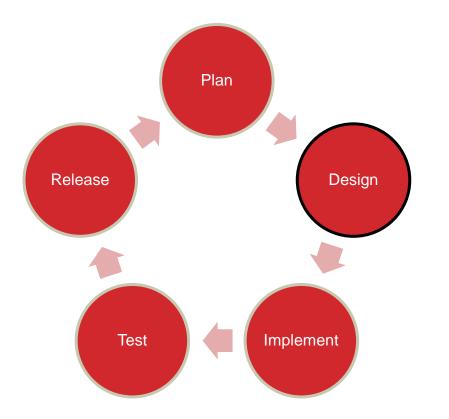
#### How do we write programs?

- 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 C++ code)
- The classic software development cycle we will be using has five stages: plan, design, implement, test, and release



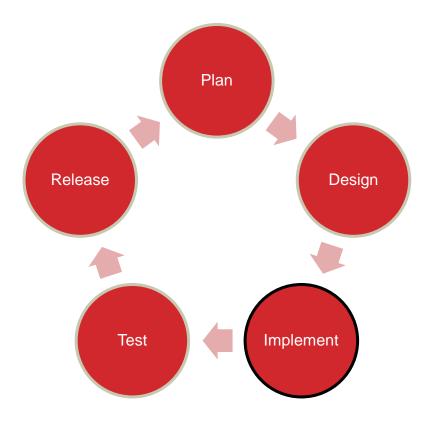
#### Plan:

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



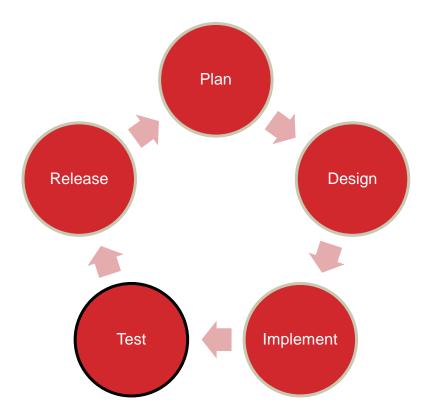
#### **Design:**

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



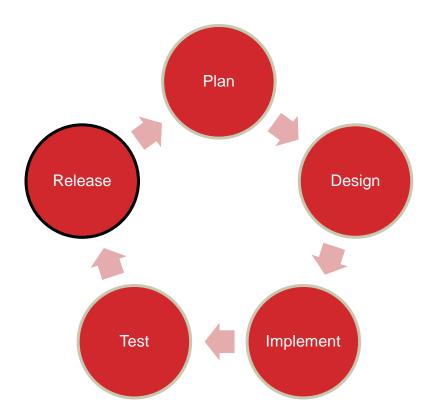
#### **Implement:**

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



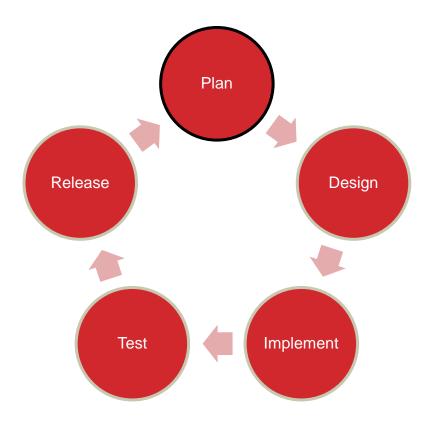
#### Test:

- 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 C++ programs
- Learn how program input / output works
- Learn about C++ variables and data types
- Study example program using programming basics
- Complete online lab on 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 C++ program and fundamental C++ instructions

#### • All C++ programs have the following structure:

- Introductory comments explain the purpose of program
- Include statements access to existing function libraries
- Global data structures used to store information (later)
- User defined functions used to decompose problem (later)
- Main function variables and statements for program
- The following example C++ program prints the message "Hello Mom" to the screen

// This program prints a message

#include <iostream>

```
using namespace std;
```

```
int main()
```

```
{
```

}

```
cout << "Hello Mom\n";
return 0 ;
```

This C++ comment line starts with a // and describes the purpose of the program

// This program prints a message

#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

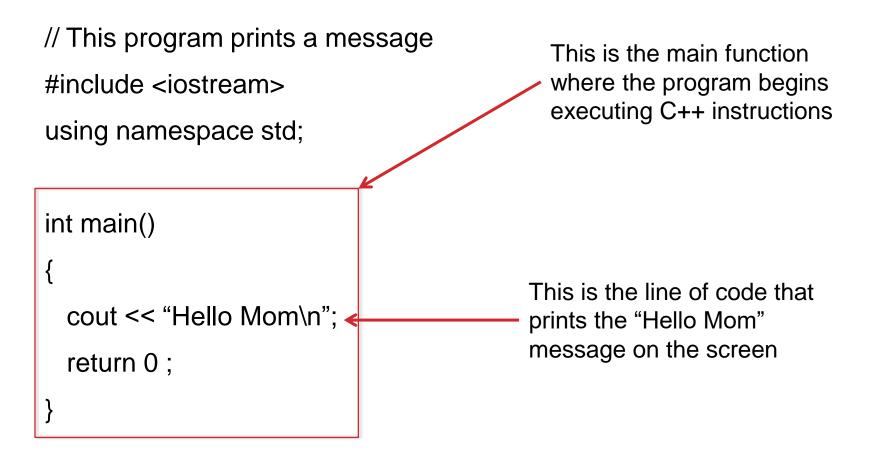
int main()

```
{
```

}

```
cout << "Hello Mom\n";
return 0 ;
```

These instructions tell the C++ compiler that we want to use the standard C++ input output library



// This program prints a message

#include <iostream>

using namespace std;

int main()

{

cout << "Hello Mom\n"; return 0 ;

This C++ command ends the program, so it should be the last line in the main function

### HOW TO CREATE AND RUN A PROGRAM

- Step 1 Type your C++ program using a text editor and save as a file on disk
  - % gedit hello.cpp
  - % represents the Linux command prompt
  - hello.cpp is a human-readable file with your C++ program
  - hello.cpp is called your "source code" file
  - the filename for C++ code must end in .cpp

### HOW TO CREATE AND RUN A PROGRAM

- Step 2 Translate your source code into machine code using a C++ compiler
  - % g++ -Wall hello.cpp –o hello
  - g++: the name of the C++ compiler
  - -Wall: parameter to compiler to turn all warnings on
  - hello.cpp: the name of the source code file
  - -o hello: the name of the output machine code file
  - hello is called the "executable file"

### HOW TO CREATE AND RUN A PROGRAM

- Step 3 Execute your program from the Linux command
  - % ./hello
  - ./ is the name for the current directory
  - hello is the name of the file you want to execute
- Step 4 Examine your program output on the screen
  - If the output is not what you expected
  - Use your editor to modify the source code
  - Recompile your program
  - Run the program again
  - Repeat until program is working correctly



- In this section we have studied what a program is and what the basic parts of a C++ program are:
  - Comments describing the goals of the program
  - Include statements that let us use the input/output libraries
  - The main function containing the code we want to run
  - The return statement at the end of the program

# PROGRAMMING BASICS

PART 2 STORING DATA

#### The most common C++ data types are:

- int stores positive or negative integers (32 bit)
- float stores positive or negative real numbers (32 bit)
- char stores single character like 'A' .. 'Z'
- string stores sequences of characters like "hello mom"

#### Other C++ data types include:

- Iong stores larger integer values (64 bit)
- double stores larger real numbers (64 bit)
- bool stores Boolean values (true/false)

- We allocate space in the computer memory for data by declaring variables in our program
  - This memory is **not** automatically initialized
- The C++ 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 C++ 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

// Coordinate 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
  - Otherwise, the compiler will give variables a **random** value
- The C++ 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 C++ by adding the reserved word "const" before a variable declaration
- We must provide the <u>value</u> of constant at declaration time
- Constants can be of any variable data type

### CONSTANTS

#### Example:

const int SILLY = 42; const float PI = 3.14159; const char YES = 'Y'; // My favorite number// My second favorite number// Example of character constant

#### Conventions when using constants:

- Constant names are normally written in upper case
- Constants are added just below the include statements in a program so they can be used by the whole program

### ASSIGNMENT STATEMENTS

- The operator "=" is used to assign data into a variable
- The C++ 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

#### C++ 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



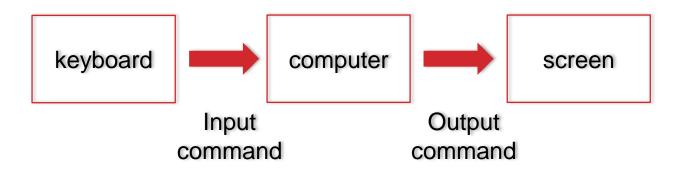
- In this section, we have studied how C++ variables are declared and to store information
  - Basic data types of the language
  - Rules for choosing variable names
  - How to initialize variables
- Next we showed how constants can be created
- Finally, we described the C++ assignment statement
  - 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

# 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



# **PROGRAM INPUT / OUTPUT**

- Many C++ programs have the following pattern:
  - Print a message to the user with input instructions
  - Read the input typed by the user
  - Print the input values just read by program
  - Do some calculations with the input
  - Print the results of the calculations
- Next we will go over C++ input / output commands
  - Cin command for input
  - Cout command for output

#### The C++ input command is: cin >> variable;

- The "cin" part tell the computer to read from the keyboard
- The ">>" part tells the computer to read something
- The "variable" tells the computer where to store the data

#### How is this done?

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

- Integer input example:
  - int number1;

cin >> number1;

- The user types in a sequence of characters "123"
- The system skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- Then the system reads all characters that are digits
- Then the system converts "123" into an integer 123 and stores this value in the variable number1

- Float input example:
  - float number2;

cin >> number2;

- 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 cin 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 cin command will assume they are 0
  - User input ".125" will be treated like "0.125"

Character input example:

char ch;

cin >> ch;

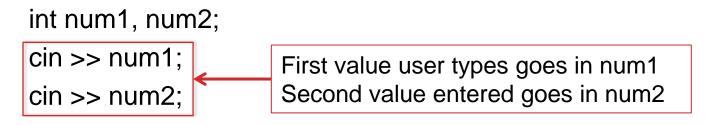
- The user types in a single character 'y'
- The system skips over leading spaces or carriage returns
- Then the system reads a single character 'y'
- Then the system stores this character 'y' in the variable ch

- String input example:
  - string str;

cin >> str;

- 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 str

- How can we read multiple values from the user?
- Solution 1: Use several cin statements



Solution 2: Use a sequence of >> within the cin statement

float val1, val2; cin >> val1 >> val2;

First value user types goes in val1 Second value entered goes in val2

- Common input errors:
- Not enough user input
  - Cin command will cause program to stop and wait for the user to enter more data
- Too much user input
  - Cin will read only the characters it needs to assign a value to the input variable, the rest is left unread
- Invalid input
  - Cin will not read any characters, and the input variable will be unchanged by the cin command

- Examples of not enough user input:
- User types nothing when input variable is a float
  - cin >> val;
  - Nothing is read and stored in the variable
  - The program will just sit and wait for input
- User types "42" when cin is expecting two integers
  - cin >> num1 >> num2;
  - The value 42 is stored in num1
  - The program will just sit and wait for second input

- Examples of too much user input:
- User types "hello mom" when input variable is a string
  - cin >> str;
  - The string "hello" will be read and stored in the variable
  - The remaining input " mom" will be unread
- User types "yes" when input variable is a character
  - cin >> ch;
  - The character 'y' is read and stored in the variable
  - The remaining input "es" will be unread

- Examples of invalid input:
- User types "123" when input variable is a string
  - cin >> str;
  - The string "123" will be read and stored in the variable
- User types "hello" when input variable is an integer
  - cin >> num;
  - There are no digits in "hello", so cin will not read any characters, and the input variable will be set to zero

- The C++ output command is: cout << variable;</p>
  - The "cout" part tell the computer to write to the screen
  - The "<<" part tells the computer to write something</p>
  - The "variable" tells the computer what data to write
- How is this done?
  - First, cout will look at variable to get its value
  - Then, cout will convert value to sequence of characters
  - Then, cout will output these characters on the monitor
  - The convert step will **vary** for different data types

Integer output example:

float number 1 = 123;

cout << number1;</pre>

- 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;

cout << number2;</pre>

- 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

Character output example:

char ch = 'y'; cout << ch;

- No conversion to ascii character is needed since the variable is already an ascii character
- The system displays the character "y" on the screen at the current cursor position

• String output example:

```
string str = "hello mom";
```

```
cout << str;
```

- 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

- Spaces are NOT automatically written between values
  - int var1=42, var2=17;
  - cout << var1;</pre>
  - cout << var2;</pre>
  - This will print "4217" without spaces between values
- We must print the spaces between values ourselves
  - int var1=42, var2=17;
  - cout << var1 << " ";</pre>
  - cout << var2 << " ";</pre>
  - This will print "42 17 " with spaces after both values

- We can use the reserved word "endl" to print a carriage return after data values
  - int var1=42, var2=17;
  - cout << val1 << endl;</p>
  - cout << val2 << endl;</p>
  - This will print "42" on one line and "17" on the next line

 We can also print out any of the following special characters inside a string to format our output

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

#### Example:

// Initialize student information
string first = "John";
string last = "Smith";
int age = 21;
float gpa = 3.14;

We are printing tab and carriage return characters to make the output look nice

// Print student information
cout << "First Name:\t" << first << "\n";
cout << "Last Name:\t" << last << "\n";
cout << "Age:\t\t" << age << "\n";
cout << "GPA:\t\t" << gpa << "\n";</pre>

#### Sample program output:

First Name: John Last Name: Smith Age: 21 GPA: 3.14

> Notice how all output is nicely aligned with each other

#### COMMENTS

#### Comments are an essential part of all programs

- Comments are used to explain the design and implementation of a program
- 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
- Do 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

- C++ supports two types of comments
- C++ style comments are a single line long (recommended)
   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 (in older code)
  - 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 studied the "cin" command for reading and storing information from users
- We also discussed the "cout" command for writing variables and other information to the screen
- Finally, have described how C++ 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 out using cout, or stored in variables using the assignment operator
- The rules for arithmetic expressions in C++ is 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 ← missing closing parenthesis
  - $cin + 42 \leftarrow cin is not a valid variable name$

#### 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
- $\leftarrow$  perform multiplication
- 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
- ← perform leftmost subtraction
- ← perform subtraction
- $\leftarrow$  perform division

- What happens if we mix data types in expressions?
- C++ 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: char, short, int, long, float, double

int OP int	$\leftarrow$ int result
char OP int	$\leftarrow$ int result
int OP float	← float result
float OP double	$\leftarrow$ double result

- 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

## ARITHMETIC EXPRESSIONS

- In C++ 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 ← the 0.5 is discarded !!

## ARITHMETIC EXPRESSIONS

- 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
    - - $\leftarrow$  integer division (0.333 discarded)

= 0

### ARITHMETIC EXPRESSIONS

- In C++ 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
    - $= 5 \quad \leftarrow 285 / 10 = 28$ , remainder is 5
  - 285 % 100

## **TYPE CASTING**

- C++ 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:**

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

## **TYPE CASTING**

- Type casting in C++ 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
- There are two equivalent ways do type casting
  - (data\_type) value
  - static\_cast<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
    - $= 0 \qquad \leftarrow \text{ integer division}$

  - 1 / static\_cast<float>(3)
    - = 1/3.0  $\leftarrow$  converts value to float
    - $= 0.333 \quad \leftarrow \text{float division}$

- 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

#include <iostream>

#include <cmath>

using namespace std;

int main()

// Local variable declarations
// Read sphere radius and echo input
// Calculate volume and surface area
// Print output

return 0;

}

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

The rest of the program is our "standard empty program" boiler plate

#include <iostream>

#include <cmath>

using namespace std;

int main()

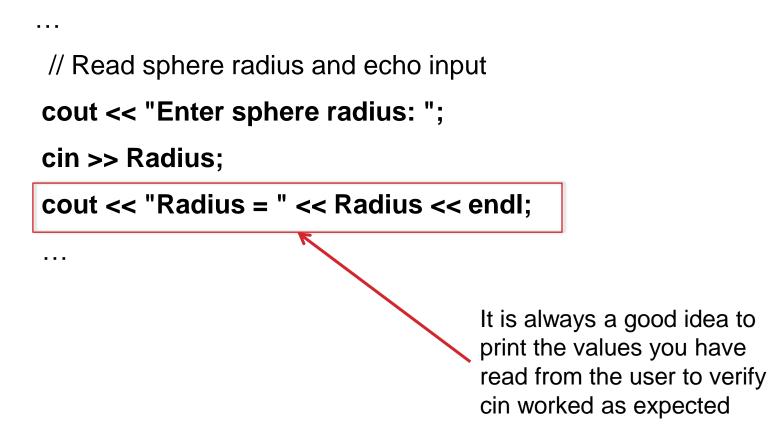
// Local variable declarations

float Radius = 0.0;

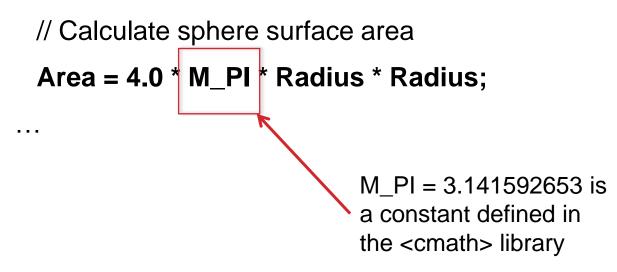
```
float Volume = 0.0;
```

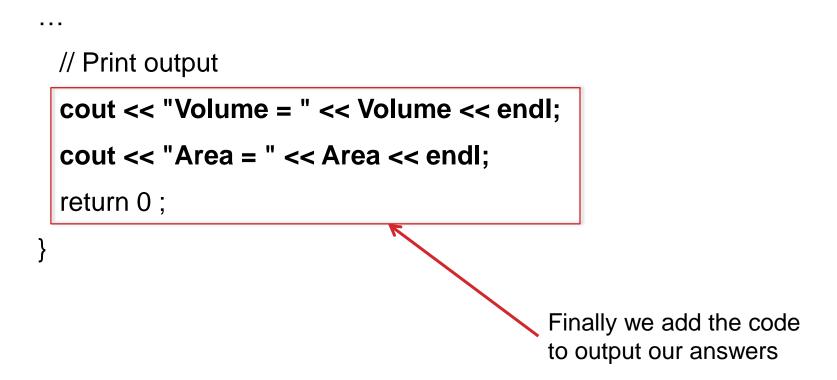
float Area = 0.0;

Next we add code for the each of the steps in our approach one chunk of code at a time



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) \* M\_PI \* Radius \* Radius \* Radius;





To compile on a Linux system:

g++ -Wall sphere.cpp -o sphere

To run on a Linux system:

./sphere

#### Sample program output:

Enter sphere radius: 1.0 Radius = 1 Volume = 4.18879 Area = 12.5664

Enter sphere radius: 10 Radius = 10 Volume = 4188.79 Area = 1256.64

- 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