

Slides

Development > Programming Languages > C++

## The C++ 20 Masterclass : From Fundamentals to Advanced

Learn and Master Modern C++ From Beginning to Advanced in Plain English : C++11, C++14, C++17, C++20 and More!

4.7 ★★★★★

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# Section : C++20 Modules

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# C++20 Modules

Concepts

Ranges

Coroutines

Modules

- One of the big C++20 features
- Changes the compilation model of C++ programs

math.h

main.cpp

```
#include "math.h"
```

math.cpp

```
#include "math.h"
```

stuff.cpp

```
#include "math.h"
```

## Problems with headers

- Compilation speed
- ODR violations
- Include order
- ...

```
//include "file1.h"
void f1(){ // f1 brought in by #include "file1.h"
    f2(); // f2 brought in by #include "file2.h"
}

//#include "file2.h"

int main()
{
    f1()
}
```



math.ixx

main.cpp

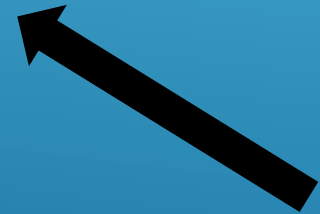
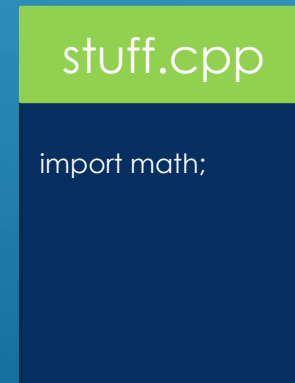
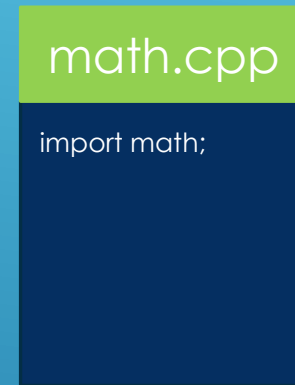
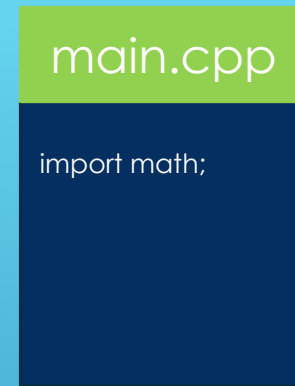
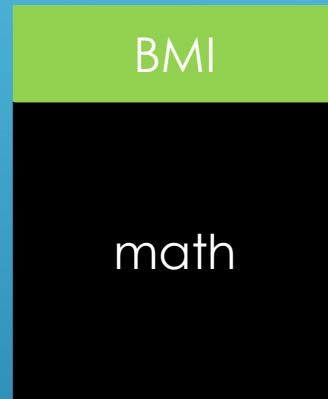
```
import math;
```

math.cpp

```
import math;
```

stuff.cpp

```
import math;
```



## With modules

- Compilation speed improved by BMI
- ODR violations. None. BMI lives in one object file
- Include order. Doesn't matter. Modules available in some pre-compiled form in the BMI file
- ...

```
module;  
#include <cstring>;  
export module print;
```

Global Module Fragment

```
import <string>;  
import <iostream>;
```

Module preamble

```
export void print_msg(const std::string& msg) {  
    std::cout << "Msg : " << msg << std::endl;  
}
```

Module purview

## Global Module fragment

- Can only contain preprocessor directives
- Allows old style `#include`'ing of headers in a module
- `#include` statements can only show up in the global module fragment, if you put them elsewhere, you'll get weird errors

## Module preamble

- Should only contain import statements. May be importing proper module files, or just plain old non C-library headers

## Module purview

- Contains the meat of the module; functions, types ,... that make up the interface of the module
- Some entities are exported, making them visible outside the module
- Those not exported are only usable inside the module itself

## Facts

- Each module is compiled independently into an object file
- Modules must be compiled in an order in such a way that all the dependencies are compiled first.
- If you are compiling manually on the command line yourself, you have to take care of this order yourself
- In practice however, IDEs and build systems will figure out this order automatically.



## Environment

- Windows 10
- Microsoft Visual Studio 2019 16.9.0 Preview 2

Compiler

Build system

IDE

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# Your First Module

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```
module;
// Global module fragment
#include <cstring> // C function includes must show up here
// #include <iostream> // Non c function includes can also be imported

export module math; // Module declaration
// Module preamble
import <iostream>; // Can't import C-function related headers
import <string>;

// Module purview
export double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

export void greet(const std::string& name) {
    std::string dest;
    dest = "Hello ";
    dest.append(name);
    std::cout << dest << std::endl;
}
```

## main.cpp

```
import <iostream>;  
import math;  
  
int main()  
{  
    double result1 = add(10.0, 20.1);  
    std::cout << "result : " << result1 << std::endl;  
  
    greet("John");  
  
    print_name_length("John");  
}
```

## Module interface file

- If the module declaration has `export` in front of it, the file containing the module becomes a module interface file
- The collection of entities export'ed from a module file make up the module interface

## Module interface file extension

msvc : .ixx  
Gcc/Clang : .cc/.cppm

\* gcc : <https://gcc.gnu.org/wiki/cxx-modules>



## Three options for working with modules

- Include translation
- Header importation
- Module importation

## Include translation

- Plain old raw `#include` statements in the global module fragment
- Other preprocessing directives should show up in the global module fragment too
- Headers that originate from the C Standard Library like `<cmath>`, `<cstring>`, ... can only show up in the global module fragment. You'll recognize them because their names are prefixed with a "c"
- The magic by which non modular code in the global module fragment is converted and consumed in our module is out of scope for this course

## Header Importation

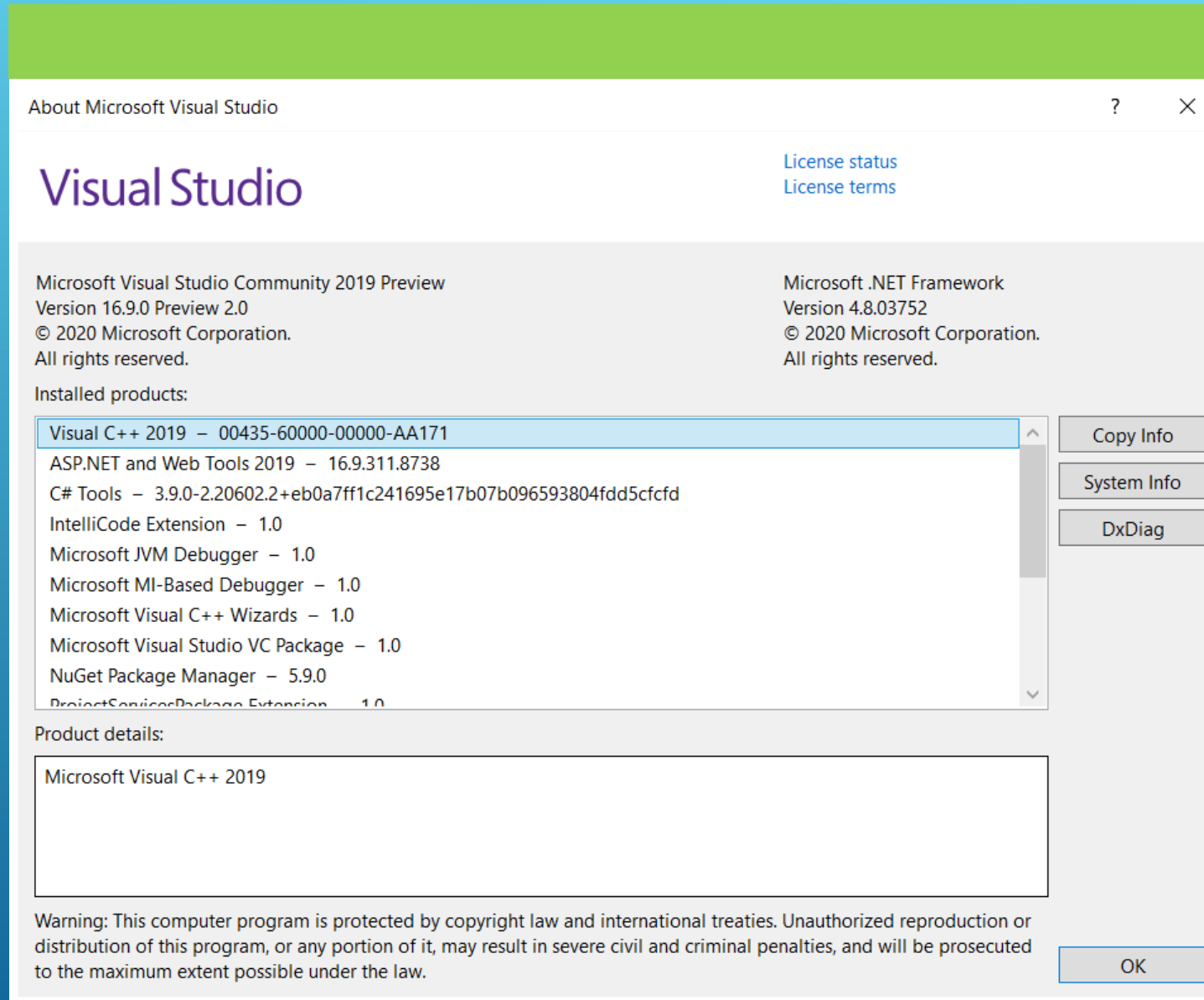
- Imports in the module preamble like `import <iostream>;`
- They are ended by a semicolon “;”
- Headers imported with the syntax “`import <iostream>;`” are called header units
- The compiler actually goes in and transforms the header into a legit module interface file by inserting proper module declarations and export statements where it makes sense

## Module importation

```
import <iostream>;  
import math;  
  
int main()  
{  
    double result1 = add(10.0, 20.1);  
    std::cout << "result : " << result1 << std::endl;  
  
    greet("John");  
  
    print_name_length("John");  
}
```

## Module importation

The name you use in your import statement is not based on the name of the file containing the module, it's based on the name in your module declaration statement



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# Block Export



```
module;
// Global module fragment
#include <cstring> // C function includes must show up here
// #include <iostream> // Non c function includes can also be imported

export module math; // Module declaration
// Module preamble
import <iostream>; // Can't import C-function related headers
import <string>;

// Module purview
export double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

export void greet(const std::string& name) {
    std::string dest;
    dest = "Hello ";
    dest.append(name);
    std::cout << dest << std::endl;
}
```

```
export{  
  
    void greet(const std::string& name) {  
        std::string dest;  
        dest = "Hello ";  
        dest.append(name);  
        std::cout << dest << std::endl;  
    }  
  
    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {  
        std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;  
    }  
}
```

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# Separating the interface from the implementation

## Interface

```
//Global module fragment / module preamble
//Module purview
export{
    double add(double a, double b);

    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);

    class Point {
    public:
        Point() = default;
        Point(double x, double y);
        friend std::ostream& operator << (std::ostream& out, const Point& point) {
            out << "Point [ x : " << point.m_x << ", y : " << point.m_y << "];
            return out;
        }
    private:
        double m_x;
        double m_y;
    };
}
```

## Implementation

```
//Implementation
double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

void greet(const std::string& name) {
    std::string dest;
    dest = "Hello ";
    dest.append(name);
    std::cout << dest << std::endl;
}

void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {

    std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;
}

//Point constructor
Point::Point(double x, double y) : m_x(x), m_y(y) {};
```

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# Separating the interface from the implementation : Different files



## Interface : lives in module interface file (.ixx)

```
module;  
// Global module fragment  
// #include <iostream> // Non c function includes can also be imported  
  
export module math; // Module declaration  
// Module preamble  
import <iostream>; // Can't import C-function related headers  
import <string>;  
  
// Global module fragment / module preamble  
// Module preview  
export {  
    double add(double a, double b);  
  
    void greet(const std::string& name);  
  
    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);  
  
    class Point { ... };  
}
```

## Module implementation file

```
module;
//Global module fragment
#include <cstring> // C function includes must show up here

module math; // module declaration
    //, marks this file as module implementation file
    //Preamble : imports
    // Purview
    double add(double a, double b) { ... }

    void greet(const std::string& name) { ... }

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {
        //
        std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;
    }

    //Point constructor
    Point::Point(double x, double y) : m_x(x), m_y(y) {};
```

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# Multiple Module Implementation Files

Interface : lives in module interface file (.ixx)

```
module;  
// Global module fragment  
// #include <iostream> // Non c function includes can also be imported  
  
export module math; // Module declaration  
// Module preamble  
import <iostream>; // Can't import C-function related headers  
import <string>;  
  
// Global module fragment / module preamble  
// Module preview  
export {  
    double add(double a, double b);  
  
    void greet(const std::string& name);  
  
    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);  
  
    class Point { ... };  
}
```

## math.cpp

```
module;
//Global module fragment
#include <cstring> // C function includes must show up here

module math; // module declaration
//, marks this file as module implementation file
//Preamble : imports
// Purview
double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

//Point constructor
Point::Point(double x, double y) : m_x(x), m_y(y) {};
```

## print.cpp

```
module; // Can leave this out. Use what works better for you

module math; // Access to <string> and <iostream> is inherited from the
            // Module interface file

void greet(const std::string& name) {
    std::string dest;
    dest = "Hello ";
    dest.append(name);
    std::cout << dest << std::endl;
}

void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {
    std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;
}
```

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# Multiple Interface Files

## math.ixx (OLD)

```
module;
// Global module fragment
// #include <iostream> // Non c function includes can also be imported

export module math; // Module declaration
// Module preamble
import <iostream>; // Can't import C-function related headers
import <string>;

// Global module fragment / module preamble
// Module preview
export {
    double add(double a, double b);

    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);

    class Point { ... };
}
```

```
module;
// Global module fragment : contains preprocessor directives

export module math; // Module declaration
//Module preamble
import <iostream>; // Needed because of operator<< in Point

//Module purview
export{
    double add(double a, double b);
    class Point {
    public:
        Point() = default;
        Point(double x, double y);
        friend std::ostream& operator << (std::ostream& out, const Point& point) {
            out << "Point [ x : " << point.m_x << ", y : " << point.m_y << " ]";
            return out;
        }
    private:
        double m_x;
        double m_y;
    };
}
```

## print.ixx

```
module;

export module print; // Module declaration

import <iostream>;
import <string>;

export{
    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);
}
```

## math.cpp

```
module;
//Global module fragment

module math; // module declaration
//, marks this file as module implementation file
//Preamble : imports
import print;
// Purview
double add(double a, double b) {
    return a + b;
}

//Point constructor
Point::Point(double x, double y) : m_x(x), m_y(y) {
    std::cout << "Constructing Point object and greeting John" << std::endl;
    greet("John");
}
```

## print.cpp

```
module; // Can leave this out. Use what works better for you
#include <cstring>
module print; // Access to <string> and <iostream> is inherited from the
              // Module interface file

void greet(const std::string& name) {
    std::string dest;
    dest = "Hello ";
    dest.append(name);
    std::cout << dest << std::endl;
}

void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {
    std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;
}
```

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# Export Import



## print.ixx

```
module;

export module print; // Module declaration

import <iostream>;
import <string>;
export import <vector>; // Forward this module to importers of our module

export{
    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);
}
```

## main.cpp

```
import <iostream>;
import print;

int main()
{
    greet("John");

    std::vector<int> vec{ 1,2,3,4,5 };

    for (auto i : vec) {
        std::cout << i << std::endl;
    }
}
```

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# Sub-modules

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math

math.add\_sub

math.mult\_div

```
module;

export module math;

export import math.add_sub;
export import math.mult_div;
```

```
module;

export module math.add_sub;

export{
    double add(double a, double b) {
        return a + b;
    }

    double sub(double a, double b) {
        return a - b;
    }
}
```

```
module;

export module math.mult_div;

export{
    double mult(double a, double b) {
        return a * b;
    }

    double div(double a, double b) {
        return a / b;
    }
}
```

## main.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
//import math; // Import the entire larger module

import math.add_sub; // Import smaller sub-modules
import math.mult_div;

int main()
{
    double result = add(100, 5);
    std::cout << "add_result : " << result << std::endl;

    result = sub(100, 5);
    std::cout << "sub_result : " << result << std::endl;
}
```

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# Module interface partitions

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math

math:addition

math:multiplication

```
module;  
  
export module math;  
  
export import :addition;  
export import :multiplication;
```

```
module;  
  
export module math:addition;  
  
export double add(double a, double b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

```
module;  
  
export module math:multiplication;  
  
export double mult(double a, double b) {  
    return a * b;  
}
```

## main.cpp

```
#include <iostream>
import math;

int main()
{
    auto result = add(10, 2);
    std::cout << "result : " << result << std::endl; // 12

    result = mult(10, 2);
    std::cout << "result : " << result << std::endl; // 20
}
```

## More on Modules

- Module Implementation Partitions
- Visibility and Reachability
- ...

## References

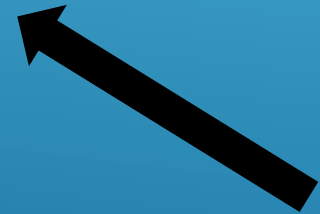
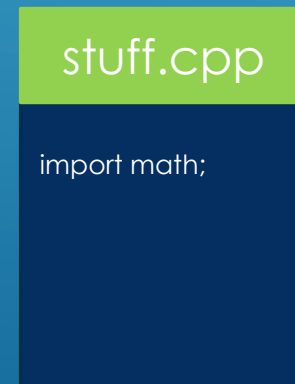
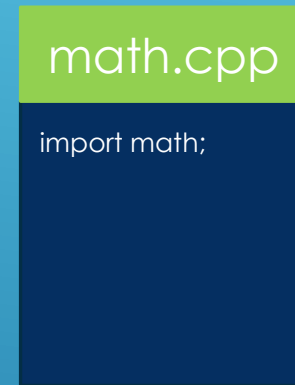
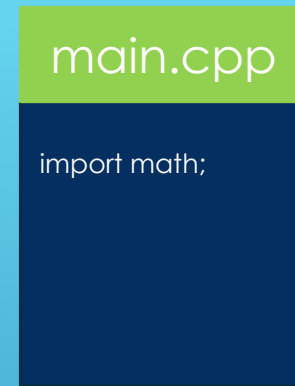
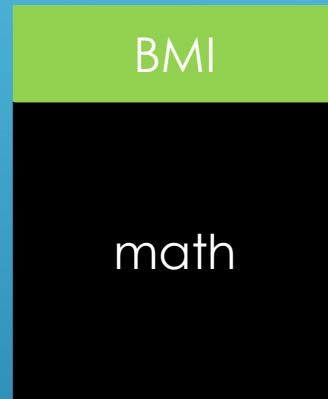
<https://vector-of-bool.github.io/2019/03/10/modules-1.html>

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# C++20 Modules : Summary



- One of the big C++20 features
- Changes the compilation model of C++ programs



```
module;  
#include <cstring>;  
export module print;
```

Global Module Fragment

```
import <string>;  
import <iostream>;
```

Module preamble

```
export void print_msg(const std::string& msg) {  
    std::cout << "Msg : " << msg << std::endl;  
}
```

Module purview

## Block export

```
export{  
  
    void greet(const std::string& name) {  
        std::string dest;  
        dest = "Hello ";  
        dest.append(name);  
        std::cout << dest << std::endl;  
    }  
  
    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name) {  
        std::cout << "Length : " << std::strlen(c_str_name) << std::endl;  
    }  
}
```

## Separate Interface from Implementation – Same File/ Different files

```
//Global module fragment / module preamble
//Module purview
export{
    double add(double a, double b);

    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);

    class Point {
    public:
        Point() = default;
        Point(double x, double y);
        friend std::ostream& operator << (std::ostream& out, const Point& point) {
            out << "Point [ x : " << point.m_x << ", y : " << point.m_y << "];
            return out;
        }
    private:
        double m_x;
        double m_y;
    };
}
```



Multiple implementation files for an interface



## Multiple Interfaces

## Export Import

```
module;

export module print; // Module declaration

import <iostream>;
import <string>;
export import <vector>; // Forward this module to importers of our module

export{
    void greet(const std::string& name);

    void print_name_length(const char* c_str_name);
}
```



## Submodules

```
module;  
  
export module math;  
  
export import math.add_sub;  
export import math.mult_div;
```

```
module;  
  
export module math.add_sub;  
  
export{  
    double add(double a, double b) {  
        return a + b;  
    }  
  
    double sub(double a, double b) {  
        return a - b;  
    }  
}
```

```
module;  
  
export module math.mult_div;  
  
export{  
    double mult(double a, double b) {  
        return a * b;  
    }  
  
    double div(double a, double b) {  
        return a / b;  
    }  
}
```

## Module Interface Partitions

```
module;  
  
export module math;  
  
export import :addition;  
export import :multiplication;
```

```
module;  
  
export module math:addition;  
  
export double add(double a, double b) {  
    return a + b;  
}
```

```
module;  
  
export module math:multiplication;  
  
export double mult(double a, double b) {  
    return a * b;  
}
```

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