

# Introduction to Fortran

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#### Overview

- A brief history of Fortran
- Some programming fundamentals
- Hello World
- Types and variables
- Basic grammar and operations
- Control flow

#### Course content

- Some experience of programming in some language very useful
- But I don't assume much!
- Covers Fortran language
- Other people covering floating point maths, compilation, performance, parallelisation
- One/two practical sessions on the basics, but most hands-on in the target application sessions

#### What is Fortran?

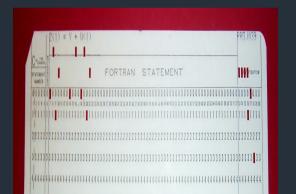
- Old language! 1956 62 years old
  - Oldest "high-level" language
  - Many versions over the years, latest is 2018! And next one is being worked on as we speak
- Some parts feel outdated
  - Backwards compatibility is important
  - But original reasons for some features no longer hold
- But still in use for good reason!
- Can be very fast
- Native multidimensional arrays
  - Very useful for scientists!

#### What is Fortran?

- Compiled language
  - compare with Python as interpreted language
- Statically typed:
  - types of variables must be specified at compile time and cannot be changed
  - "strong" typing, compare with C, easy to change types
- Imperative: commands executed in order
  - compare with SQL, Make, where commands are "what" vs "how"

### Brief history of Fortran

- First release in 1956, FORTRAN
  - Not the first high-level language, but the first successful one
  - Let people write programs much faster, rather than in assembly
- Massively successful, ported to more than 40 different systems
- Early computers had no disks, text editors or even keyboards!
- Programs were made on punchcards



### Brief history of Fortran

- FORTRAN II added functions (!)
- FORTRAN IV eventually got standardised and became FORTRAN 66
  - Starting to look like a "modern" programming language
- Next standard. FORTRAN 77, added lots of modern features
  - But still tied to format of punchcards!
- Fortran 90 finally brought language up to modern era
  - "Free" form source code
  - Made lots of "spaghetti" code features obsolescent
  - Added whole array operations, modules, derived data types
- Further revisions:
  - Fortran 95 minor revision to F90
  - Fortran 2003 major revision, support for object-oriented programming
  - Fortran 2008 native support for parallelisation via coarrays
  - Fortran 2018 minor revision to F2008, more support for parallelisation and interoperability with C

### Why Fortran?

- Built for efficient mathematical calculations
- Makes it easy to write simple code that optimises well
  - For "reasonable" use cases!
- Multidimensional arrays are first-class objects
- Support for basic input files built in
- Easily fits into various parallel programming paradigms
  - Some even built right into language
- Majority of codes on UK supercomputers use Fortran
  - fluid dynamics, materials, plasmas, climate, etc.
- Portable code, several compilers available
- Interoperability features (can work with C easily)

### Why not Fortran?

- Not great at problems outside of "usual" domain
  - Text processing, graphical interfaces, system programming
  - Still possible, just harder than in specialist languages!
- Historical baggage has left a very verbose language
  - Lots of typing!
- Lack of proper generics make some useful data structures tricky to implement
- Slow support from compiler vendors

#### Alternatives

- C++
  - Templates make it possible to express generic operations
  - Can get "close to the metal", can get very good performance
  - Multidimensional array support poor (no native support, libraries exist)
- Python
  - Easier to use!
  - Possible cost of performance (but e.g. numpy uses C or Fortran under the hood!)
- Matlab
  - Expensive!

- Computers understand machine code 1s and 0s
- e.g. a square function might look like:

#### 

- Exact number depends on exactly what physical processor you want to run on!
- We would much prefer to write in a human language
- "Lowest" level language is assembly, which just gives names to the op codes:

```
movss xmm0,DWORD PTR [rdi] ;; f3 Of 10 07
mulss xmm0,xmm0 ;; f3 Of 59 c0
ret ;; c3
```

■ Source code is human-readable set of instructions for computer:

```
square = x * x
```

- Higher level language can abstract over assembly complications
- Need a program to convert source to machine code
- **Either:** 
  - interpreted, like Python, convert on the fly
  - compiled, like Fortran, convert then run
- Compilation step offers opportunity to spend time optimising the code
  - unoptimised version of square above is 9 times longer!

- Source code is written in plain text files (i.e. not Word!)
- Run compiler on source file to produce *executable*
- Programming languages have a strict syntax or grammar
- Compiler will tell you if you get this wrong
  - Read the error message, then read it again!
- Compiler can also warn you about suspicious code
- Compilers have many options or *flags* to control warnings, errors, optimisations, etc.

- Source code is read more times than it is written, by factor 5 or more
- We use high-level languages in order to be understandable to humans
- Therefore, more important to write **readable** code than **efficient** code
- Even more important that it is correct
- Make it work -> make it readable -> make it fast
  - In that order!

#### Some conventions

- <something> means "something" is mandatory, but up to you
- {something} means "something" is optional, but has to be exactly something
  - {<something>} means "something" is optional and up to you!
- These two are red in code blocks, as they won't compile!
- If a code block has numbers on the left, it's from an example file, which will be available from
  - https://github.com/ZedThree/HPCAcademyFortran/tree/master/examples
- I usually don't show the whole file, but the whole file will compile and work
- I don't always follow best practices to make things fit on slides!
  - Do as I say, not as I do!
- Words like this are either keywords or tiny code snippets
- Words like this are (usually) technical words, either common usage or from the Fortran standard
- Words like this are just emphasis
- I use Fortran 2018, but everything should compile with gfortran 7

#### Hello world

```
program hello
implicit none

! Print to screen:
print*, "Hello, World!"

end program hello
```

- Lines 1 & 5: All programs must start with program <label> and end with end program <label>
- Line 2: implicit none: Historical reasons! Old Fortran had implicit typing: more on this later
- Line 3: A comment, begins with ! (ignore everything after this)
- Line 4: Print some text to screen

#### Compiling code

This will be covered more in depth later on

Basic compilation is as so:

- gfortran source.f90 -> a.out
- gfortran source.f90 -o executable -> executable

And running like

■ ./executable

#### Compiler flags

Some basic, very helpful flags you should use:

- -Wall: "commonly used" warnings
- -Wextra: additional warnings
- -fcheck=all: various run-time checks
  - This isn't free!
- -g: debug symbols
  - Can give better error messages, required for debuggers like gdb
- -01/-02/-03: optimisations
  - Can speed up code at cost of longer compile times

Full compile line might look like:

```
■ gfortran -Wall -Wextra -fcheck=all -g -02 hello.f90 -o hello
```

Build systems like CMake or Makefile help simplify this

#### Types

There are 5 fundamental types in Fortran:

- integer
- real floating point numbers
- logical booleans, two values: .true./.false.
- character text, also called strings
- complex floating point complex numbers

(later, we will look at derived types)

### What, exactly, is a type?

- Computers store **everything** in binary, ones and zeros, called *bits*
- Given a set of bits, what does it mean?
  - Could be a number, could be some text
  - Could be an instruction!
- Binary: 0000000000000001001011001110000
- As an integer: 38512
- As a real: 5.39668e-41
- As a character: p
- As an instruction: XCHG

## What, exactly, is a type?

- We need to tell computer how to interpret the set of bits
  - We're free to lie to the computer and change our minds about how to interpret a given set of bits
- Would be very tedious if we had to tell the computer every time we wanted to do an operation on some bits what type they represented
  - plus potential for mistakes
- Types tell the *compiler* our intent: these bits are an integer, those are text
- Compiler then checks we're doing sensible things
  - 4 + 6 makes sense
  - 4 + "hello" doesn't make any sense
  - 4 + 5.3 might do

#### Literals

```
Very common to need literally "this value"
■ integer:
    ■ 1 -2 1e3 42
■ real:
    ■ 2. 0.3, 4.6E4, 0.02e-3
    ■ Note: real literals are single-precision by default (more on this later)
complex:
character:
■ logical:
    But often printed as T and F!
```

#### **Variables**

- A variable is label for some value in memory used in a program
- In Fortran, we must tell the compiler up front what type a variable is, and this is fixed
  - In other languages, like Python, we can change our minds
- Variables are declared like:

```
<type> :: <name> {, <name>}
```

■ Note: :: not always needed, but never hurts!

```
integer :: grid_points
real :: energy, mass
```

#### Variable names

- Variable names must start with a letter, and are limited to ASCII lower/uppercase, numbers and underscore
- Valid:
  - a, NUMBER5, nitrogen\_mass, O2\_concentration
- Invalid:
  - 1a: must start with a letter
  - b: must start with a letter
  - Pounds£: contains non-valid character £
  - a-b: parsed as "subtract b from a"

#### Variable names

- Pick variable names wisely!
  - in F2003, you can have up to 63 characters in a name
- Good names:
  - distance\_to\_next\_atom
  - temperature
  - total\_energy
- Less good names:
  - distnxtatm
  - temp
  - E
- "Writing code is a form of communication" Kate Gregory
- Be kind to future readers, dnt ndlssly shrtn nms
- Your code will live longer than you think!

## Hello world again

```
character(len=20) :: name
integer :: number
print*, "What is your name?"
read*, name
print*. "What is your favourite integer?"
read*, number
print*, "Hello, ", name, &
     & ", your favourite number is ", number, "!"
```

- Line 3: <a href="mailto:character(len=20">character(len=20)</a>: we need to say up-front how long how strings are via the len type parameter (we'll cover this a bit more later on)
- Line 6: read\*,: read a variable from stdin/command line
- Line 9: &: line continuation for long lines

### What's this implicit none?

- Always, always use implicit none
- Early Fortran done on punch cards
- Assume anything starting with i-n is an integer, otherwise it's real
- Very easy to make a tpyo and use an undefined value, get the wrong answer
- One implicit none at the top of the program (or module, see later) is sufficient
  - You may like to keep it in every function, see later

## Some points on Fortran grammar: whitespace

■ Whitespace mostly doesn't matter:

```
integer::x=1
         * . X
But very important for readability!
integer :: x = 1
print*, x
```

### Some points on Fortran grammar: whitespace

- Matter of personal taste, but go for readability over prettiness
- Prefer one space around operators (+, \*, =, etc.)
- Prefer one space after "punctuation" (:, ,)
- Vertical whitespace also affects readability
- Also note: tabs are not standard Fortran! Use spaces for indentation

### Some points on Fortran grammar

#### Lines

■ Statements must be on a single line unless you use a &, line continuation

```
if (some_very_long_and_complicated_condition > some_other_very_lon
can be rewritten as
```

- Optional to put & at start of next line
- Maximum of 256 lines (i.e. 255 &)
- Prefer to put operators at the beginning of lines

## Some points on Fortran grammar

#### Capitalisation

- Fortran is (almost) completely case-insensitive
  - Inside strings matters, but keywords and variable names don't

```
iF (eNeRgY > cRiTiCaL_eNeRgY) tHen
```

is identical to

```
if (energy > critical_energy) then
```

but one is easier to read

- Originally didn't have lower-case characters at all!
- Prefer lower-case keywords
- Careful with names!
- You may prefer snake case for variable names

### Some points on Fortran grammar

#### File names

- The standard doesn't mention source files at all
- Linux also doesn't care about file extensions
- Early, fixed-form sources files used .f file extension
- With Fortran 90, people started using .f90 for free-form source files
- Some people thought that .f95, .f03, etc. should be used for later standards
- Not the case!
- Just use .f90 and you'll be fine

#### Arithmetic operations

- Usual mathematical operators: +, -, \*, /
- Plus **\*\*** for exponentiation
  - Careful you only use integers unless you mean it
- BODMAS/PEDMAS and left-to-right, but use () to clarify
  - Don't forget, make it readable

```
3    real :: x, y
4    print*, 3 * 4
5    print*, 12 / 4
6    print*, 3.6e-1 + 3.6e0
7    x = 42.
8    y = 6.
9    print*, x + 2. / 4. * y ** 2
10    print*, x + ((2. / 4.) * (y ** 2))
```

### Mixed-type operations

- Not uncommon to want to mix types in arithmetic, e.g.
  - integer :: n points of real :: grid\_spacing
- This will *promote* the different types to be the same type/kind
- Result may end being *demoted* to fit the result type
- Possible to lose information this way, but compiler *may* warn you!

#### Integer division

- When dividing two integers, the result is an integer truncated towards zero
- This may be surprising!
- **5** / 2 == 2
- Therefore, if you need the result to be a real, either convert (at least) one operand to real, or use a real literal

```
integer :: x = 5
print*, 5 / 2
print*, x / 2
print*, x / real(2)
print*, x / 2.
```

# Logical/relational operations

- < >: Less/greater than
- <= >=: Less/greater than or equal to
- ==: Equal to
- /=: Not equal to
  - Note the inequality operator! Might look odd if you come from C-like languages or Python
  - This operator is essentially why Fortran doesn't have short-hand operators like a \*= b
- Also wordier versions:
  - .lt., .le., .gt., .ge., .eq., .ne
  - But don't use these!
- integer :: a = 4, b = 5
  print\*, a == b
- print\*, a < b
- $\overline{b} = \overline{b} = \frac{b}{6}$

#### Intrinsic functions

- Built-in to language
- Lots of maths!
  - sin, cos, etc.
  - F2008 has things like hypot, bessel\_j0, erf, norm2
- Use them if they exist can be heavily optimised by compiler
  - Difficult to detect if they are available of course

```
real :: pi = 2.0 * acos(0.0)

print*, sin(pi / 4.)**2 + cos(pi / 4.)**2

print*, hypot(3., 4.)

print*, len("This sentence is forty-two characters long")
```

#### Control flow

- Often need to change exactly what happens at runtime
- if statement allows us to take one of a number of *branches* depending on the value of its *condition*

```
if (<logical-expression>) then
  ! do something
end if
```

- If <logical-expression> evaluates to .true. then the statements inside the construct are executed
- Otherwise, we carry on executing after the end if

#### Control flow

■ More generally:

```
if (<logical-expression-1>) then
  ! do something 1
else if (<logical-expression-2>) then
  ! do something 2
else
  ! do something 3
end if
```

- Bare else must be last
- Also note that brackets () are mandatory here

### Control flow

Conditions are checked from the top:

```
integer :: x
print*, "Pick any number"
read*, x
if (x >= 0) then
  print*, "You picked a positive number"
else if (x > 1) then
  print*, "This can never be reached!"
  print*, "You picked a negative number"
```

# Logical/boolean operations

```
integer :: x = 5
if ((x >= 0) .and. (x < 10)) then
print*, "x is between 0 and 10"
else
print*, "x not between 0 and 10"
end if</pre>
```

- Note for those familiar with other languages: Fortran does not have shortcut logical operations
  - Line 4 above may evaluate both conditions!
- Also note that logicals must be compared with .eqv. and not == or .eq.
  - But you will probably never use this!

### Loops

- Often want to repeat some bit of code/instructions for multiple values
  - Could write everything out explicitly
- do loops are a way of doing this
- three slight variations:

```
! do something
do while (<logical-expression>)
  ! do somethina
do <index> = <lower-bound>, <upper-bound>
  ! do something
```

### Loops

- All three forms essentially equivalent
- Bare do needs something in body to exit loop
- do while loops while the condition is true
- Last form does <upper-bound> <lower-bound> + 1 loops
  - loop variable (<index>) must be pre-declared
  - lower and upper bounds are your choice

### Bare do

■ Notice nothing to say when loop is done!

```
integer :: x = 0
do
print*, x
    x = x + 1
```

#### exit

- We can use exit to leave a loop
- Leaves current loop entirely

```
3   integer :: x = 0
4   do
5   print*, x
6   x = x + 1
7   if (x >= 10) exit
```

#### do while

print\*, x
x = x + 1

Equivalent to using exit at start of loop

```
integer :: x = 0
do while(x < 10)
print*, x
    x = x + 1
end do
Unlike C++, do while checks the condition at the beginning of the loop:
integer :: x = 10
do while(x < 10)</pre>
```

```
do <counter> = <start>, <stop> {, <stride>}
```

- Most common form of the do loop is with a counter
- Must be an integer and declared before-hand
- start and stop are required, counter goes from start to stop inclusive:

```
3    integer :: i
4    do i = 0, 9
5        print*, i
6    end do
```

```
do <counter> = <start>, <stop> {, <stride>}
```

There is an optional stride:

```
integer :: i
do i = 0, 9, 2
print*, i
end do
```

■ Note that stop might not be included if stride would step over it

### A couple of points on do

- It's ok for stop < start: just won't be executed
- stride can be negative:

```
3   integer :: i
4   do i = 9, 0, -2
5    print*, i
6   end do
```

- You cannot change the value of the loop counter inside a loop
- Value of counter not defined outside loop
  - Likely to take on last value after loop, but absolutely do not rely on it!
  - Compiler free to optimise it away



### Overview

- Arrays
- Parameters
- Kinds
- Procedures (functions and subroutines)

### Arrays

Arrays are one of the "killer features" of Fortran
Big reason why it's lasted so long!
Vector in 3D space could be 1D array of 3 elements:
integer, dimension(3) :: vector1
! Or equivalently:
integer :: vector2(3)

■ Fortran can natively handle multidimensional arrays:

- integer, dimension(3, 3) :: matrix1
  ! Or equivalently:
  integer :: matrix2(3, 3)
  - matrix1 has 3x3 = 9 elements

# Array indexing

- We can *index* an array using an integer:
- do i = 1, 3
- vector1(i) = i
- - print\*, "vector1(1):", vector1(1)
  - We can even take a *slice* using the : notation: print\*, "vector1(2:3):", vector1(2:3)
  - We can optionally leave off the lower and/or upper bounds:

  - ! All of first row:
- print\*, matrix1(1, :)
- ! First two columns. last two rows:
  - print\*, matrix1(:2, 2:)

### Arrays

■ **Note:** By default, Fortran indices start at 1! Can change this: integer, dimension(-1:1) :: array integer :: i array(-1) = 12arrav(0) = 42 $\overline{\operatorname{arrav}(1)} = -18$ ■ 1D array. 3 values with indices -1, 0, 1 ■ Note array bounds separated with: dimensions (or ranks) with .: real, dimension(-1:1, 3:5) :: stress tensor

■ Still 3x3, but first dimension has indices -1, 0, 1, and second has 3, 4, 5

### Literal arrays

- Just like scalar types have literals, so do arrays
- Wrap the scalar values in square brackets [<values>...]
  - Older style is (/<values>.../)
- Can use this to initialise or assign to arrays:
- integer, dimension(3) :: array1 = [1, 2, 3]
  - Or even pass to functions:
- print\*, sin([1., 2., 3., 4.])
  - Unfortunately, only works for 1D arrays! Multidimensional arrays need to use reshape

# Literal multidimensional arrays

```
integer :: matrix2(3, 3)

matrix2 = reshape([ & 9, 8, 7, & 6, 5, 4, & 3, 2, 1], shape(matrix2))
```

- Second argument to reshape is shape of result
- For assigning to arrays, we can just use shape intrinsic to get the right answer

### Constructing arrays

- How to fill an array with 10 values between 0 and  $2\pi$ ?
  Could do:
- array(1) = 0. array(2) = 2. \* pi \* (1. / 10.) array(3) = 2. \* pi \* (2. / 10.)
- ! or
  do i = 1, 10

array(i) = 2. \* pi \* (real(i - 1) / 10.)

- This can be written a bit more compactly using an *implied do*:
- array2 = [(2. \* pi \* (real(i 1) / 10.), i=1, 10)]
- Not always the best tool, but sometimes very useful!

## Operations with arrays

■ We can do element-wise operations on arrays very simply:

```
print*, "42 + vector1:", 42 + vector1

print*, "2 * vector1:", 2 * vector1

print*, "vector1 + vector2:", vector1 + vector2

print*, "vector1 - vector2:", vector1 - vector2

print*, "vector1 * vector2:", vector1 * vector2

print*, "vector1 / vector2:", vector1 / vector2
```

- Notice how we can use both scalars and arrays in these operations?
- These whole-array operations make Fortran very powerful:

```
pressure = density * temperature
```

Assuming all three variables are the same shape, this just does the right thing

# Conformability

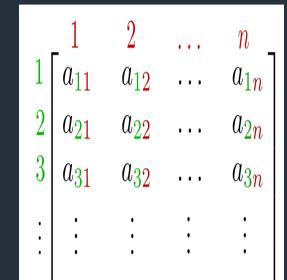
- When working with multiple arrays, need to make sure shapes *conform* (i.e. match exactly)
  - Useful intrinsic, shape, to tell you the shape!
- Scalars conform with everything
- Slices with the same shape conform (even if upper/lower bounds don't match)

# Conformability

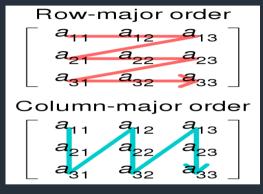
```
! Won't work, different sizes
! print*. vector1 + vector2
! Ok, can use a slice of vector2
print*, vector1 + vector2(:3)
! Won't work because the ranks don't match
! print*. vector1 + matrix1
! Ok, shape(matrix1(:, 1)) == shape(vector1)
print*, vector1 + matrix1(:, 1)
```

- Brief aside into computer architecture
- Computer memory is indexed by a linear series of addresses
- Usually written in hexadecimal
  - e.g. 0x07FFAB43
- When we want to store multidimensional arrays, need to store them "flattened"
- Also need to pick which is the "fastest" dimension, i.e. which is stored first in memory

Maths matrix:



- Two choices:
- $\bullet$   $a_{11}$ ,  $a_{12}$ , ...,  $a_{1n}$ , then  $a_{21}$ ,  $a_{22}$ , ...
- $\blacksquare$  or  $a_{11}$ ,  $a_{21}$ , ...,  $a_{m1}$ , then  $a_{12}$ ,  $a_{22}$  ...
- Row-major or column-major





https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=65107030

- What does this mean in practice?
- Nested loops over multidimensional arrays should have the inner-most loop go over the left-most rank:

```
integer :: i, j, k
real(real64), dimension(3, 3, 3) :: matrix
do k = 1.3
  do j = 1, 3
    do i = 1, 3
      matrix(i, j, k) = i + j + k
```

- Assuming no loop-dependencies, answer is identical to reversing order of loops
- But performance can be very different!
- order of magnitude!
- This is different from C-like languages

```
call cpu_time(start_time)
```

- do iteration = 1, max iteration
- do iteration = 1, max\_iteration = do k = 1. nz
  - do j = 1, ny
    - do i = 1, nx
  - matrix1(i, j, k) = i + j + k
    - end
- end de
- 4 end d

```
■ The basic mathematical intrinsic functions also work on arrays:

■ sin, cos, tan, sqrt, exp, log, etc.

real, dimension(N) :: x = [(2.*pi * real(i)/N, i=1, N)]

print*, x

print*, sin(x)

print*, cos(x)

print*, abs(sin(x))
```

print\*,  $\exp(-(x - pi)**2 / (pi / 4.))$ 

There are many useful functions for working with arrays built in to Fortran

Many of these intrinsics take an optional dim argument to take the function just along that dimension

#### Working with vectors/matrices

- dot\_product(vector\_a, vector\_b): Returns the dot product of two 1D arrays
  of the same size
- matmul(matrix\_a, matrix\_b): Returns the matrix multiplication of two
  matrices
- product(array): Return the product of all the elements
- sum(array): Return the sum of all the elements
- norm2(array): Return the  $L_2$  norm, essentially sqrt(array\*\*2)

#### Logical inquiries

- all(mask): Returns true if all the elements in the logical array mask are true, otherwise returns false
  - mask can be an expression like: all(array > 0)
- any(mask): True if any of the elements in mask are true
- count (mask): Returns how many elements in mask are true (an integer)

#### Finding elements and values

- maxval(array): Returns the maximum value in array
- minval(array): Returns the minimum value in array
- maxloc(array [, mask]): Returns the *location* of the maximum value
- minloc(array [, mask]): Returns the location of the minimum value
  - Get the element closest to value: minloc(abs(array value))
- findloc(array, value): Return the location of value in array
  - Note that this is not so useful for real arrays!

#### Array size and shape inquiries

- lbound(array): Return a 1D array of the lower bounds of array
- ubound(array): Return a 1D array of the upper bounds of array
- shape(array): Return a 1D array of the size of each dimension
- size(array): Return a scalar of the total size of array (i.e.
  product(shape(array)))

#### Making new arrays

- merge(tsource, fsource, mask): Return tsource where mask is true and fsource where mask is false
- spread(source, dim, ncopies):
- transpose(array): Returns the transpose of a 2D array
- reshape(source, shape [, pad] [, order]): Returns a copy of source with shape. pad can be used to fill in values if the result is larger than source. order can be used to do a general n-D transpose

### Allocatable arrays

If size of array not known until some time into the program execution, can use allocatable arrays to dynamically size them

```
! These two are equivalent:
real(kind=wp), dimension(:), allocatable :: array1
real(kind=wp), allocatable :: array2(:)
! 3D array:
real(kind=wp), dimension(:, :, :), allocatable :: array3
```

- The number of dimensions/rank must be known at compile time
  - Size of each dimension must be just :
- After declaration, we must use allocate before first use:

```
real(kind=wp), dimension(:, :), allocatable :: array
allocate(array(10, 5))
! array is now 10x5
```

### Allocatable arrays

- array is now allocated, but uninitialised
  - i.e. if we index it we will get nonsense
  - same state as a non-allocatable array before we fill it
- When finished with the array, we can deallocate it and free up the memory:

#### deallocate(array)

- Less important than C-like languages due to automatic variables and scope will cover this later
- It is an error to deallocate an unallocated array, so:

```
if (allocated(array)) deallocate(array)
```

### Guarding allocate

- Possible to request more memory than available
- Good practice to always check allocate succeeds using stat argument
- Value of stat is non-portable and might not even be documented!
- Combine with errmsg:

```
allocate(bigarray(bignumber), stat=status, errmsg=errmsg)

if (status /= 0) then

print*, trim(errmsg)

print*, status

! Note non-constant stop code is technically F2018

error stop status

end if
```

### Guarding allocate

- Note errmsg may not always be accurate...
- Bare allocate will terminate on error, possibly with more useful error message
- If you use stat= keyword, always check it!
  - otherwise program will continue and be wrong

# Aside: heap and stack

- Two (main) areas of memory in the computer: the heap and the stack
  - Only a model, not necessarily physically separate!
- The stack is first-in, first-out, like a stack of plates
- Program uses this for passing arguments to functions, local variables, where to return to, etc.
- Stack is only a limited size, so very large arrays as local variables may *overflow* the stack
- The heap is just a big pile of memory
- Slower to find what you want, but there's more of it
- allocate puts variables on the heap instead of the stack
- So even if you know the size, can be useful to allocate

### parameter

- sometimes want a variable that can't be modified at runtime, e.g. pi
- or have lots of arrays of fixed size

```
real, dimension(10) :: x_grid_spacing, y_grid_spacing
real, dimension(10) :: x_grid, y_grid
real, dimension(10, 10) :: density
```

- What if you now need a 20x20 grid?
- use a parameter!
- fixed at compile time
  - has to be made of literals, other <u>parameters</u>, intrinsics
- names are great!
- attribute (now we definitely need ::)
- super useful for things like pi, speed\_of\_light, electron\_mass, etc.

# parameter examples

```
use, intrinsic :: iso fortran env, only : real64
integer, parameter :: wp = real64
real(kind=wp), parameter :: pi = 4. wp*atan(1. wp)
integer, parameter :: grid size = 4
integer, dimension(grid_size), parameter :: x_grid = [1, 2, 3, 4]
print*, pi
print*, x grid
```

### character parameters

It can be a quite annoying to keep the len of a character in sync with how long it is

- character(len=\*), parameter :: filename = "output.log"
- Only works for parameters and dummy intent(in) arguments (see later) though!
- Non-constant characters can be allocatable with len=: though!

■ For character parameters though, we can use len=\*

### character examples

```
character(len=*), parameter :: fixed string = "output.log"
character(len=:), allocatable :: flexible string
print*, len(fixed string), fixed string
flexible_string = "first time"
print*, len(flexible string), flexible string
flexible string = "second time"
print*, len(flexible_string), flexible_string
```

- Most important for reals
  - Sometimes important for integers
- Floating point representation
- Doing lots of maths with floating point numbers can lose precision => need more precision in our reals
- Default real kind is (normally) 32-bit (4 bytes) (float in C)  $\blacksquare$  Can represent numbers  $\pm 3.4 \times 10^{38}$  to about 7 decimal places
- Using 64-bits (8 bytes) we can represent numbers  $\pm 1.7 \times 10^{308}$  to about 15
- decimal places

- Different ways to specify the kind
- Three old styles:
  - double precision: use twice the number of bytes as for real
    - Standard! but vague
  - real\*8: use 8 bytes
    - Non-standard! never use this
    - You'll see it a bunch in old codes though
  - real(8) or real(kind=8): use real of kind 8
    - Standard but non-portable!
    - What number represents what kind is entirely up to the compiler

Don't use those! Use either this:

```
! Get the kind number that can give us 15 digits of precision and 300
! orders of magnitude of range
integer, parameter :: wp = selected_real_kind(15, 300)
! Declare a variable with this kind
real(kind=wp) :: x
! Use a literal with this range
x = 1.0 wp
```

#### iso\_fortran\_env

■ Even better! F2008 feature, but use this and complain if stuck on a previous standard (upgrade compilers!)

```
use, intrinsic :: iso_fortran_env, only : real64
real(real64) :: x
x = 1.0_real64
```

■ Can combine this with a parameter:

```
use, intrinsic :: iso_fortran_env, only : real64
integer, parameter :: wp = real64
real(kind=wp) :: x
x = 1.0_wp
```

■ We will cover what the use line means later

real literals are single precision by default, so need kind identifier

```
real, parameter :: pi = 3.141592653589793238462643383
real(real64), parameter :: pi_wrong = 3.141592653589793238462643383
real(real64), parameter :: pi_right = 3.141592653589793238462643383_real
```

- Mixed-kind operations will convert like mixed-type operations
- Lots of intrinsics take a kind argument:

```
■ 5. real64 / real(2, kind=real64) == 2.5 real64
```

- Similar story for integers
- Default kind is usually 32-bit again
- $\blacksquare$  Can represent the numbers  $-2^31$  to  $2^{31}-1$
- $\blacksquare$  A 64-bit integer can represent  $-2^{63}$  to  $2^{63}-1$
- Can choose this kind with either:

```
! Get the kind that can represent an integer with 18 digits
integer, parameter :: ip = selected_real_kind(18)
integer(ip) :: x

! or, better:
use, intrinsic :: iso_fortran_env, only : int64
integer(int64) ::y
```

# Breaking up programs

- Large programs become difficult to understand and maintain
- Quickly come across chunks of code we want to reuse
- Therefore very good idea to break programs up into building blocks
- This gives us reusable components
  - Reduce copy-paste errors
  - Repeat tasks multiple times
  - Use same task in multiple contexts
  - Gives names to parts of code
- Names are an often over-looked advantage!
  - Important to choose names wisely
- Two ways of breaking programs in Fortran:
  - Procedures
  - Modules
    - Cover later

### Procedures

- Two types of procedures:
  - functions
  - subroutines
- Generically called *procedures* or *subprograms*
- May also refer to them both as functions will make it clear when I mean functions in particular

# Benefits of procedures

- Testing
  - Can test individual parts of the code in isolation
- Reuse
  - Same function can be used in different contexts
  - Can even build up a library of functions
- Maintainability
  - Code can be easier to understand
  - Can fix implementation without touching rest of code
- Abstraction
  - Can now think of chunk of code as a thing itself
  - Good names help here!
- Encapsulation
  - Hide internal details from other parts of the program
  - Program against the interface

```
Takes arguments and returns a single result (may be array)
  Always returns a value
  Intrinsic functions, e.g. sin(x), sqrt(x)
  svntax:
function <name>(<input>)
  ! body
  < name > = ! result
```

- Result has the same name as the function, by default
- Can change this with result keyword

```
function kronecker_delta(i, j) result(delta)
integer, intent(in) :: i, j
integer :: delta
if (i == j) then
delta = 1
else
delta = 0
end if
```

■ Functions in programs go after a contains statement:

```
program basic_function
implicit none

print*, kronecker_delta(1, 2)
print*, kronecker_delta(2, 2)

contains
function kronecker_delta(i, j) result(delta)
integer, intent(in) :: i, j
```

- Use function like y = function(x)
- Use () even if a function requires no arguments: x = function()
- As long as implicit none is in your program (or module, see later), not necessary in procedures
  - Some people advise as good practice though!
  - I will be skipping this from examples for space reasons

### Subroutines

- Essentially functions that don't need to return anything
- Can still return things via out-arguments
  - Could be multiple out-arguments
  - Not always a good idea!
- Syntax:

```
subroutine <name>(<input>, <output>)
  implicit none
  <type>, intent(in) :: <input>
    <type>, intent(out) :: <output>
    ! body
end subroutine <name>
```

■ Subroutines are used via the call statement:

```
call <name>(<arguments>)
```

# Subroutine example

```
subroutine increment_x_by_y(x, y)
    integer. intent(inout) :: x
    integer, intent(in) :: y
    x = x + y
used like:
  print*, x
  call increment x by y(x, 3)
  print*, x
```

#### Recursion

- Due to historical reasons, procedures are not recursive by default: they cannot call themselves directly or indirectly
- Need to use result keyword to change name of function result
- Use recursive keyword:

```
recursive function factorial(n) result(res)
...
end function factorial
```

#### Local variables

- Variables declared inside procedures are *local* to that routine
  - Also called automatic variables
- Their *scope* is the immediate procedure
- Cannot be accessed outside the routine, except via:
  - function result
  - intent(out) or intent(inout) dummy arguments (see later)
- Local allocatable variables are automatically deallocated on exit from a procedure
  - not the case for dummy arguments (see later), or variables accessed from a different scope (also see later!)

### Local variables

```
integer :: x = 4
print*, add square(x), x
function add square(number) result(res)
  integer, intent(in) :: number
  integer :: res
  integer :: x
  x = number * number
  res = number + x
```

x in the main program and x within add\_square are different variables

# More on scope

- Possible for procedures to access variables in the containing scope
   Technically called host association
- Generally not a great idea!

```
print*, add_square(x), x
contains
function add_square(number) result(res)
integer, intent(in) :: number
integer :: res
x = number * number
res = number + x
end function add_square

This is surprising, despite the intent(in)!
```

- Also hard to see where x comes from
- There are uses for this, but prefer to explicitly pass in variables via arguments

# Initialising local variables

- A word of warning when initialising local variables
- Giving a variable a value on the same line it is declared gives it an implicit save attribute
- This saves the value of the variable between function calls
- Initialisation is then not done on subsequent calls:

```
subroutine increment_count_implicit()
integer :: count = 0
count = count + 1
print*, "Called implicit version", count, "times"
end subroutine increment count implicit
```

#### intent

- When writing programs, can be very useful to tell the compiler as much information as you can
- One useful piece of info is the intent of arguments to procedures
- This can help avoid certain classes of bugs
- There are three intents:
- intent(in): this is for arguments which should not be modified in the routine, only provide information to the procedure
- intent(out): for arguments which are the result of the routine. these are undefined on entry to the routine: don't try to read them!
- intent(inout): for arguments are to be modified by the procedure
  if you don't explicitly provide an intent, this is the default
- These are essentially equivalent to read-only, write-only and read-write
- Prefer functions over subroutines with intent(out) arguments
  - Easier to read!

# Dummy arguments

- Dummy arguments are the local names of the procedure arguments
- Actual arguments are the names at the calling site
  - actual arguments are said to be associated with the dummy arguments
- The routine doesn't care or know what the names of the actual arguments are
  - type, kind, rank and order have to match though!

# Dummy arguments

```
integer :: x = 1, y = 2
real :: z = 3.0
call print three variables(x, y, z)
subroutine print three variables(a, b, c)
  integer. intent(in) :: a. b
  real, intent(in) :: c
  print*, "a is ", a, "; b is ", b, "; c is ", c
x becomes associated with a; y with b; z with c
```

# Keyword arguments

Another nifty feature of Fortran is keyword arguments:

call print three variables(b=y, c=z, a=x)

```
subroutine print three variables(a, b, c)
  Lets us change the order of the arguments
  Very useful as documentation at the calling site!
      especially when lots of arguments (but don't)
      or multiple arguments with same type next to each other
call calculate position(0.345, 0.5346)
call calculate position(radius=0.345, angle=0.5346)
```

# Dummy arguments and arrays

Three choices for passing arrays:

- dimension(n, m, p): explicit size
  - Need to pass n, m, p as well (or get them from elsewhere)
  - Actual argument has to be exactly this size
  - Compiler can only check size is correct if it knows the size at compile time
- dimension(n, m, \*): assumed size old, don't use!
  - Compiler doesn't know the size of the array, so you better index it correctly!
- dimension(:, :, :): assumed shape
  - Compiler now does know the size of the actual array passed
  - Can check if you go out-of-bounds (may need compiler flag!)
  - Indices now always start at 1
- dimension(n:, m:, p:): assumed shape with lower bounds
  - Compiler still knows the correct size
  - but remaps indices to match your provided lower bounds
  - n, m, p need to be passed in (or got from elsewhere)

### Pure procedures

- It turns out to be very useful for the compiler to know if a function has side-effects
  - Does it modify any arguments except those marked intent(out|inout)?
  - Does it modify any variables from a different scope?
  - Does it have a local variable with save?
  - Does it attempt to read or write anything?
- A pure procedure has no side-effects
  - functions must only return values
  - subroutines can have intent(out) arguments
- Given the same input, you will always get the same output
  - e.g. abs (-0.5) always returns 0.5
- Useful documentation!
- Compiler can catch more bugs/mistakes
- Compiler may be able to apply some more aggressive optimisations

# Elemental procedures

- We saw some intrinsics can handle scalars or arrays
- It is also possible to write our own functions that can operate on both scalars and arrays
- These functions apply the function to each element, so they are called *elemental*
- Elemental functions must be pure or marked impure

```
integer, dimension(3) :: x = [1, 2, 3]
print*, double(x)

contains
elemental integer function double(x)
integer, intent(in) :: x
double = 2 * x
```

### Returning allocatable variables from functions

- Both functions and subroutines can allocate variables
- Returning an allocatable from a function can be quite convenient, because it will automatically reallocate the assignee

```
function make grid(grid size)
    integer, intent(in) :: grid size
    real, dimension(:), allocatable :: make grid
    integer :: i
   make grid = [(real(i) / grid size, i=1, grid size)]
Use like:
  grid = make grid(grid size)
```



#### Overview

- More control flow
- Input and output
- Characters

#### Choosing an option: select case

- When comparing series of mutually exclusive values, order is not important
- case construct can be useful:

```
select case (<expression>)
case (<case-1>)
 ! do something 1
case (<case-2>)
 ! do something 2
{case default}
 ! do something 3
end select
```

- case default matches when nothing else does
  - Not necessary, but absence might hide bugs!

#### select case

- The expression in the select case must be an integer, logical or character scalar variable
- Can specify value or range:
  - value
  - :upper\_bound
  - lower\_bound:
  - lower:upper
- Ranges must be of same type
- Case must be known at compile time
  - i.e. literals, parameters, and expressions using them only
- Cases may not overlap!
  - Compare to multiple if statements

#### select case

```
select case(number)
case (42)
  print*. "You picked exactly forty-two"
case (:10)
  print*, "You picked a number less than or equal to ten"
case (50:)
  print*, "You picked a number more than or equal to fifty"
case (11:20)
  print*, "You picked a number between eleven and twenty"
  print*, "You picked a number between twenty and fifty, &
```

#### select case with characters

Neat thing about select case in Fortran: works with strings!

```
select case (animal)
case ("cat")
case ("dog")
  print*. "woof!"
case ("pig")
  print*. "oink!"
  print*, "<generic animal noise>"
```

- Can be useful for parsing user arguments
  - careful not to overdo it though, this is expensive!

## Selective array expressions: where

- It can be very useful to perform operations on an array only on certain elements
  - e.g. taking log of non-zero elements
- The where construct does exactly this:

```
where (<array-logical-expression>)
 ! do something on "true" elements
elsewhere
 ! do something on "false" elements
```

- Equivalent of do loop and if/else construct acting on every element
- The where mask must conform to the array(s) used in the construct body
- Not very common, but useful to have when you need it

#### where example

```
where (pressure > 0)
    log_pressure = log(pressure)
    log pressure = -1.e20
is the same as:
 do i = 1, 6
    if (pressure(i) > 0) then
      log pressure(i) = log(pressure(i))
      log pressure(i) = -1.e20
```

#### Loop labels

- Many constructs in Fortran can be given labels
- Useful as a form of documentation: what does this loop do?
- Also useful when you need to jump out of a nested loop:

```
5   outer: do i = 1, 5
6   inner: do j = 1, 5
7   if ((i + j) == 7) exit outer
8   print*, i, "+", j, "=", i + j
9   end do inner
0  end do outer
```

## Skip an iteration: cycle

- Sometimes need to skip a loop iteration, but keep looping
- Other languages use continue: unfortunately, this is an old keyword for end do!
- Fortran uses cycle instead

```
do i = 1, 5
if (i == 3) cycle
print*, i
```

## Skip an iteration: cycle

■ Like exit, can also give cycle a loop label:

```
outer: do i = 1, 5
inner: do j = 1, 5
if ((i + j) == 7) cycle outer
print*, i, "+", j, "=", i + j
end do inner
end do outer
```

- What does the \* mean in print, read?
- Why is it print and read?
- Why does Fortran put great big spaces between variables in print?

- print\*, is essentially short for write(\*, \*)
- read\*, is essentially short for read(\*, \*)
- Note lack of trailing commas!
- One step closer
- write(\*, \*) is short for write(unit=\*, fmt=\*)
- A bit closer!

#### What do those stars mean

- First argument, unit, tells program where to read/write
  - \* means stdout standard out for write
    - usually "screen", but could be redirected somewhere else
  - \* means stdin standard in for read
    - usually keyboard, but could be something else redirected
  - Similar to file descriptor/handle in other languages
- Second argument, fmt, short for format, tells program how to read/write
  - \* means "read/write everything, separated by spaces"
    - Also called *list-directed I/O*

- Instead of star, can give a format string
  - (technically data edit descriptor, but yeesh)
- Basic form is '(<something>)', where <something> is a comma-separated list of format codes
- write(\*, '(a, i0, a)') "I have ", number\_of\_cats, " cats"
  - a means character
  - i0 means integer, the 0 is "make it as wide as it needs to be"
- Can also stick text in there:
- write(\*, '("I have ", i0, " cats")') number\_of\_cats
- Lots of format codes: use your favourite search engine!

#### Basic format codes

- a: character
- i: integer
- f: real
- e: real, but using scientific notation

#### Widths

- cw.d:
  - c: code (e.g. i, f, e)
  - w: width of whole field
  - d: number of digits after decimal place for real, minimum number of digits (pad with leading zeros) for integer

```
print*, "integer formats:"
write(*, '("i0: |", i0, "|")') grid size
write(*, '("i4: |", i4, "|")') grid size
write(*, '("i4.4: |", i4.4,"|")') grid size
write(*, '("i0: |", i0, "|")') 23249425
write(*, '("i4: |", i4, "|")') 23249425
            |123456789012345678|"),)
write(*, '("f3.1: |", f3.1, "|")') 2. * pi
write(*, '("f8.4: |", f8.4, "|")') 2. * pi
write(*, '("f2.1: |", f2.1, "|")') 2. * pi
```

Can repeat chunks:

```
write(*, '(2(i0, 2(f8.3)))') ...
```

expands to:

```
write(*, '(i0, f8.3, f8.3, i0, f8.3, f8.3)') ...
```

■ More complicated example:

```
write(*, '(3("[", 3(i0, ", "), "], "))') array
```

- This means:
  - three lots of square brackets surrounding:
  - three lots of integer separated by commas

- The I/O control statement will consume stuff from *transfer list* to fill up the format string:
  - write writes a newline every time it "fills up" the format string
  - read similar, but ignores everything until after next newline
- This will print the whole of array, two elements per line:

```
write(*, '("|", i2.1, " ", i2.1, "|")') array
```

#### Other notes:

- Compiler will check types, but unfortunately only at runtime
  - This is because format string can be built dynamically!
- Nice tip: can put format string into a character
  - Good if reusing the same format a lot
- If the format string is too small for the data, program will print stars (\*\*\*\*) taking up the full space instead

## Unformatted I/O

- Formatted I/O is about writing variables as text
- Fine for small amounts of data
- But can rapidly become bottleneck at large amounts
- For example, printing a real as text: sign, leading digit, decimal point, 8 digits, exponent symbol, exponent sign, 2 exponent digits: total 15 characters
- Assuming ASCII, then 1 byte per character: 15 bytes vs 4 for internal binary representation
- Almost 4x larger!
- Plus additional cost of converting
- Possible rounding errors as well

## Unformatted I/O

- When we open a file (next section), can choose to open it form='unformatted'
- Avoids problems from before
- Now can read/write directly the internal representation
- Good for checkpoints, etc.
- Much faster than writing text
- Can be read by other programs, but technically not portable
  - i.e. don't rely on it!
- For serious HPC programs, better to use a library such as NetCDF

## open - File I/O

Open a file called <filename> for reading/writing:

```
open(newunit=<unit>, file=<filename>)
```

- Now we can't just use \* for the unit, as we need a "handle" to give to read/write
- <unit> is an integer (that you've already declared)
- newunit will make sure it's unique (and negative)
- newunit is F2008. On older versions you need to manage the unit numbers yourself:

```
integer, parameter :: rectangle_unit = 11
open(unit=rectangle_unit, file="rectangle.shape")
```

■ There are some pre-declared units, so use values > 10 to be safe

#### open arguments

Lots of possible arguments, but two useful ones are status and action:

#### status

- Can be one of the following:
- "old": must already exist
- "new": must not exist
- "replace": overwrite any existing file
- "scratch": remove file after close or end of program
- "unknown": you don't care!

#### open arguments

#### action

- Can be one of the following:
- "read": open the file for read only
- "write": open the file for write only
- "readwrite": allow both read and write

#### read

Once you've got a file with a unit, you can read from it into variables

```
read(unit=<unit>, fmt=<fmt>) <transfer-list>
```

- <unit> must be already opened unit
- unit=\*, fmt=\* is same as read(\*,\*)
- The intrinsic module iso fortran env has input unit for stdin

#### write

■ Similarly, once you've got a file with a unit, you can write into it from variables or expressions

```
write(unit=<unit>, fmt=<fmt>) <transfer-list>
```

- <unit> must be already opened unit
- unit=\*, fmt=\* is same as write(\*,\*)
- The intrinsic module iso\_fortran\_env has output\_unit for stdout

#### close

■ Need to close files after we're done to ensure contents get written to disk properly

```
close(unit=<unit>)
```

■ If <unit> is not an opened unit, close does nothing

## Error checking I/O: iostat

- All the file I/O commands can take an iostat argument
- Should be integer you've already declared
- Error if iostat /= 0
- Best practice is to check value of iostat

```
integer :: iostat
open(newunit=unit_num, file="filename", iostat=iostat)
if (iostat /= 0) error stop "Error opening file"
```

■ Worst practice is to use iostat and not check it!

## Error checking I/O: iomsg

- Any I/O operation errors will cause abort unless iostat is used
- iostat == 0 means success any other value is compiler dependent
- Use iomsg to get a nice human readable message!
- Unfortunately, no spec on how long it should be

```
integer :: iostat
character(len=200) :: error_msg
open(newunit=unit_num, file="filename", iostat=iostat &
        iomsg=error_msg)
if (iostat /= 0) then
    print*, error_msg
    error stop
end if
```

# Working with files example

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```
open(newunit=file unit, file="rectangle.shape", status="old", &
     action="read", iostat=iostat, iomsg=error message)
if (iostat /= 0) then
  print*, "Something went wrong opening the file!"
  print*, error message
  error stop iostat
read(unit=file unit, fmt='(f5.3, f5.3)') height, width
close(unit=file unit)
write(output unit, output format) height, width, height * width
```

#### **Namelists**

- Another nifty feature of Fortran
- Great for simple things, not so great for more complicated things
- Similar to list/record-based I/O above: give a list of variables to read from/write to file
- But now with reading, have a bit more flexibility

```
read(<unit>, nml=<name>)
and the input file looks like:
&<name>
    <variable1> = <value1> ! Comment
    <variable2> = <value2>
/
```

#### **Namelists**

- Can also write namelists
  - useful for recording what inputs were actually used
- Variables can be in any order
- Can even miss variables! useful for default values
- Extra ones not in the namelist statement is an error though
- Also, logicals can be T/F, .true./.false.
- Variables need to be declared first
- Comments are allowed (and are ignored), case insensitive (as usual), and whitespace is mostly ignored (except within names, as usual)
- Unfortunately, namelists are not quite first-class entities.
  - Meaning you cannot put them in a variable of any kind, pass them to a function, etc.
  - This becomes a pain if you want to do more complicated things, e.g. have multiple ion species, each with identical namelists

#### Namelist example

```
integer :: height = 2, width = 3
integer :: file unit
namelist /rectangle/ height, width
open(newunit=file unit, file="rectangle.nml")
read(file unit, rectangle)
close(file unit)
print*, "area = ", height * width
print*, ""
write(output unit, nml=rectangle)
```

### Working with characters

- **characters** of a fixed length are terminated by *blanks*, i.e. spaces
- so character(len=10) :: cat = "ziggy "
- characters can be indexed similarly to arrays, with one restriction: the colon (:) is required:

### Working with characters

■ We can stick two characters together with the concatenation operator, //:

```
character(len=*), parameter :: cat1 = "Ziggy", cat2 = "Lana"
character(len=*), parameter :: both_cats = cat1 // " and " // cat2
```

- This is the easiest way to build up a string dynamically
- But we can also write to a character!
- Just use the variable in place of the unit argument

# Writing to a character

```
character(len=7) :: run_name
integer :: run number
run number = 456
write(run name, '(A, I4.4)') "run", run number
print*, run name
! Too long for the character!
run number = 89988
write(run name, '(A, I4.4)') "run", run number
print*, run name
```

#### Useful intrinsics for characters

- len(string): How long is string, including the trailing spaces
- len\_trim(string): How long is string, excluding the trailing spaces
- trim: Remove all trailing spaces
- adjust1(string), adjustr(string): "Adjust" the string left/right, moving leading/trailing spaces to the end/beginning
- index(string, substring): Return the starting position of substring within string, or zero if it's not found.
- new line(a): Get the new line character of the same kind as a
  - This is the equivalent of \n in C, Python, etc.



#### Overview

- Modules
- Derived types
- Interfaces

- Very big programs become difficult to develop and maintain
- Becomes useful to split up into separate files
  - Can group related functions together
- May want to reuse functions between projects
- Early versions of Fortran just stuck subprograms into separate files and linked them altogether
  - Still works!
  - But don't do it!
- But compiler doesn't know what procedures are in what files, or what the interfaces look like (number and type of arguments)
- Solution is modules

- Modules are their own scope
  - Names in one module do not clash with names in another
  - Similar to *namespaces* in other languages
- Compiler gets access to same information about procedures as if they were inside the program
- Always, always use modules when using multiple files
- modules can also contain variables as well as procedures
  - Try to avoid though, except for parameters
- Can choose what entities in a module to make public or private
  - module is a bit like a single instance of an object

Syntax looks very similar to program:

```
module <name>
  implicit none
  ! variables, types, parameters
contains
  ! functions, subroutines
end module <name>
```

■ Just like programs, implicit none applies to the whole module

■ But note that module body before contains cannot include executable statements!

```
module badbad
  implicit none
  print*, "This won't compile!"
end module badbad
```

#### Using modules

■ Using a module is simple:

```
program track_particles
  use particle_properties
  implicit none
```

- This makes everything in particle\_properties available to the whole program
  - Equivalent to from particle\_properties import \* in Python
- Only one module per use:

```
program track_particles
  use file_utilities
  use particle_properties
  use physical_constants
  implicit none
```

#### Using modules

- Usually better practice to use modules only in the particular functions that need them
- We can also just use certain things from a module:

#### subroutine push particle

```
use particle_properties, only : kinetic_energy, coulomb_force
use physical_parameters, only : electron_mass, electron_charge
```

- These can be either variables or procedures
- This is great!
  - More obvious where things come from
  - Doesn't bring in unneeded names
  - Can even rename things if they clash locally

#### subroutine push particle

```
use physical_parameters, only : c => speed_of_light
```

■ Note: use statements must come before implicit none

# Module visibility

- Plain use <module> brings in everything from <module> to the local scope
  This is called use association
- Sometimes we want to have some variable or procedure that is used "internally" to a module, and don't want to be able to access it from outside that module
- We can use <u>public</u> and <u>private</u> statements and attributes to control which names are available to be <u>used</u>
- private entities (i.e. variables or functions) won't be visible outside the module
- private/public statement by itself marks the default visibility
- By default, public is assumed
- Then can add either as an attribute to individual entities
- Entities used from other modules can also have visibility attributes applies to them

### Module visibility syntax

As an attribute on a variable:

```
! For example:
integer, dimension(2, 2), parameter, private :: internal_array = ...
```

Or a separate visibility specification statement:

```
<visibility-spec> :: <entity>
! For example:
public :: some_public_thing
```

# Module visibility

```
use, intrinsic :: iso_fortran env, only : real64
use physical constants, only: proton mass, speed of light
private ! Marks all entities as private by default
! Public attribute on a variable
real(real64), parameter, public :: deuterium mass = 1.99955249 * proton
! Separate attribute for procedure
public :: kinetic energy
! Separate attribute for entity used from another module
public :: proton mass
function kinetic energy (mass, velocity)
  use, intrinsic :: iso fortran env, only : real64
```

### Compiling modules

- Compiling a module results in a .mod file as well as the built object file (.o)
  - (Actual file extensions may vary)
- This file describes the names in the module as well interfaces to the functions, and is similar (though very different!) to a C header file
- Slightly unfortunately, .mod files are not portable, even between versions of the same compiler!
  - This is essentially the *Application Binary Interface* (ABI) and is a Hard Problem to maintain backwards compatibility while still adding new features

# Compiling modules

- Getting an executable that you can run is (essentially) two step process:
  - Compile source code to object files
  - Link object files to executable
- Compiler normally takes care of both compiling and linking for us
- If we tell the compiler about all the files we want to compile and link together in one go, we don't need to do anything special
- Modules are not executable, so if we don't want to compile everything at once, need to tell compiler to stop at the object file stage
- To link the final executable, we then need to tell the linker about all the object (.o) and module (.mod) files

### Compiling modules

■ For gfortran, use the -c flag to just compile and not link:

- Note that gfortran looks in the current directory for the .mod files
   Don't need to explicitly list the .mod files
- Can use -I<directory> to tell gfortran to look somewhere else

### Modules in practice

- Cannot have circular dependencies
  - module\_A uses module\_B which uses module\_A
  - This won't work!
  - Ways round it using submodules: not covered here!
- Some trickiness: there is now an order in which you have to compile files:
  - If module\_A uses module\_B which uses module\_C, then:
  - need to compile module\_C then module\_B then module\_A
- Can do it manually, but quickly gets out of hand
- Some compilers can sort this out (but need two passes)
- There are tools available, e.g. fortdepend
- Also build systems such as CMake can take care of this for you

### Derived types

- Not uncommon to need to call a set of functions with the same few arguments
- Or we may have some variables that we need to keep in sync
- One solution to these problems is a derived type
  - Other languages call these structs or classes
- A derived type contains components (or members) which can be intrinsic types or other derived types
- Fortran does have the ability to do some *object-oriented programming* 
  - Will only cover a little bit here

#### **FIXME**

# Derived types – basic syntax

### Derived types – example

```
type :: particle
  real(real64) :: mass
  real(real64), dimension(3) :: velocity
end type
```

# Accessing components of derived types

■ Refer to component with %

```
type(particle) :: proton
proton%mass = 1._real64
proton%velocity = [2. real64, -1. real64, 1.5 real64]
```

# Derived type inheritance

#### **FIXME**

particle with mass, charge, energy

### type-bound procedures

- Can associate a procedure with a type
  - But procedure can remain as a free function
- Called methods in other languages
- Slightly annoying in that definition still needs to be in the contains section of the program or module

#### **FIXME**

example

### Private/Public

- Just like modules can have declare the visibility of their entities, types can specify visibility of their members
- This is very useful if there's some member that needs to be kept in sync with the state of the type
  - e.g. a particle might store its energy, instead of recalculating it every time
  - Or a container might store how many items it holds
- These are called invariants
- Can make the invariant private and then provide public methods to get or set the value
- Visibility is at the module scope

#### **FIXME**

example

### Optional arguments

- Common to have a function that only sometimes needs a particular argument
- Can make these arguments optional
- We've met a few intrinsics with optional arguments
- Need to check that an optional argument is present before we can use it
   Except to pass it to other functions
- Require a bit of special handling if we want to give optional arguments default values

### Optional arguments

```
subroutine greet(name, politely)
  character(len=*), intent(in) :: name
  logical, intent(in), optional :: politely
  character(len=:), allocatable :: greeting
  greeting = "Hev, "
  if (present(politely)) then
    if (politely) then
      greeting = "Good morning, "
  print*, greeting, name
```

### Optional arguments

```
call greet("Peter")
  call greet("Peter", politely=.true.)
Also notice that we need to check if politely is present before trying to use it at all:
    if (present(politely)) then
       if (politely) then
The following is dangerous, because standard doesn't mandate short-circuiting:
if (present(politely) .and. politely) then
  . . .
Might try to read politely first, but it doesn't exist!
```

#### block

- Fortran requires all variables to be declared at the top of the scope, before first executable statement
  - Limitation of early compilers!
- But modern best practice is to declare variables only where you need them
- Reducing scope -> always good!
  - Easier to read
  - Reduces chances for bugs
- block construct allows introduction of new entities
- Names within a block can shadow or hide those outside

# block example

```
integer :: x = 1
print*, x

block
real :: x = 3.142
print*, x
end block
print*, x
```

### stop and error stop

- Sometimes want to finish a program "early"
  - Maybe some quantity has converged
  - Maybe something's gone wrong and we can't continue
- Two statements: stop and error stop
  - Essentially equivalent, except error stop always indicates an error somehow
- Can take an integer or character constant (i.e. value has to be known exactly at compile time)
  - Relaxed in Fortran 2018!

```
character(len=*), parameter :: converged = "The simulation has converged!"
...
```

#### stop converged

- Unfortunately, the standard is vague on what happens with an integer
- **Usually** is the exit code, if between 0–127
  - Can't 100% rely on this, but mostly fine

### Other useful intrinsics

#### **FIXME**

- call execute\_command\_line
- call cpu\_time
- call get command line

#### Interfaces

- Early Fortran standards didn't have contains or modules
- Functions could be external to the program, e.g. in a library
- Return type for functions was implicit, i.e. based on first letter of name
- Type and number of arguments was completely unknown to the compiler
  - Programmer had better get them right!
- Very bug prone!

# Missing interface example

External library:

```
integer function idouble(x)
  integer, intent(in) :: x
 idouble = 2 * x
integer function iadd(a, b, c)
  integer, intent(in) :: a, b, c
 iadd = a + b + c
Program:
 print*, idouble(2.0)
```

print\*. iadd(2, 4)

#### Interfaces

- Fortran 90 introduced contains, modules and interfaces
- Interface is essentially the procedure minus the executable statements
- Procedures in modules and programs have interfaces generated by the compiler
  - Also known as signatures or prototypes
- The interface allows the compiler to give warnings/errors if arguments are wrong
- Programmers could also write an explicit interface block for external procedures themselves
  - Useful for legacy libraries or interoperability with other languages

#### Interfaces

```
integer function idouble(x)
    integer, intent(in) :: x
  integer function iadd(a, b, c)
    integer, intent(in) :: a, b, c
print*, idouble(2)
print*, iadd(2, 3, 4)
```

Now compiler knows that idouble(2.0) and iadd(2, 4) are mistakes!

# Passing procedures

- With an interface, we can now pass procedures to other procedures
- Useful for writing e.g. integration routines

Let's take two functions we want to apply:

```
integer function double(x)
integer, intent(in) :: x
double = 2 * x
end function double

integer function add_two(x)
integer, intent(in) :: x
add_two = x + 2
end function add two
```

# Passing procedures

Using an explicit interface in the function:

```
integer function apply(f, x)
28
29
          integer function f(y)
            integer, intent(in) :: y
       integer, intent(in) :: x
       apply = f(x)
   And calling the function:
     print*, apply(double, 42)
```

## Passing procedures

- This gets very verbose if we use the same function interface a lot
- Another option is to use an abstract interface to name a signature

```
abstract interface
integer function univariate(x)
integer, intent(in) :: x
end function univariate
end interface
```

• We can then declare our dummy argument to be a procedure of this type:

```
integer function apply2(f, x)
integer, intent(in) :: x
procedure(univariate) :: f

apply2 = f(x)
end function apply2
```

- Very common to want to have the same function for multiple types, or different sets of arguments
  - Called *overloads* in other languages, but not quite the same in Fortran
- Before Fortran 90, needed to have a different name for each function
  - e.g. idouble for double function on integers, cdouble for complex
- Only intrinsics could have generic names
- interface allows us to "group" functions or subroutines together under a common name
  - Cannot group both functions and subroutines together though!
- Somewhat annoyingly, can only do this for external procedures or those in modules, not those in programs

- For external procedures, need to write out explicit interfaces
- Don't need to repeat interface for modules, can just say

```
interface <generic-name>
  module procedure <specific-name-1>
  module procedure <specific-name-2>
end interface <generic-name>
```

Can use this to define new constructors for derived types, or even operators:

```
interface operator(+)
  module procedure add_my_type
end interface
```

In a module:

```
interface double
       module procedure idouble
       module procedure rdouble
     end interface double
   Using it in a program:
     use generic interfaces, only : double
     print*, double(2)
     print*, double(2.0)
29
30
```

- There are some rules about what can be put in a generic interface
- Mostly, the dummy arguments must be distinguishable:
  - Different number of arguments
  - Different types
  - Different kinds
  - Different ranks
  - allocatable/pointer
  - Procedure vs variable
- Gets a little tricky if names and types clash

### Bad old stuff

#### **FIXME**

- common blocks
- goto
- do; do; 10 continue

#### Documentation

- Documentation is a vital but dull part of programming
- Everybody hates trying to use undocumented code
  - Even worse trying to modify someone else's!
- Comments can be used to document the code inline
- Good practice to put a comment above procedures to explain what it does and how
- Comments on tricky bits of code to explain why
- Various tools, e.g. Ford: https://github.com/Fortran-FOSS-Programmers/ford
- Usually special comment syntax for bits you want Ford to recognise, e.g. !!

## Ford documentation example

```
!! Feeds your cats and dogs, if enough food is available. If not enough
!! food is available, some of your pets will get angry.
subroutine feed pets(cats, dogs, food, angry)
    !! The number of cats to keep track of.
    integer, intent(in) :: cats
    !! The number of dogs to keep track of.
    integer, intent(in) :: dogs
    !! The ammount of pet food (in kilograms) which you have on hand.
    real, intent(inout) :: food
    !! The number of pets angry because they weren't fed.
    integer, intent(out) :: angry
    . . .
```

# Further reading

- "Modern Fortran explained", Metcalf, Reid, Cohen
- Fortran wiki

intrinsic modules

FIXME

#### Internal procedures

- functions and subroutines can contain other procedures
- Sometimes useful for longer functions with repeated chunks
- However: these internal procedures can use variables from their parent function
  - See above on scope!
- This makes it easier to make mistakes
- Usually better to make a separate procedure
  - Can make it private in a module