

CMPT 110

Simon Fraser University

MODULES, DATA TYPES, AND OPERATORS 1

- Provide a brief introduction to VB Modules.
- Introduce the **Theory of Data** in Computing Science.
- Define **data types**, **data structures**, and then contrast them.
- Discuss constants, variables, operators and expressions.
- Define arithmetic/logic operators in VB explicitly.
- Discuss **non-numerical data** (characters and Boolean variables) in VB.
- Dynamically versus Statically typed programming languages.
- **This PPT will NOT be on the midterm.**

Objectives for This PPT

Tentative Syllabus

Week	Topic	
1 (Sept. 4 th)	Introduction to Course	
2 (11 th)	Introduction to Programming	
3 (18 th)	Programming in VB	
4 (29 th)	Events	Unit 3 of the Study Guide
5 (Oct. 2 nd)	Representing and Storing Values	
6 (19 th)	MIDTERM – October 9th	
7 (16 th)	Subprograms	
8 (23 rd)	Decisions	
9 (30 th)	Iteration	
10 (Nov. 6 th)	Arrays	
11 (13 th)	I/O	
12 (21 st)	Graphics	
13 (27 th)	Review	

- Visual Basic uses building blocks such as **Variables, Data Types, Procedures, Functions and Control Structures** in its programming environment.
- This section concentrates on the programming fundamentals of Visual Basic with the blocks specified.

Preamble

- Code in Visual Basic is stored in the form of modules.
- The three kind of modules are
 - **Form Modules**,
 - **Standard Modules**, and
 - **Class Modules**.
- A simple application may contain a single Form, and the code resides in that Form module itself. As the application grows, additional Forms are added and there may be a common code to be executed in several Forms.
- To avoid the duplication of code, a separate module containing a procedure is created that implements the common code. This is a standard Module.

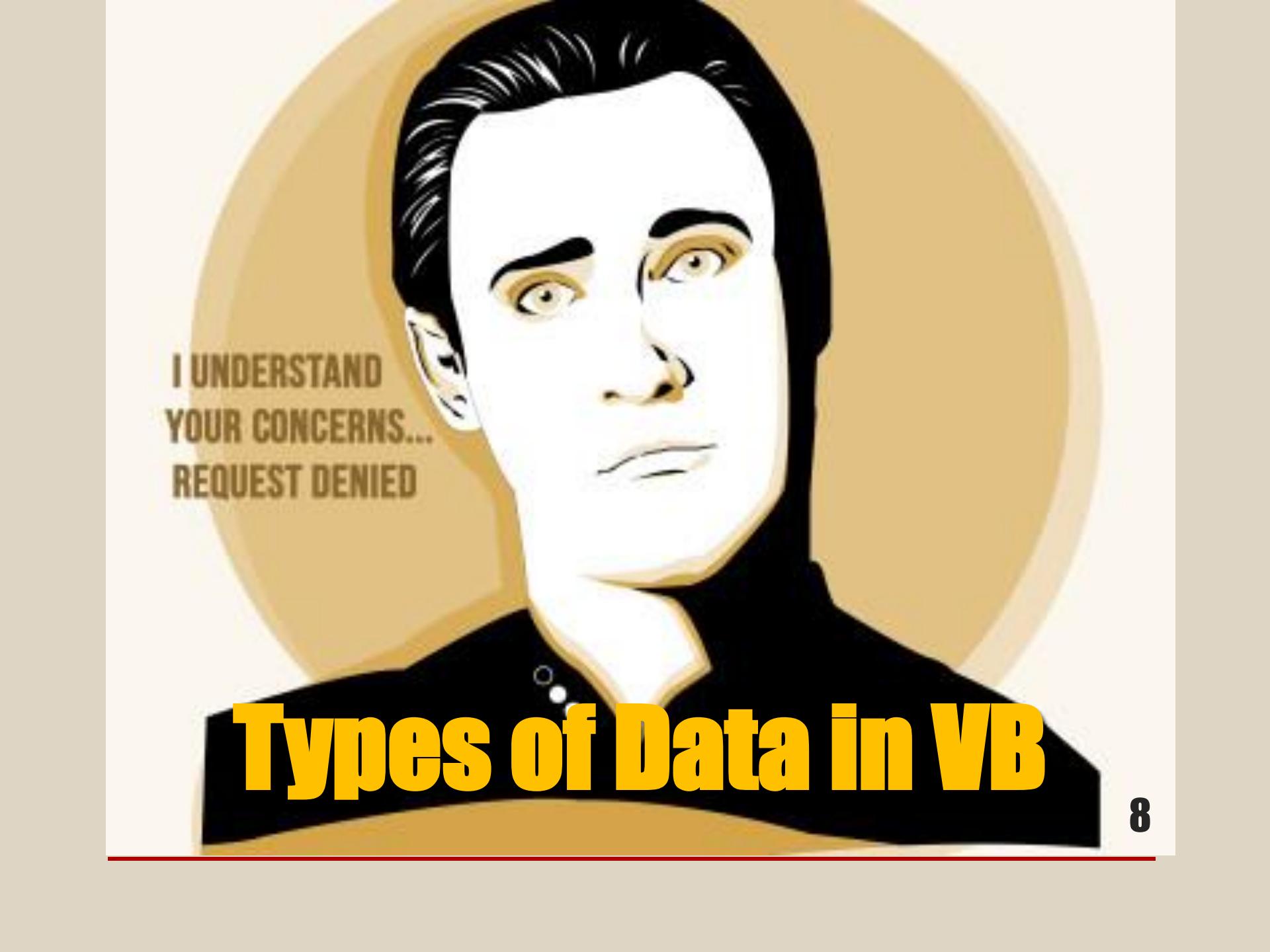
Modules

- Class module (.CLS filename extension) are the foundation of the object oriented programming in VB.
- New objects can be created by writing code in class modules.
- Each module can contain:
 - **Declarations** : May include constant, type, variable and DLL procedure declarations.
 - **Procedures** : A sub function, or property procedure that contain pieces of code that can be executed as a unit.

Modules

- These are the rules to follow when naming elements in VB - **variables, constants, controls, procedures**, and so on:
- A name must begin with a *letter*.
- It may be as much as 255 characters long.
- It must not contain a *space* or an *embedded period* or *type-declaration characters* used to specify a data type (these are ! # % \$ & @).
- It must not be a reserved word (that is part of the code, like Option, for example)
- The dash (-), although legal, should be avoided because it may be *confused with the minus sign*.
- Instead of First-name use First_name or FirstName.

Modules



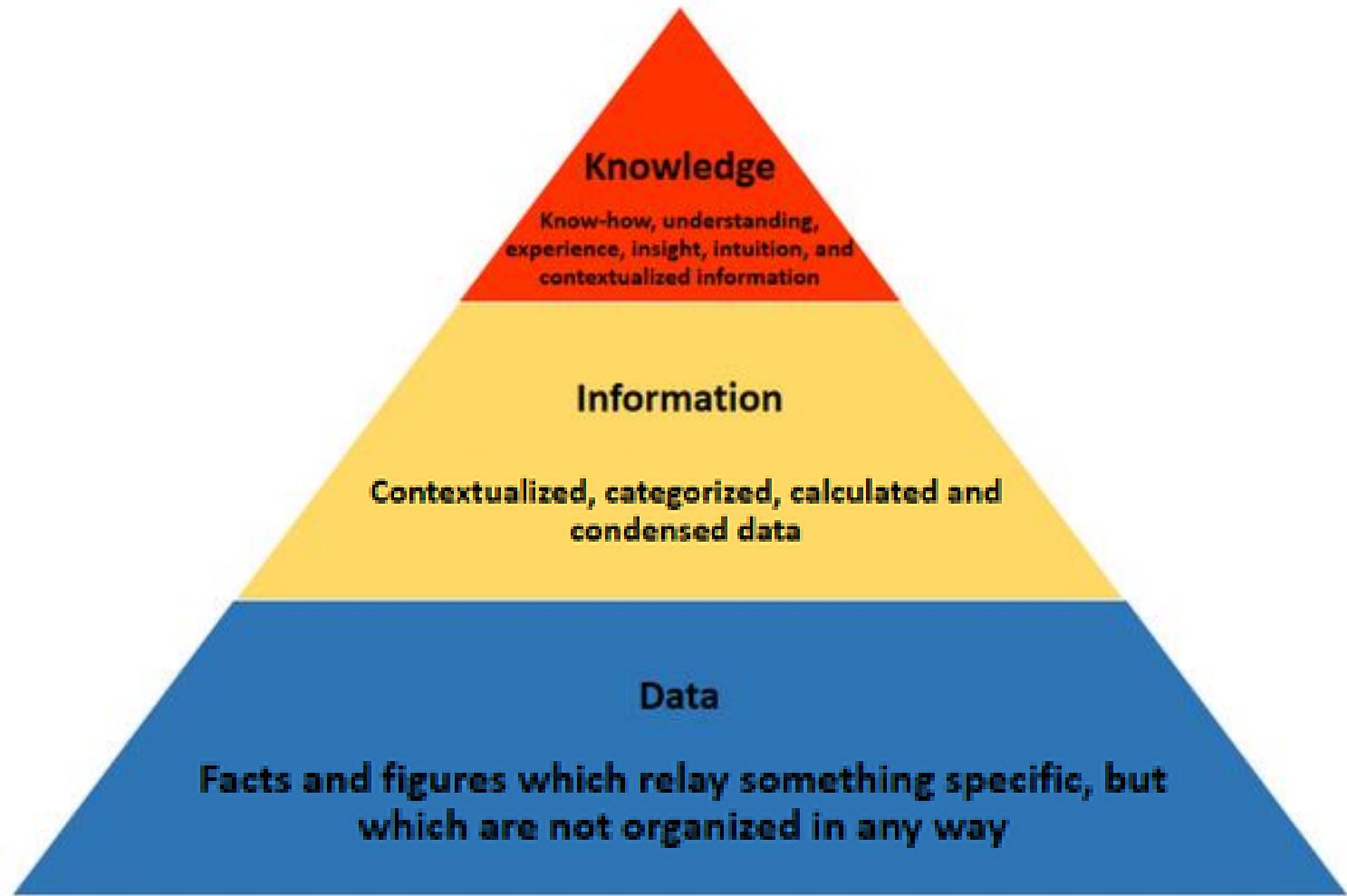
I UNDERSTAND
YOUR CONCERNS...
REQUEST DENIED

Types of Data in VB

First,

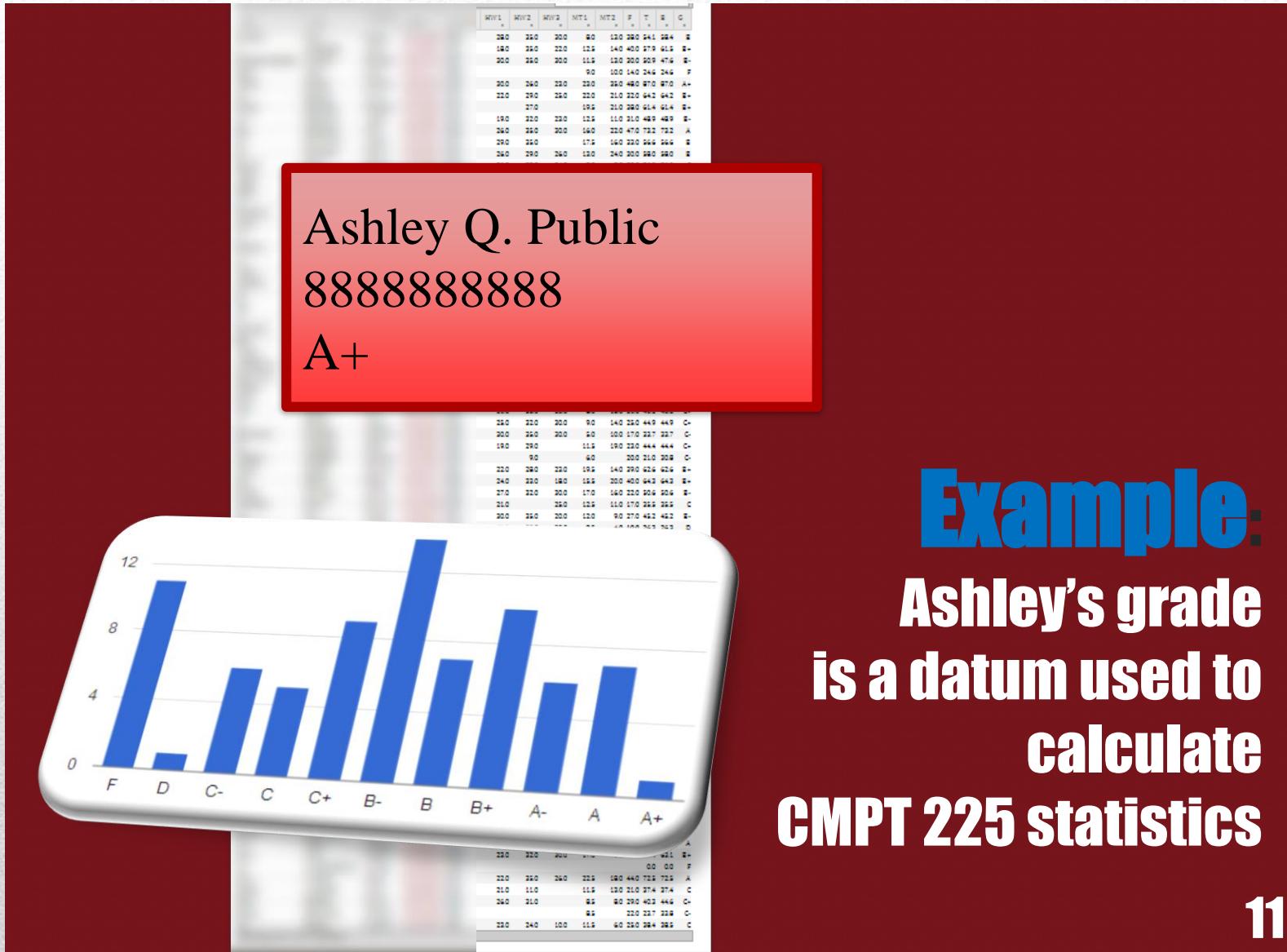


What is Data?



Taxonomy

10



Ashley Q. Public
8888888888
A+

Activity	Grade Status	Grade
<i>HW1</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>30.00/30.00</i>
<i>HW2</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>26.00/35.00</i>
<i>HW3</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>23.00/30.00</i>
<i>MT1</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>23.00/25.00</i>
<i>MT2</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>35.00/30.00</i>
<i>Final</i>	<i>graded</i>	<i>48.00/65.00</i>
<i>T</i>	<i>calculated</i>	<i>87.01/100.00</i>
<i>B</i>	<i>calculated</i>	<i>87.01/100.00</i>
	<i>calculated</i>	<i>A+</i>

HW1	HW2	HW3	MT1	MT2	F	T	E	G
280	250	200	90	120	280	141	184	S
180	250	220	125	140	400	278	415	S+
200	250	200	115	120	200	209	476	S
			90	100	140	246	244	T
200	240	220	120	250	480	270	370	A-
220	250	210	120	210	220	443	443	S+
			100	210	280	614	614	S+
180	220	210	110	110	210	489	489	S
240	250	200	140	220	470	732	732	A
220	220	170	140	220	246	264	264	S
240	240	120	240	200	280	380	380	S

...whereas her individual testing scores were data used to calculate her course grade.

3 Classes of data types

3.1 Primitive data types

3.1.1 Machine data types

3.1.2 Boolean type

3.1.3 Numeric types

3.2 Composite types

3.2.1 Enumerations

3.2.2 String and text types

3.3 Other types

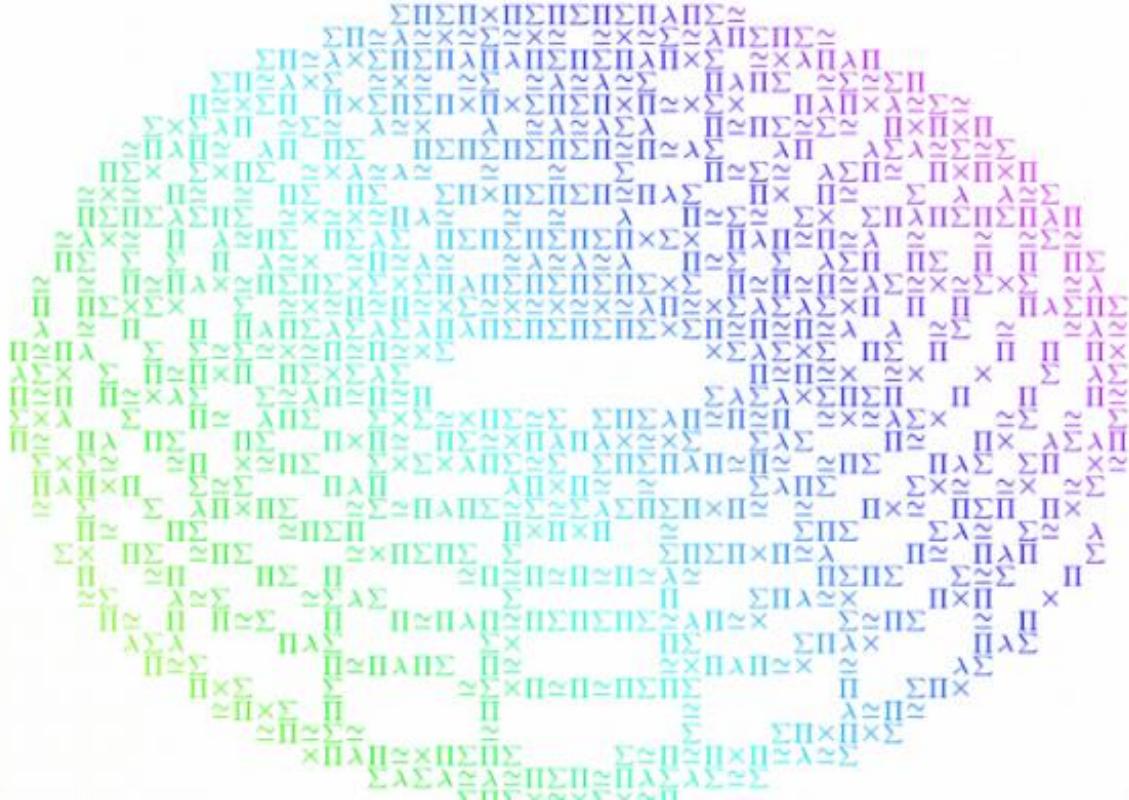
3.3.1 Pointers and references

3.3.2 Function types

3.4 Abstract data types

3.5 Utility types

Theory of Data



Type Theory and Type Systems

Type Theory:

- In mathematics, logic, and computer science, a **type theory** is any of a class of formal systems, some of which can serve as alternatives to set theory as a foundation for all mathematics. In type theory, every "term" has a "type" and operations are restricted to the terms of a certain type.
- Type theory is closely related to (and in some cases overlaps with) type systems, which are a programming language feature used to reduce bugs. The types of type theory were created to avoid paradoxes (*i.e.*, **Russell's Paradox**) in a variety of formal logics and *rewrite systems* and sometimes "type theory" is used to refer to this broader application.

Definition

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Type System:

- A set of rules that assigns a property (called a *type*) to the elements of a computer program (*i.e.*, variables, expressions, functions, *etc.*) for the purpose of reducing coding errors.

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- In OO, **typing** is the enforcement of a class/type of an object to ensure that the object is manipulated by valid expressions (expressions are formally defined later in this PPT).
- Depending on the extent of enforcement and the precise instant of enforcement, there are **strong/weak** and **static/dynamic** typings respectively – to be defined and discussed later in this PPT.

Definition

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Data Types

A data type, in programming, is a classification that specifies which type of value a variable has and what type of mathematical, relational or logical operations can be applied to it without causing an error. A string, for example, is a data type that is used to classify text and an integer is a data type used to classify whole numbers.

Definition: Data Type

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Data Type	Used for	Example
String	Alphanumeric characters	hello world, Alice, Bob123
Integer	Whole numbers	7, 12, 999
Float (floating point)	Number with a decimal point	3.15, 9.06, 00.13
Character	Encoding text numerically	97 (in ASCII , 97 is a lower case 'a')
Boolean	Representing logical values	TRUE, FALSE

Definition: Data Type

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Data Types come in the following categories:

- **Primitive**, which can be either:
 - A *basic type* is a data type provided by a programming language as a basic building block. Most languages allow more complicated *composite types* to be recursively constructed starting from basic types.
 - A *built-in type* is a data type for which the programming language provides built-in support.
- **Non-Primitive** which can be either:
 - Composite structures of primitive types such as an array.
 - Data types that are not defined by the programming language, but are instead created by the programmer.

Further Definitions

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- The simple examples of data types given two slides back are, in fact, the common *primitive data types* utilized in computer programs include the following:
 1. Integers,
 2. Booleans,
 3. Characters,
 4. Floating Point Numbers,
 5. Alphanumeric Strings.

Data Types

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 1. Integers,
 2. Booleans,
 3. Characters,
 4. Floating Point Numbers,
 5. Alphanumeric Strings..
- One can go further and produce *complex/composite data types* (*i.e.*, an array), which are built upon simpler data types (*i.e.*, array elements), that are related to *data structures*.

Data Types

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- By default Visual Basic variables are of variant data types.
- The variant data type can store numeric, date/time or string data.
- When a variable is declared, a data type is supplied for it that determines the kind of data they can store.
- The fundamental data types in Visual Basic including *variant* are *integer*, *long*, *single*, *double*, *string*, *currency*, *byte* and *Boolean*.
- Visual Basic supports a vast array of data types.
- Each data type has limits to the kind of information and the minimum and maximum values it can hold.
- In addition, some types can interchange with some other types.

Data types in Visual Basic

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1. Numeric

Byte	Store integer values in the range of 0 - 255
Integer	Store integer values in the range of (-32,768) - (+ 32,767)
Long	Store integer values in the range of (- 2,147,483,468) - (+ 2,147,483,468)
Single	Store floating point value in the range of (-3.4x10-38) - (+ 3.4x1038)
Double	Store large floating value which exceeding the single data type value
Currency	store monetary values. It supports 4 digits to the right of decimal point and 15 digits to the left

2. String

Use to store alphanumeric values. A variable length string can store approximately 4 billion characters

3. Date

Use to store date and time values. A variable declared as date type can store both date and time values and it can store date values 01/01/0100 up to 12/31/9999

4. Boolean

Boolean data types hold either a true or false value. These are not stored as numeric values and cannot be used as such. Values are internally stored as -1 (True) and 0 (False) and any non-zero value is considered as true.

5. Variant

Stores any type of data and is the default Visual Basic data type. In Visual Basic if we declare a variable without any data type by default the data type is assigned as default.

- **Variant** is a data type in certain programming languages, particularly Visual Basic, OCaml, and C++when using the Component Object Model.
- In Visual Basic (and VBA) the Variant data type is a *tagged union* that can be used to represent any other data type (for example, integer, floating-point, single- and double-precision, object, etc.) except fixed-length string type and record types. **In Visual Basic, any variable not declared explicitly or the type of which is not declared explicitly, is taken to be a variant.**
- While the use of not explicitly declared variants is not recommended, they can be of use when the needed data type can only be known at runtime, when the data type is expected to vary, or when optional parameters and parameter arrays are desired. In fact, languages with a dynamic type system often have variant as the *only* available type for variables.

Note: Variant Data Type

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I'm trying to write a program in vb where a user is asked to type in a value in either the Fahrenheit Textbox or the Celsius Textbox. I want to use just **ONE** button to perform the calculations and two textboxes to display the outputs but I'm not sure I understand what's happening. The number I type into the Textbox isn't what's been calculated.

Here's the code:

```
Private Sub convertButton_Click(sender As Object, e As EventArgs) Handles convertButton.Click
    Dim FahrenheitValue, CelsiusValue As Double
    FahrenheitValue = Val(fahrenheitBox.Text)
    CelsiusValue = Val(celsiusBox.Text)

    FahrenheitValue = (9 / 5) * (CelsiusValue + 32)
    CelsiusValue = (5 / 9) * (FahrenheitValue - 32)

    celsiusBox.Text = CelsiusValue
    fahrenheitBox.Text = FahrenheitValue

End Sub
```



Single Versus Double Precision

Visual Basic also classifies information into two major data types:

- Numeric data types and
- Non-numeric data types.

Data Type

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Table 5.1: Numeric Data Types

Type	Storage	Range of Values
Byte	1 byte	0 to 255
Integer	2 bytes	-32,768 to 32,767
Long	4 bytes	-2,147,483,648 to 2,147,483,648
Single	4 bytes	-3.402823E+38 to -1.401298E-45 for negative values 1.401298E-45 to 3.402823E+38 for positive values.
Double	8 bytes	-1.79769313486232e+308 to -4.94065645841247E-324 for negative values 4.94065645841247E-324 to 1.79769313486232e+308 for positive values.
Currency	8 bytes	-922,337,203,685,477.5808 to 922,337,203,685,477.5807
Decimal	12 bytes	+/- 79,228,162,514,264,337,593,543,950,335 if no decimal is use +/- 7.9228162514264337593543950335 (28 decimal places).

VB Numerical Data Types

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Table 5.2: Nonnumeric Data Types

Data Type	Storage	Range
String(fixed length)	Length of string	1 to 65,400 characters
String(variable length)	Length + 10 bytes	0 to 2 billion characters
Date	8 bytes	January 1, 100 to December 31, 9999
Boolean	2 bytes	True or False
Object	4 bytes	Any embedded object
Variant(numeric)	16 bytes	Any value as large as Double
Variant(text)	Length+22 bytes	Same as variable-length string

VB Non-Numerical Data Types

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In programming, a value written exactly as it's meant to be interpreted. In contrast, a **variable** is a **name** that can represent different values during the execution of the **program**. And a **constant** is a **name** that represents the same value throughout a **program**. But a **literal** is not a **name** – it **is** the value itself.

A literal can be a number, a **character**, or a **string**. For example, in the expression,

x = 3

x is a **variable**, and **3** is a **literal**.

Literals

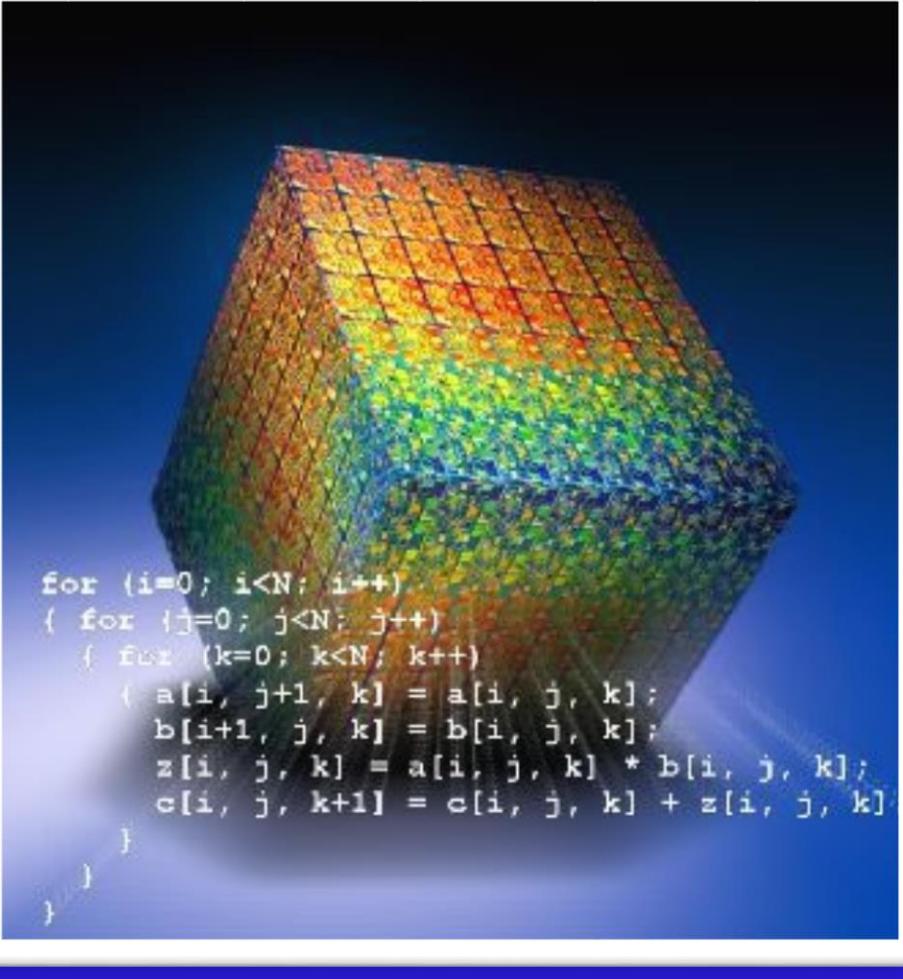
32

Literals are values that you assign to data. In some cases, we need to add a suffix behind a literal so that VB can handle the calculation more accurately. For example, we can use num=1.3089# for a Double type data. Some of the suffixes are displayed in the table below:

Suffix	Data Type
&	Long
!	Single
#	Double
@	Currency

Suffixes for Literals

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```
for (i=0; i<N; i++)
{ for (j=0; j<N; j++)
  { for (k=0; k<N; k++)
    { a[i, j+1, k] = a[i, j, k];
      b[i+1, j, k] = b[i, j, k];
      z[i, j, k] = a[i, j, k] * b[i, j, k];
      c[i, j, k+1] = c[i, j, k] + z[i, j, k]
    }
  }
}
```

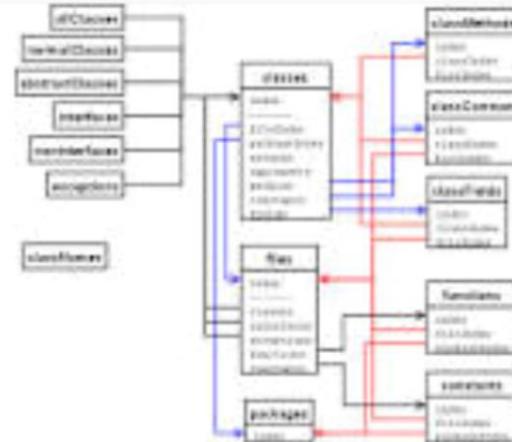
Aside on Data Structures

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Data structure

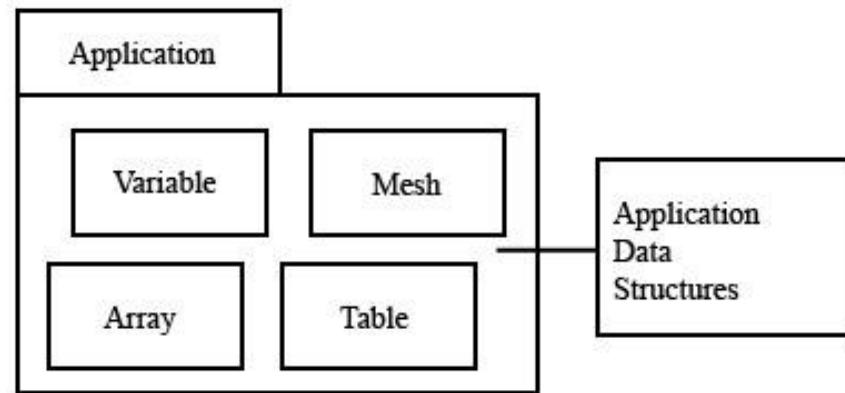
In computer science, a data structure is a particular way of storing and organizing data in a computer so that it can be used efficiently.

[Wikipedia](#)



Recall this Definition

What is the difference between a *complex data type* and a *data structure*?



Question

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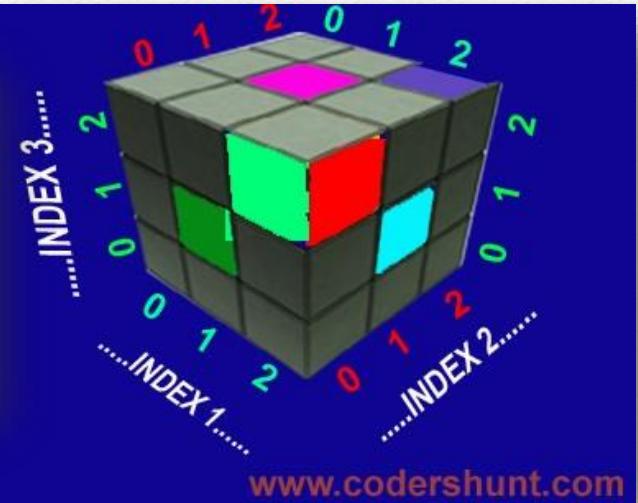
Array:

23	4	6	15	5	7
0	1	2	3	4	5

Array index

Conception of 2D array

$a_{0,0}$	$a_{0,1}$	$a_{0,2}$	$a_{0,3}$
$a_{1,0}$	$a_{1,1}$	$a_{1,2}$	$a_{1,3}$



www.codershunt.com

- An *array* is an arrangement of objects that follow a specific pattern (usually in rows, columns, *etc.*).

Array Example

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} & \cdots & A_{1n} \\ A_{21} & & & A_{2n} \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ A_{n1} & A_{n2} & \cdots & A_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

- An *array* is an arrangements of objects that follow a specific pattern (usually in rows, columns, *etc.*).
- For example, this *complex data type* above is called a matrix and forms the foundation of *matrix algebra* that can be part of a mathematical algorithm.

Array Example

FACT:

An array can be looked upon as both a *complex data type* and a *data structure*.

Array Example

Array data structure - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Array_data_structure ▾

The simplest type of data structure is a linear array. This is also called one-dimensional array. In computer science, an array data structure or simply an array is a ...

Array data type - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Array_data_type ▾

In computer science, an array type is a data type that is meant to describe a ... Array types are often implemented by array data structures, but sometimes by ...

Array Example

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Array Example

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Array Example

42

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- Thus, an array data type such as a matrix in a computer program may be efficiently implemented by an array data structure by a computer.

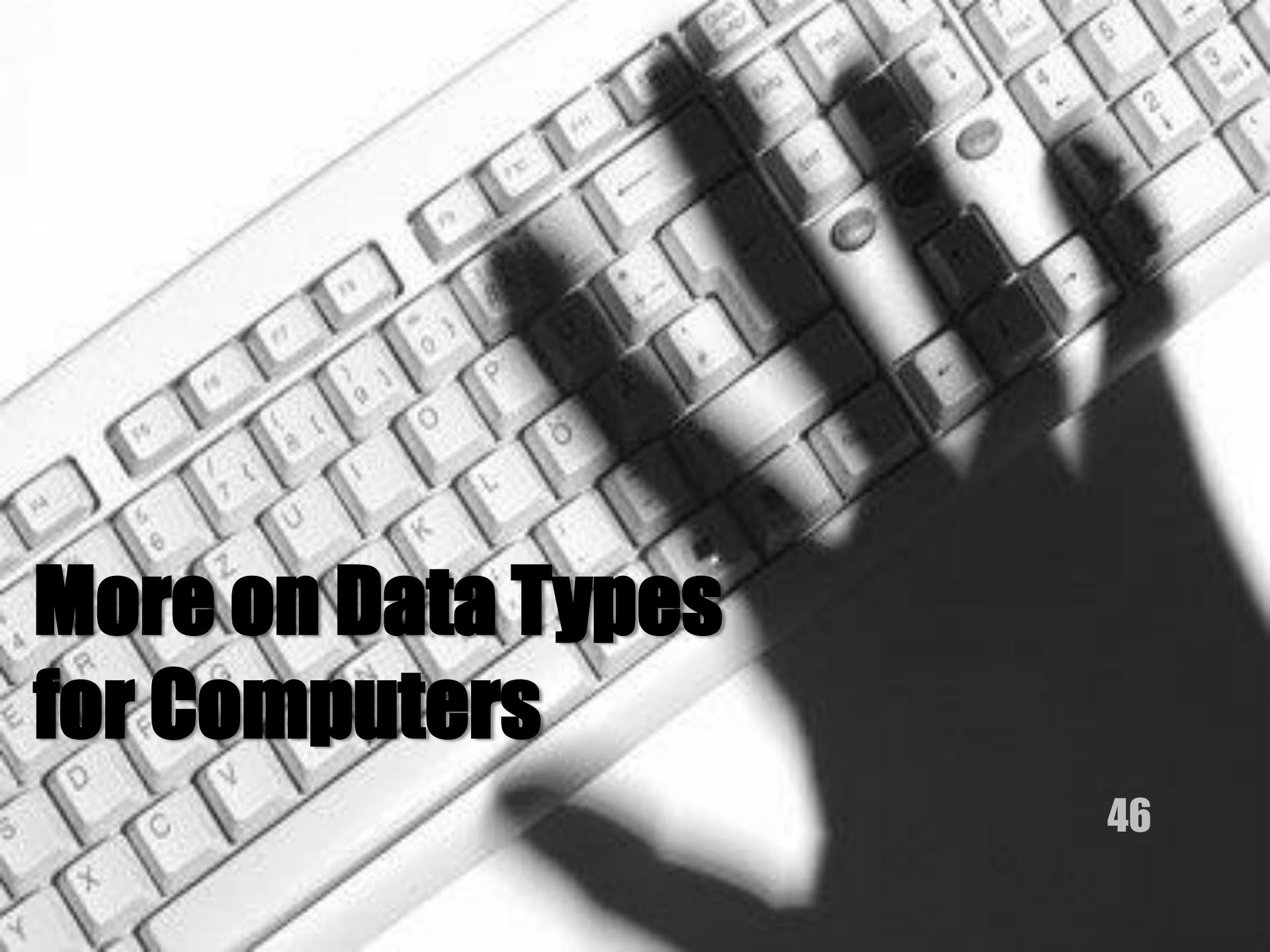
Array Example

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- Thus, an array data type such as a matrix in a computer program may be efficiently implemented by an array data structure by a computer.
- We will discuss this in more depth later in the course.

Array Example

End of Theory of Data

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More on Data Types for Computers

First...



One difficulty for new programmers is figuring out how to represent data and information in order to describe the “real world” in a computer since the choices are so limited – the problem of determining a good abstraction.

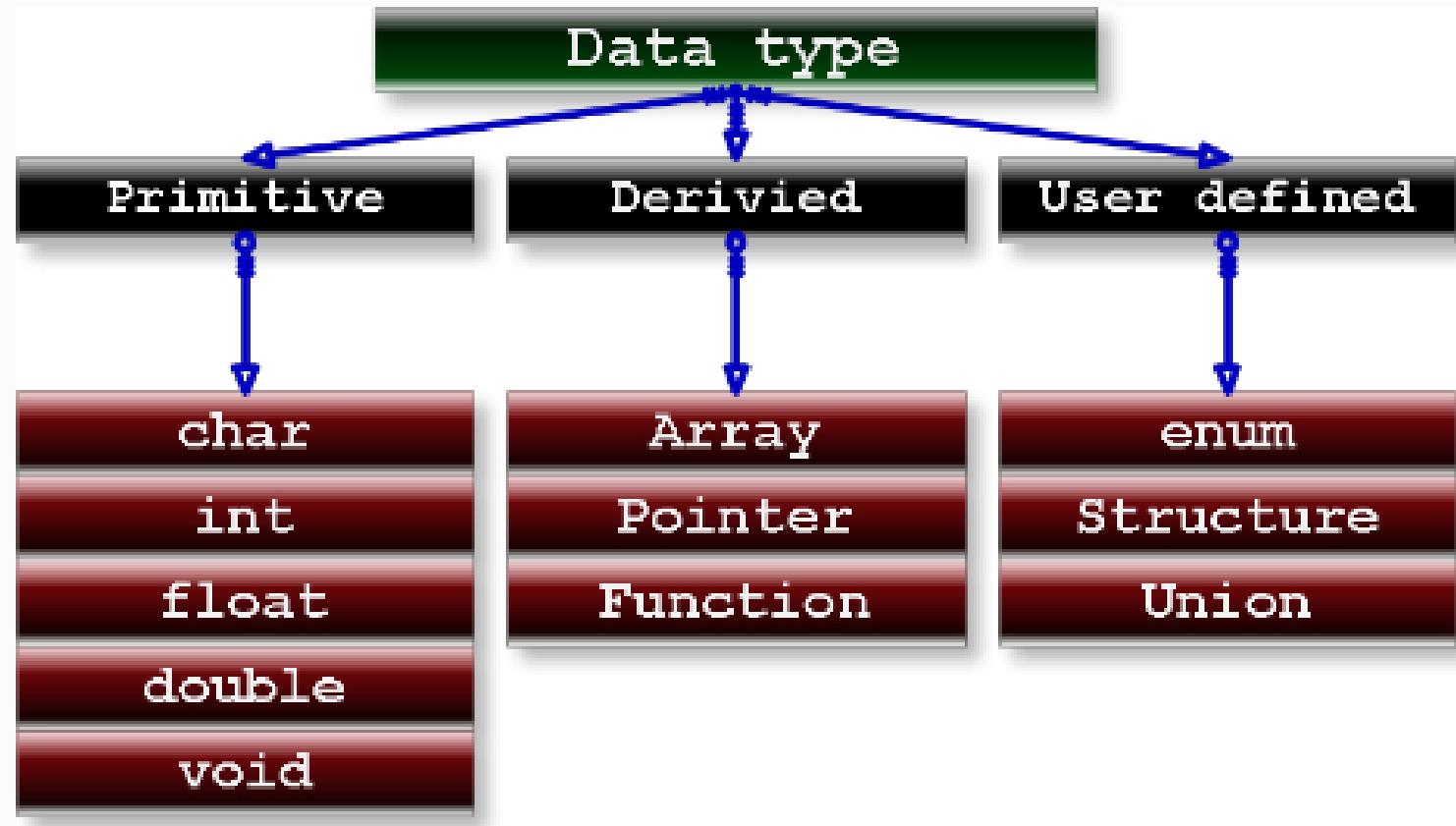
Second...

This leads us to what we have been introducing, which is the *theory of data classes*.

3 Classes of data types

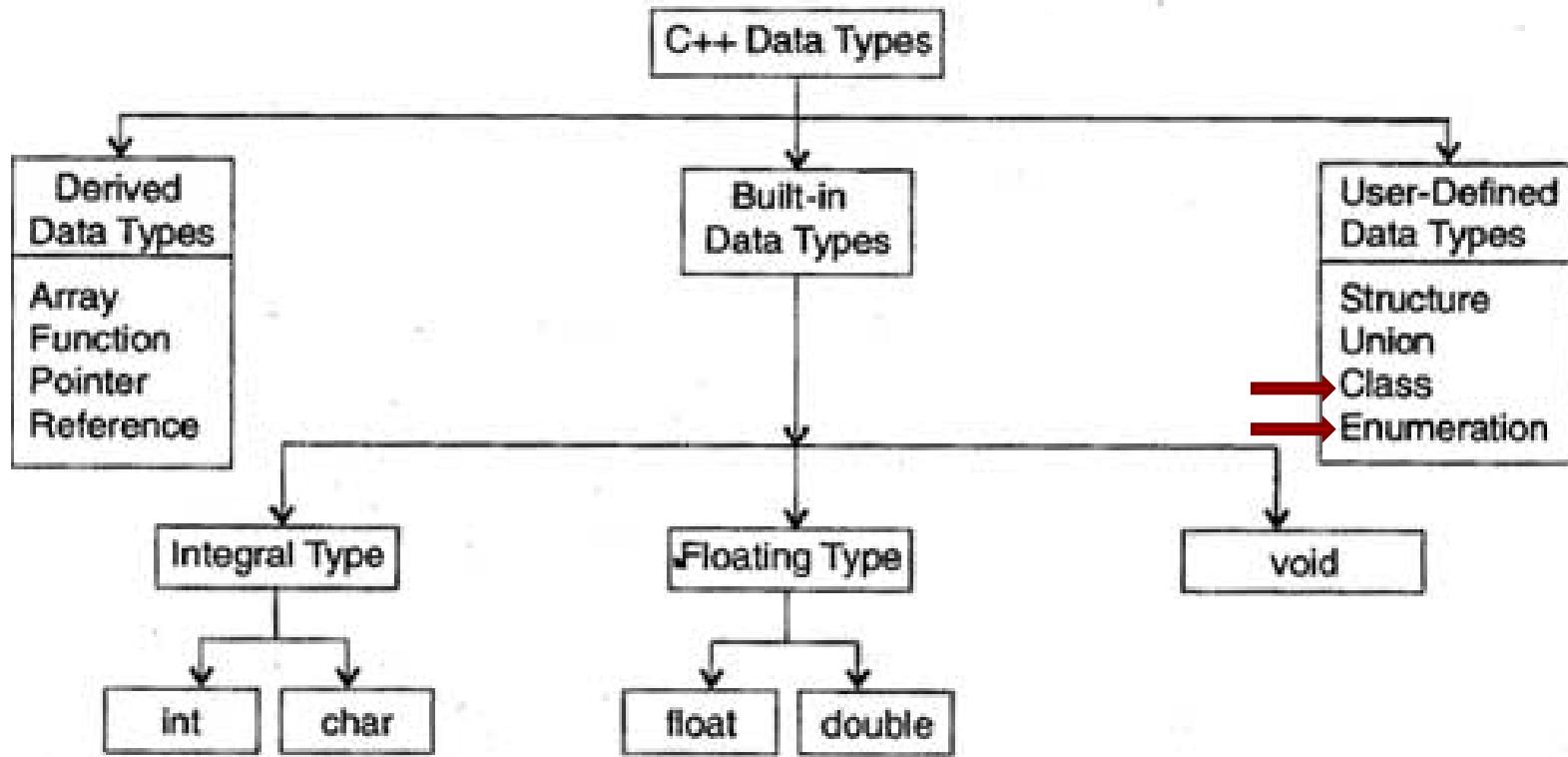
- 3.1 Primitive data types
 - 3.1.1 Machine data types
 - 3.1.2 Boolean type
 - 3.1.3 Numeric types
- 3.2 Composite types
 - 3.2.1 Enumerations
 - 3.2.2 String and text types
- 3.3 Other types
 - 3.3.1 Pointers and references
 - 3.3.2 Function types
- 3.4 Abstract data types
- 3.5 Utility types

Classes of Data



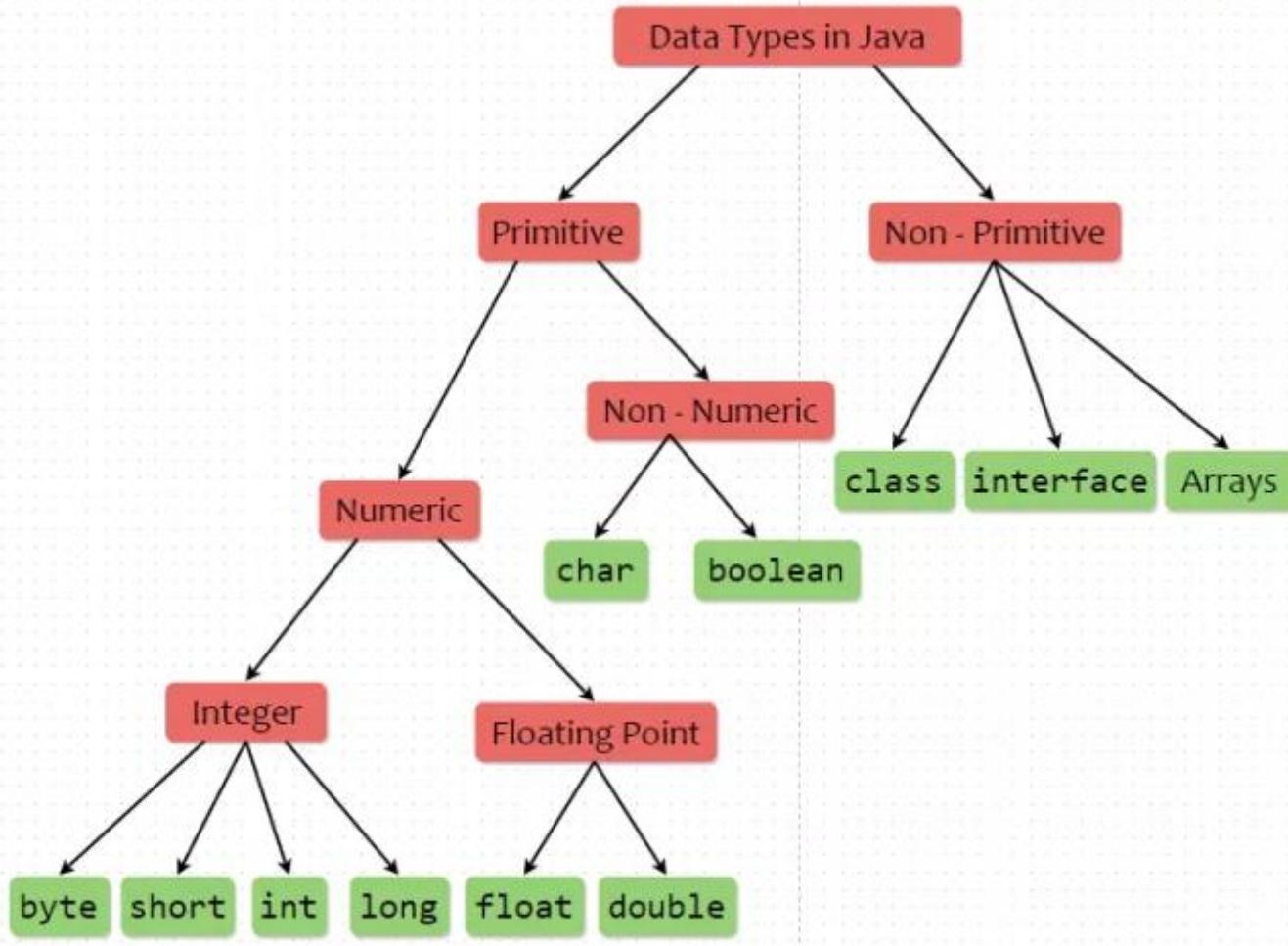
Example: C Taxonomy

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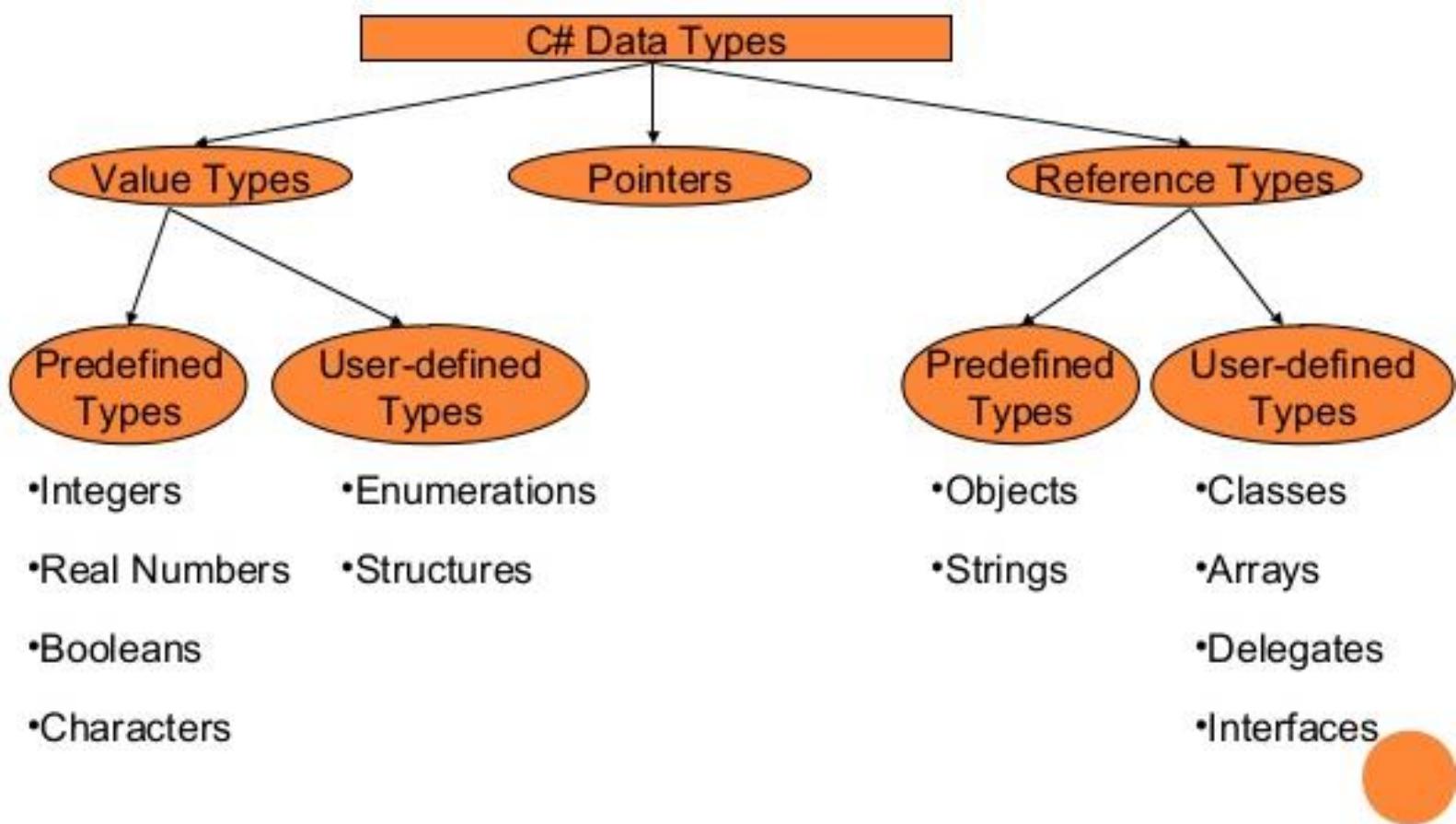
Example: C++ Taxonomy (00)

50



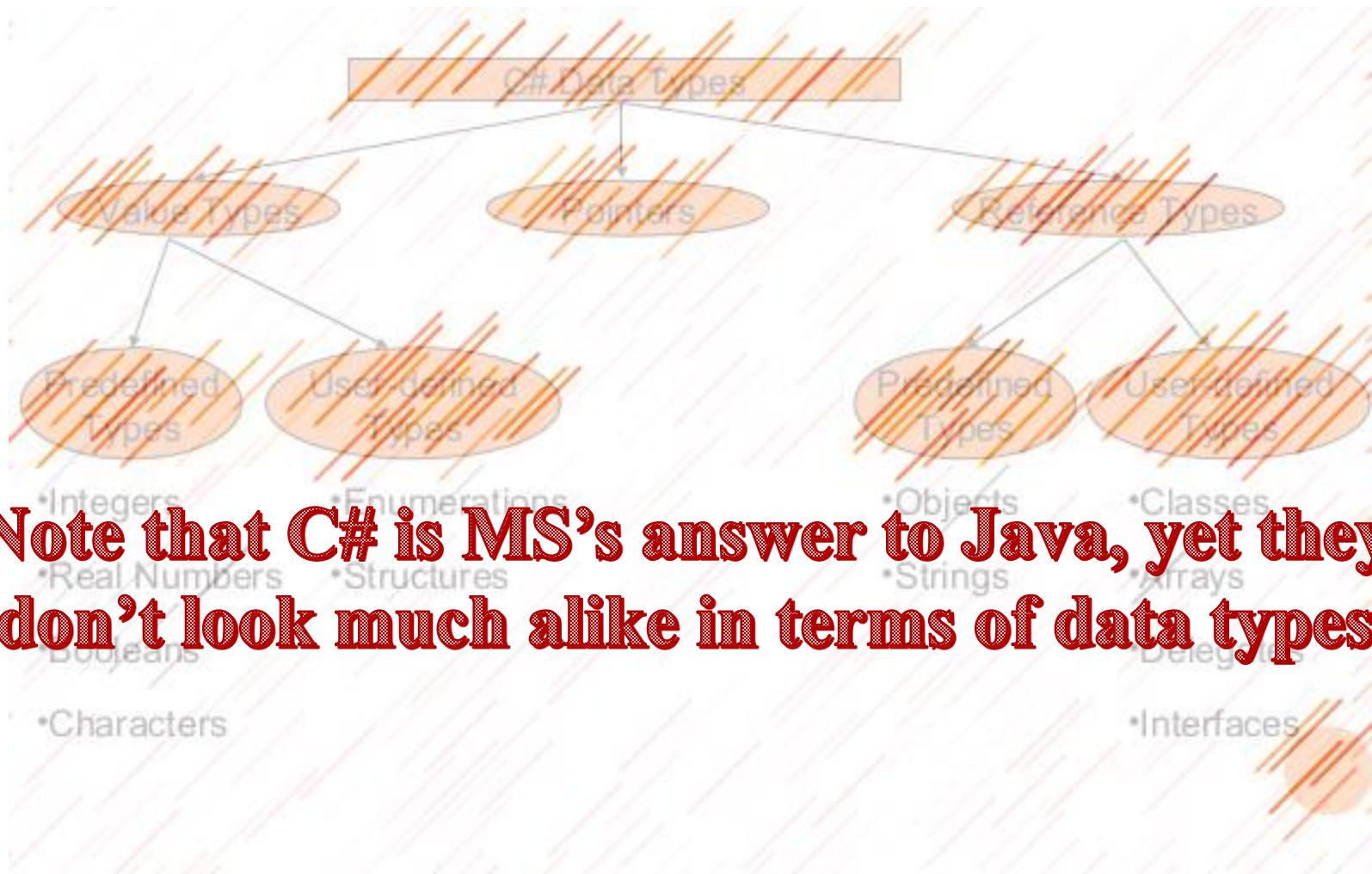
Example: Java Taxonomy

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Example: C# Taxonomy

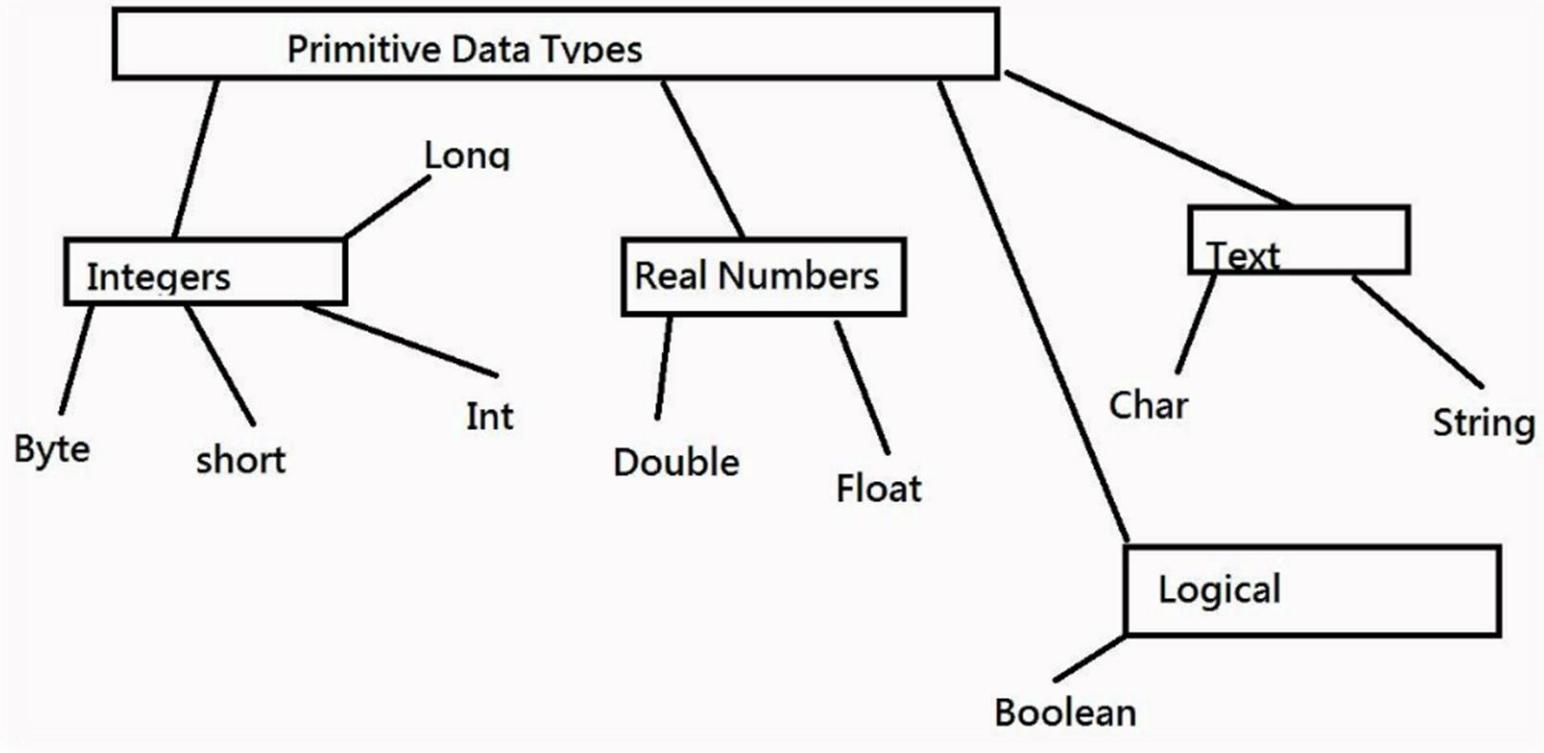
52



Note that C# is MS's answer to Java, yet they don't look much alike in terms of data types

Example: C# Taxonomy

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Example: VB Taxonomy

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- Array
- Double (double-precision floating-point number)
- Integer
- Long (double-precision integer)
- Object
- Record
- Single (single-precision floating-point number)
- String
- Variant

VB Data Types Revisited

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Another Classification of Data

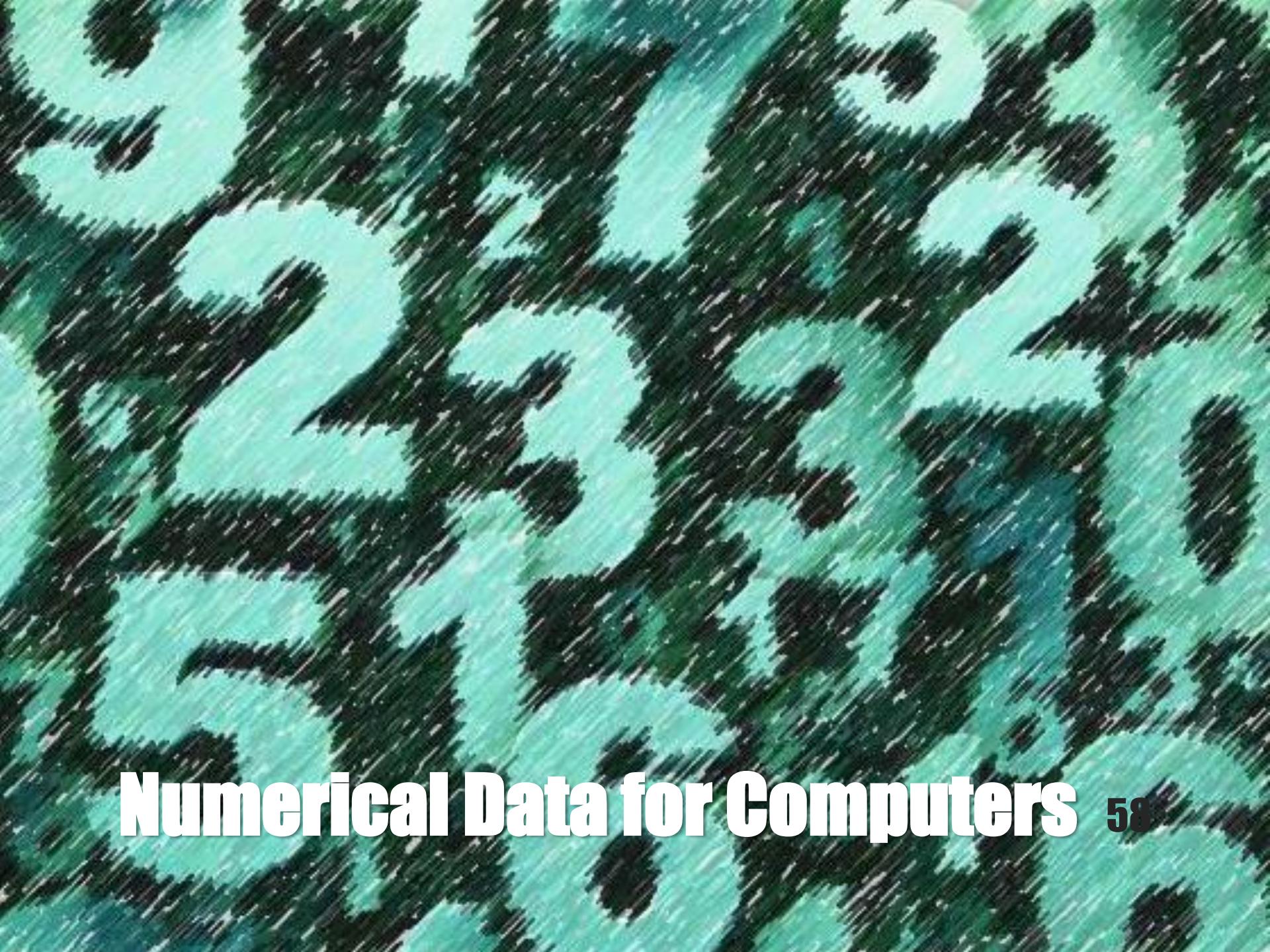
One can broadly classify data as either numeric or non-numeric. Examples of non-numerical data are:

- Characters,
- Strings (concatenation of characters),
- Booleans (True, False),
- *etc.*

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Numerical Data for Computers 58

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- A computer program mostly processes numerical and logical data into useful information of one sort or another, in part, through these circuits.

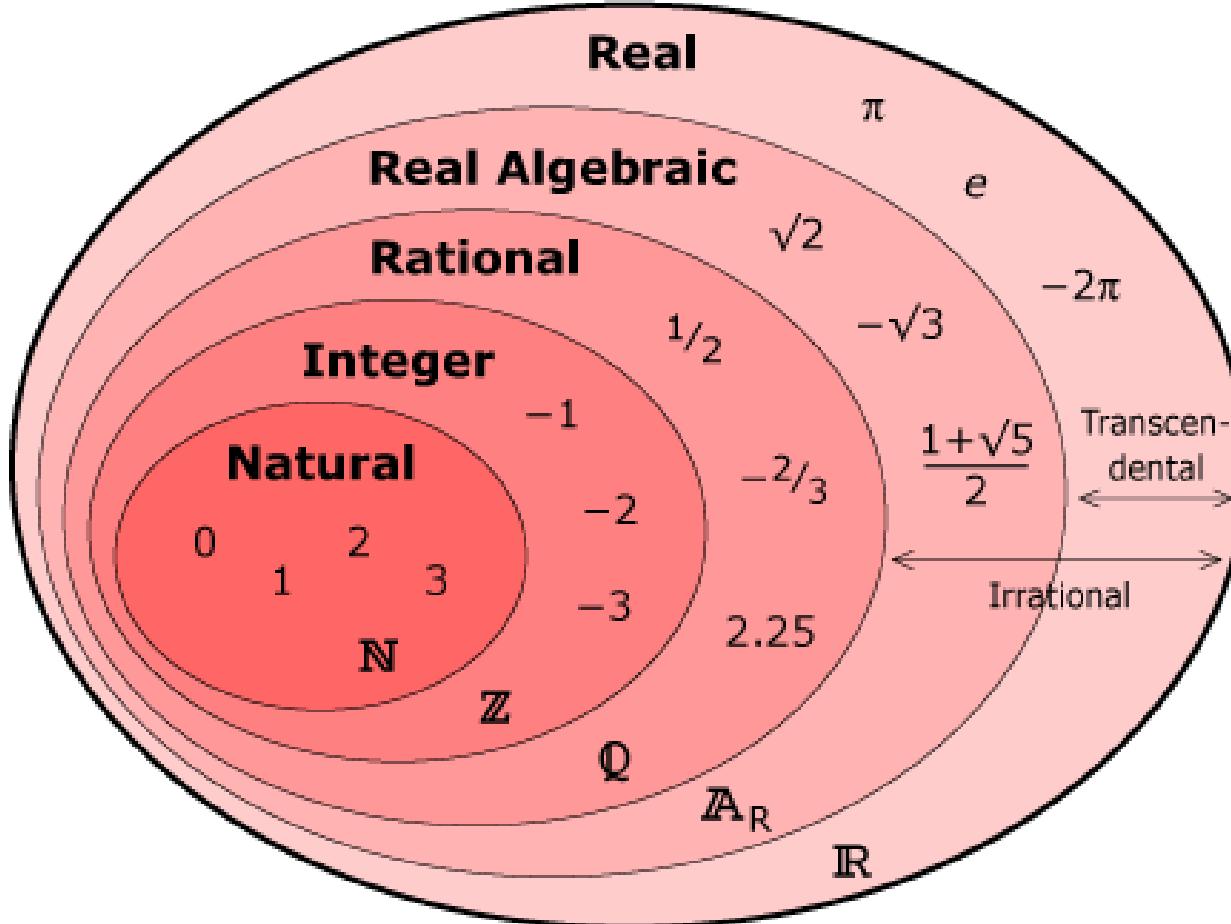
Numerical Data for Computers

60

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- A computer program mostly processes numerical and logical data into useful information of one sort or another, in part, through these circuits.
- Von Neumann computers are binary and, therefore, *integer in nature*.

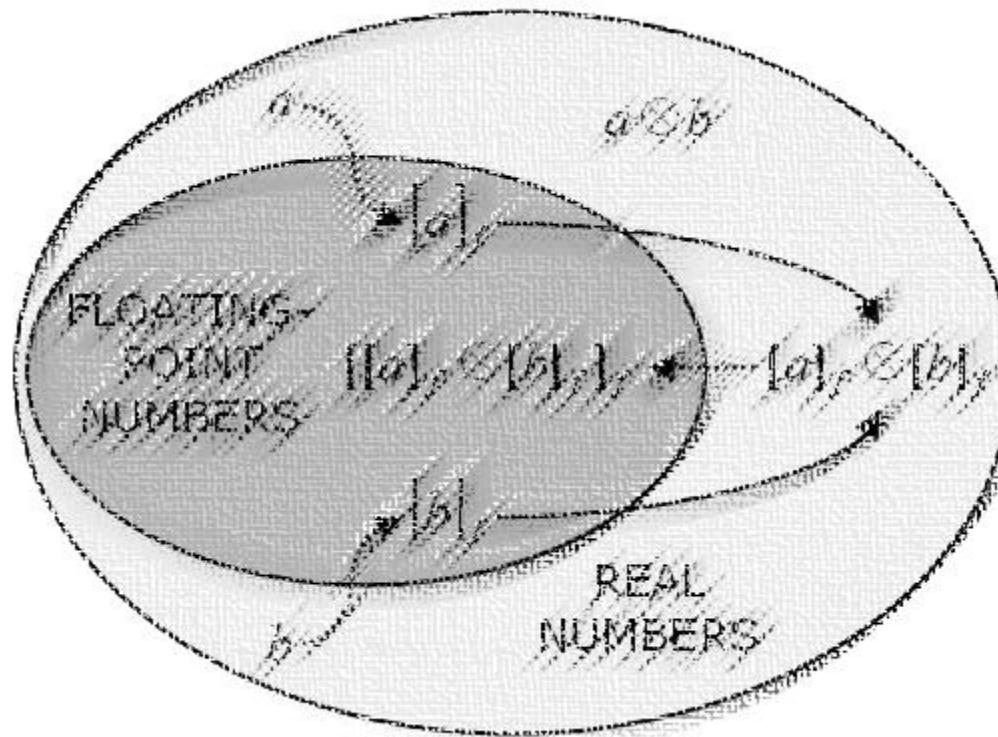
Numerical Data for Computers

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Common Number Sets

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Floating Point Numbers

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Floating Point Numbers

64

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 - The term, floating point, means there are no fixed number of digits before and after the decimal point (*e.g.*, the decimal point can *float*).

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65

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- Note that real numbers require more computing power to process them – some computers have a *floating point unit* chip (FPU) dedicated to this task.

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66

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 - Note that real numbers require more computing power to process them – some computers have a *floating point unit* chip (FPU) dedicated to this task.
 - **Most floating point numbers are only *approximations* when represented in a computer (good to 1:10¹⁵).**

Floating Point Numbers

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Statement: The number, one, is represented by the symbol, 1.

Question

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Statement: The number, one, is represented by the symbol, 1.

Question: What is the data type of the second-to-last character in this statement?

Question

- Numbers can be numeric as in an arithmetic expression, or characters as in the previous statement.

Answer

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- Numbers can be numeric as in an arithmetic expression, or characters as in the previous statement.
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Answer

71

- Numbers can be numeric as in an arithmetic expression, or characters as in the previous statement.
- There are *functions* for conversion from one data type to another.
- Clearly, operators include *functions* (later topic) given below in VB:

FUNCTION	CONVERTS ITS ARGUMENT To
CBool	Boolean
CByte	Byte
CChar	Unicode character
CDate	Date
CDbl	Double
CDec	Decimal
Clnt	integer (4-byte integer, Int32)
CLng	long (8-byte integer, Int64)
CObj	Object
CShort	Short (2-byte integer, Int16)
CSng	Single
CStr	String

Answer

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Non-Numerical Data Types

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Boolean Data Types

True and **False** are VB's Boolean variables.

Boolean Data Types



String Data Types

String (computer science) - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/String_\(computer_science\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/String_(computer_science)) ▾

In computer programming, a string is traditionally a sequence of characters, either as a ... For any two strings s and t in Σ^* , their concatenation is defined as the ...

Formal theory - String datatypes - Text file strings - Non-text strings

Example: A byte is an 8-bit binary string (*i.e.*, 10110110)

Definition

- A *string literal* is the notation for representing a string value within the text of a computer program.
- In Visual Basic **string literals are enclosed by double quotes**.
- A string in Visual Basic is a sequence of *Unicode* characters.

Strings in VB

ZetCode

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```
Option Strict On
```

```
Module Example
```

```
Sub Main()
```

```
    Dim str1 As String = "There are 10"
```

```
    Dim str2 As String = " apples"
```

```
    Console.WriteLine(str1 + str2)
```

```
    Console.WriteLine("The length of the first string is " _  
        + str1.Length.ToString() + " characters")
```

```
End Sub
```

```
End Module
```

Example

ZetCode

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Option Strict On

Module Example

Sub Main()

```
Dim str1 As String = "There are 10"  
Dim str2 As String = " apples"
```

Prabir Das replied Jul 15, 2013. **Dim** stands for dimension, used to declare variables in **visual basic** with proper datatype **definition**. Jul 15, 2013

[Visual Basic - What Does DIM Mean? - Toolbox for IT Groups](#)

visualbasic.ittoolbox.com/.../visualbasic-l/visual-basic-what-does-dim-mean-5256053

Example

ZetCode

In the preceding example, we create two string variables. Then we add them and compute the length of the first string.

```
Dim str1 As String = "There are 10"
```

A string variable is declared and initiated.

```
Console.WriteLine(str1 + str2)
```

Two strings are concatenated. We use the + operator to add two strings.

```
Console.WriteLine("The length of the first string is " _  
    + str1.Length.ToString() + " characters")
```

The Length property is used to determine the length of the string.

```
$ ./basics.exe  
There are 10 apples  
The length of the first string is 12 characters
```

Running the example gives this result.

Example

<http://zetcode.com/lang/visualbasic/strings/>

Methods that Return Strings

The following table lists several useful methods that return new string objects.

Method name	Use
<code>String.Format</code>	Builds a formatted string from a set of input objects.
<code>String.Concat</code>	Builds strings from two or more strings.
<code>String.Join</code>	Builds a new string by combining an array of strings.
<code>String.Insert</code>	Builds a new string by inserting a string into the specified index of an existing string.
<code>String.CopyTo</code>	Copies specified characters in a string into a specified position in an array of characters.

VB String Creation



- Composite types are derived from more than one primitive type. This can be done in a number of ways. The ways they are combined are called data structures. Composing a primitive type into a compound type generally results in a new type, e.g. *array-of-integer* is a different type to *integer*.
- Common examples include *Arrays*, *Records*, *Unions*, *Sets* and *Objects*.

Composite Data Types

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- An **array** stores a number of elements of the same type in a specific order. They are accessed randomly using an integer to specify which element is required (although the elements may be of almost any type). Arrays may be fixed-length or expandable.
- A **list** is similar to an array, but its contents are strung together by a series of references to the next element.

Composite Data Types

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- **Record** (also called tuple or struct) are among the simplest data structures. A record is a value that contains other values, typically in fixed number and sequence and typically indexed by names. The elements of records are usually called *fields* or *members*.

Composite Data Types

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- A **union** type definition will specify which of a number of permitted primitive types may be stored in its instances, e.g. "float or long integer". Contrast with a record, which could be defined to contain a float *and* an integer; whereas, in a union, there is only one type allowed at a time.

Composite Data Types

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- A **tagged union** (also called a variant, variant record, discriminated union, or disjoint union) contains an additional field indicating its current type, for enhanced type safety.

Composite Data Types

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- A **set** is an abstract data structure that can store certain values, without any particular order, and no repeated values. Values themselves are not retrieved from sets, rather one tests a value for membership to obtain a boolean "in" or "not in".

Composite Data Types

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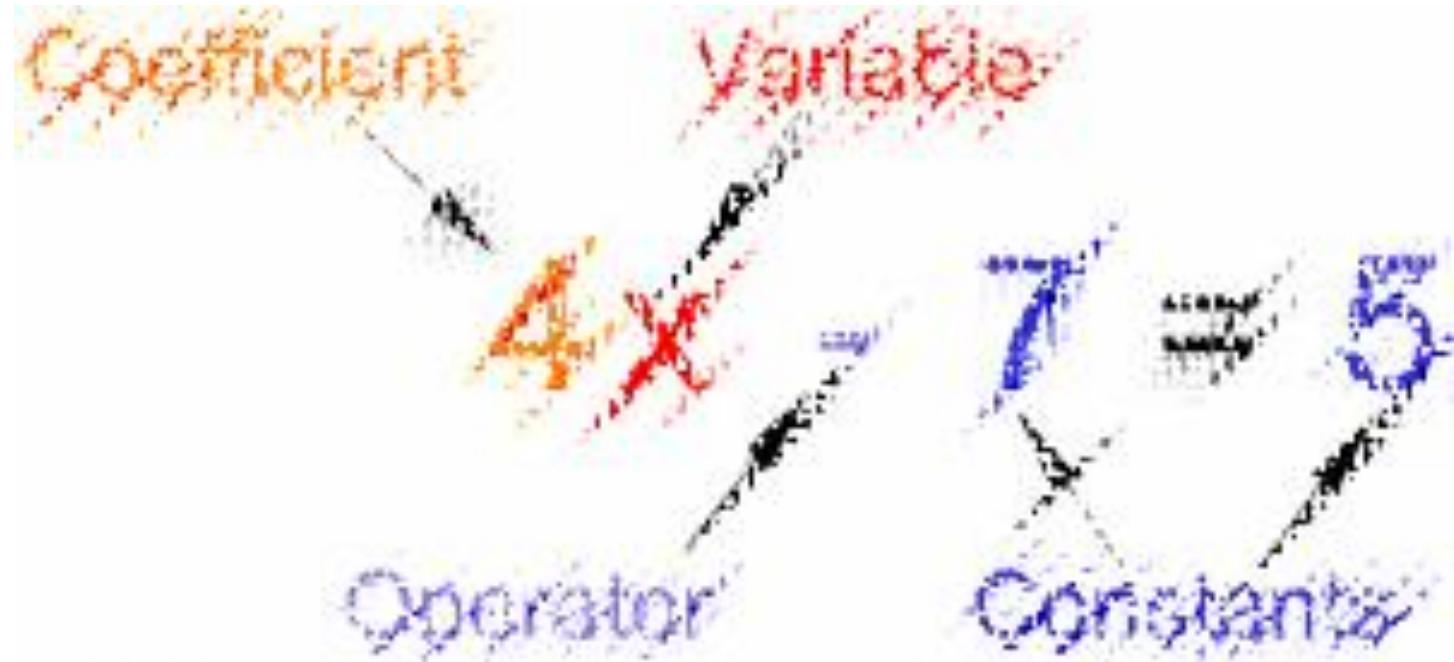


- An **object** contains a number of data fields, like a record, and also a number of subroutines for accessing or modifying them, called *methods*.

Composite Data Types

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Constants and Variables

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- Let us reconsider two basic “well known” functions:
 - Monomial: x^n
 - Exponential: n^x

Constants and Variables

- Let us reconsider two basic “well known” functions:
 - Monomial: x^n
 - Exponential: n^x
- They are composed of two fundamental units – a *constant* and a *variable*.

Constants and Variables

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- In mathematics, a constant is the term used to describe a parameter that never varies such as the number π .

Constants and Variables

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- An unspecified constant is given an alphabetical character and is usually assigned from the beginning of the alphabet, such as “ a ”.

Constants and Variables

94

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- On the other hand, a variable is an alphabetical character that represents a number that is unspecified or unknown and is usually assigned from the end of the alphabet, such as “ x ”.

Constants and Variables

95

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- An unspecified constant is given an alphabetical character and is usually assigned from the beginning of the alphabet, such as “ a ”.
- On the other hand, a variable is an alphabetical character that represents a number that is unspecified or unknown and is usually assigned from the end of the alphabet, such as “ x ”.
- For example, a , b , and c are all constants whereas x is unknown in the famous *expression* known as the quadratic equation:

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0$$

Constants and Variables

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Definition: Expression (CS)

A statement combining values, constants, variables, operators, and functions, interpreted according to the syntax of the programming language at issue, which computes and then produces an *evaluation* (numerical, string, logical, *etc.*)

Expression

For most programming languages:

- A program constant is an immediate value found in an expression.

Variables in Programming

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- A program constant is an immediate value found in an expression.
- A program variable is a **memory location**, associated with a symbolic name (an *identifier*), which contains some known or unknown information.

Variables in Programming

99

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- The value of the variable may change during execution (for example, by setting, retrieving and updating data).

Variables in Programming 100

For most programming languages:

- A program constant is an immediate value found in an expression.
- A program variable is a **memory location**, associated with a symbolic name (an *identifier*), which contains some known or unknown information.
- The value of the variable may change during execution (for example, by setting, retrieving and updating data).

These definitions do not necessarily correspond to that given in mathematics insofar as a computing variable may not be part of an equation or formula as is always the case with a mathematical variable.

Variables in Programming

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Variables in VB

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The `As` clause in the declaration statement allows you to define the data type or object type of the variable you are declaring. You can specify any of the following types for a variable:

- An elementary data type, such as `Boolean`, `Long`, or `Decimal`
- A composite data type, such as an array or structure
- An object type, or class, defined either in your application or in another application
- A .NET Framework class, such as `Label` or `TextBox`
- An interface type, such as `IComparable` or `IDisposable`

You can declare several variables in one statement without having to repeat the data type. In the following statements, the variables `i`, `j`, and `k` are declared as type `Integer`, `l` and `m` as `Long`, and `x` and `y` as `Single`:

Declaring Data Types in VB



VARIABLES

Variables are declared using the Dim keyword, Dim is short for (Dimension).

SYNTAX

```
Dim MyVariable As DataType
```

The above code creates a variable called MyVariable with no value. The example below creates two variables with data type of string and one of type integer I will use these variables throughout.

```
Dim Name As String = "thecodingguys"  
Dim Year As Integer = 2013
```

Variables in VB

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Exercise

Variable Name	Valid?	Invalid?	Good Variables Name? If not why?
GPA			
Count#1			
\$grosspay			
GradePointAverage			
Attempted.Hours			
Attempted-Hours			
Interest Rate			
A2			
2A			
End			
Printitout			
MONEYAFTERALLTAXES			

Variables in VB

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Exercise

Variable Name	Valid?	Invalid?	Good Variables Name? If not why?
GPA	YES		Yes. Assuming the application has something to do with grades this abbreviation is an acceptable variable name.
Count#1		YES	Invalid character #
Sgrosspay		YES	Invalid character \$
GradePointAverage	YES		Yes - Descriptive
Attempted.Hours		YES	Invalid character . The period has special meaning in Visual Basic and may not be used in programmer supplied names.
Attempted-Hours		YES	Invalid character -
Interest Rate		YES	You may not use a space in a variable name
A2	YES		Not good name – Not descriptive
2A		YES	Must begin with a letter
End		YES	End is a reserved word. Reserved words have a special meaning to the compiler and may not be used for programmer supplied names
Printitout	YES		Not the greatest name. It is not clear what it means.
MONEYAFTERALLTAXES	YES		Not the greatest. All uppercase is valid but not helpful in reading the variable name. Also, while it's length does not violate the rules it is probably too long to have to work with in code.

Variables in VB

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ARRAYS

Arrays are similar to variables, however arrays can hold more than one value.

SYNTAX

```
Dim MyArray() As DataType = {Values Comma Separated}
```

EXAMPLE

```
Dim MyGamesOf2013() As String = {"GTAV", "Battlefield 3"}  
Dim MyMoviesOf2013() As String = New String(3) {"The Amazing  
Spiderman", "The Expendables", "X-Men", "Rise of the planet of the  
apes"}
```

Arrays in VB

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STRINGS

CONCATENATION

Concatenation is done through the & symbol, like the following:

```
Console.WriteLine("Hello " & "World")
```

STRING FORMAT

Formats a string, the following example prints out £5,00

```
Console.WriteLine(String.Format("{0:C}", 5))
```

In the example above, we want to format the number 5 and show the currency symbol. The {0:C} is the formatting we want to do, in this case it means format the first argument (0) and apply the currency symbol. Many more formatting types are available see this [MSDN reference](#).

Strings in VB

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Visual Basic Language Keywords

Visual Studio 2008 | [Other Versions ▾](#)

The following tables list all the Visual Basic language keywords.

Reserved Keywords

The following keywords are *reserved*, which means you cannot use them as names for your programming elements such as variables or procedures. You can bypass this restriction by enclosing the name in brackets ([]). For more information, see "Escaped Names" in [Declared Element Names](#).



AddHandler	AddInIf	Alias	And
AndAlso	As	Boolean	ByRef
Byte	ByVal	Call	Case
Catch	CBool	CByte	CChar
CDate	CDec	CDbl	Char
CInt	Class	CLng	CDobj
Const	Continue	CSByte	CShort
CSng	CStr	CType	CUInt
CUInt	CUShort	Date	Decimal
Declare	Default	Delegate	Dim
DirectCast	Do	Double	Each
Else	EndIf	End	EndIf
Enum	Erase	Error	Event
Exit	False	Finally	For
Friend	Function	Get	GetType
GetXMLNamespace	Global	GoSub	GoTo
Handles	If	If	Implements
Imports (.NET Namespace and Type)	Imports (XML Namespace)	In	Inherits
Integer	Interface	Is	IsNot
Let	Lib	Like	Long
Loop	Me	Mod	Module
MustInherit	MustOverride	MyBase	MyClass
Namespace	Narrowing	New	New
Not	Nothing	NotInheritable	NotOverridable
Object	Of	On	Operator
Option	Optional	Or	OrElse
Overloads	Overidable	Overrides	OverParam
Partial	Private	Property	Protected
Public	RaiseEvent	ReadOnly	ReadOnly
REM	RemoveHandler	Resume	Return
SByte	Select	Set	Shadow
Shared	Short	Single	Static
Step	Stop	String	Structure
Sub	SyncLock	Then	These
To	True	Try	TryCast
TypeOf	Variant	Wend	WithEvents
ULong	UShort	Using	When
While	Widening	With	WithEvents
WriteOnly	Xor	IComst	IClue
ElseIf	End	Is	=
By	Is	Is	=
/	Is	\	\=
A	Is	+	+=
-	Is	>	>=
EE	EE	Operator (Visual Basic)	Operator (Visual Basic)

Note:

EndIf, GoSub, Variant, and Wend are retained as reserved keywords, although they are no longer used in Visual Basic. The meaning of the Let keyword has changed. Let is more used in LINQ queries. For more information, see [Declared Element Names](#).

Reserved Kew Words in VB

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Unreserved Keywords

The following keywords are not reserved, which means you can use them as names for your programming elements. However, doing this is not recommended, because it can make your code hard to read and can lead to subtle errors that can be difficult to find.

Aggregate	Ansi	Assembly	Auto
Binary	Compare	Custom	Distinct
Equals	Explicit	From	Group By
Group Join	Into	IsFalse	IsTrue
Join	Key (Visual Basic)	Mid	Off
Order By	Preserve	Skip	Skip While
Strict	Take	Take While	Text
Unicode	Until	Where	#ExternalSource
#Region			



Unreserved Kew Words in VB

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[https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ksh7h19t\(v=vs.90\).aspx](https://msdn.microsoft.com/en-us/library/ksh7h19t(v=vs.90).aspx)

```
Module DataTypes
    Sub Main()
        Dim b As Byte
        Dim n As Integer
        Dim si As Single
        Dim d As Double
        Dim da As Date
        Dim c As Char
        Dim s As String
        Dim bl As Boolean
        b = 1
        n = 1234567
        si = 0.12345678901234566
        d = 0.12345678901234566
        da = Today
        c = "U"c
        s = "Me"
        If ScriptEngine = "VB" Then
            bl = True
        Else
            bl = False
        End If
        If bl Then
            'the oath taking
            Console.WriteLine(c & " and," & s & vbCrLf)
            Console.WriteLine("declaring on the day of: {0}", da)
            Console.WriteLine("We will learn VB.Net seriously")
            Console.WriteLine("Lets see what happens to the floating point variables:")
            Console.WriteLine("The Single: {0}, The Double: {1}", si, d)
        End If
        Console.ReadKey()
    End Sub
```

Examples of Data Types in VB

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OPERATORS

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What is an Operator?

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Definition:

An operator in a programming language is a symbol that tells the compiler or interpreter to perform specific mathematical, relational or logical operation and produce final result

What is an Operator?

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Highest	P	Parentheses	()
	E	Exponentiation	**
	M	Multiplication	*
	D	Division	/
	A	Addition	+
Lowest	S	Subtraction	-

Priority of Arithmetic Operators

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Highest



Lowest

Operator Precedence and Associativity

Operator	Associativity
()	Left to right
++ -- ! + - (unary)	Right to left
* / %	Left to right
+ -	Left to right
< <= > >=	Left to right
== !=	Left to right
&&	Left to right
	Left to right
?:	Right to left
= += -= *= /=	Right to left

Ultimate Programming Tutorials

Priority of VB Operators

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Arithmetical Operators

Operators	Description	Example	Result
+	Add	5+5	10
-	Subtract	10-5	5
/	Divide	25/5	5
\	Integer Division	20\3	6
*	Multiply	5*4	20
^	Exponent (power of)	3^3	27
Mod	Remainder of division	20 Mod 6	2
&	String concatenation	"George"&" "&"Bush"	"George Bush"

Operators in VB

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Relational Operators

Operators	Description	Example	Result
>	Greater than	10>8	True
<	Less than	10<8	False
>=	Greater than or equal to	20>=10	True
<=	Less than or equal to	10<=20	True
<>	Not Equal to	5<>4	True
=	Equal to	5=7	False

Logical Operators

Operators	Description
OR	Operation will be true if either of the operands is true
AND	Operation will be true only if both the operands are true

Operators in VB

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Filter

Operators (Visual Basic)

Invalid Date • 1 minutes to read • Contributors 

Operators

- Operator Precedence
- > Operators Listed by Functionality
- Data Types of Operator Results
- DirectCast Operator
- TryCast Operator
- New Operator
- Arithmetic Operators
- Assignment Operators
- Bit Shift Operators
- Comparison Operators
- Concatenation Operators
- Logical-Bitwise Operators
- Miscellaneous Operators
- Properties
 - > Queries
 - > Statements
 - > XML Comment Tags
 - > XML Axis Properties
 - > XML Literals
 - > Error Messages

In This Section

- [Operator Precedence in Visual Basic](#)
- [Operators Listed by Functionality](#)
- [Data Types of Operator Results](#)
- [DirectCast Operator](#)
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- [Concatenation Operators](#)
- [Logical/Bitwise Operators](#)
- [Miscellaneous Operators](#)

Your Rosetta Stone for
VB Operators



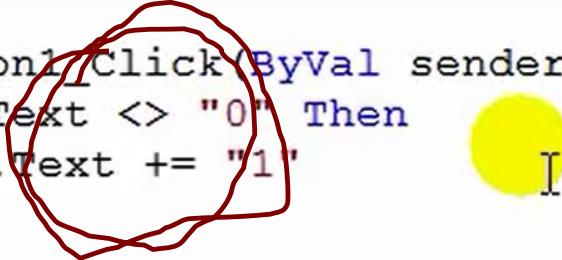
The Complete List of Operators in VB

Example: From Building a Calculator Video

```
operations As Integer
operator_Selector As Boolean = False

    Sub Form1_Load(ByVal sender As System.Object, ByVal e As
ub

    Sub Button1_Click(ByVal sender As System.Object, ByVal e
f TextBox1.Text <> "0" Then
        TextBox1.Text += "1"
    Else
    End If
ub
```



The Complete List of Operators in VB

120

End Operator Unit



Type Theory:

“The fundamental problem addressed by a type theory is to ensure that programs have meaning.”

- Mark Manasse, in Pierce, Benjamin C. (2002). *Types and Programming Languages*. MIT Press..

Recall Type Theory

Typing

Typing assigns a data type, giving meaning to a sequence of bits such as a value in memory or some object such as a variable.

Definition

123

- The hardware of a general purpose computer is unable to discriminate between, for example, a memory address and an instruction code, or between a character, an integer, or a floating-point number, because it makes no intrinsic distinction between any of the possible values that a sequence of bits might *mean*.

Typing

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- The hardware of a general purpose computer is unable to discriminate between, for example, a memory address and an instruction code, or between a character, an integer, or a floating-point number, because it makes no intrinsic distinction between any of the possible values that a sequence of bits might *mean*.
- Associating a sequence of bits with a type conveys that meaning to the programmable hardware to form a *symbolic system* composed of that hardware and some program.

Typing

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Type Checking

The process of verifying and enforcing the constraints of types. This may be implemented either at compile-time (a static check) or run-time (a dynamic check).

Definition

126

A programming language is said to be **dynamically** typed, or just '**dynamic**', when the majority of its **type** checking is performed at run-time as opposed to at compile-time. In **dynamic typing**, **types** are associated with values not variables. Oct 4, 2009

[static typing - What is the difference between statically typed and ...](#)
stackoverflow.com/.../what-is-the-difference-between-statically-typed-and-dynamically-t...

Dynamic vs. Static Type Checking

127

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static typing - What is the difference between statically typed and ...
stackoverflow.com/.../what-is-the-difference-between-statically-typed-and-dynamically-t...

VB is both *statically* and *dynamically typed*

Dynamic vs. Static Type Checking

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<https://www.thecodingguys.net/resources/visual-basic-CS.pdf>

Remainder of VB Syntax

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Presentation Terminated



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