

C++ Exceptions

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Exceptions

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Exceptions

- ◆ Unexpected events that occur during the execution of a program
 - Result of an error condition
 - Result of an unexpected input
- ◆ Exceptions can also be thrown by the C++ run-time environment, i.e. run out of memory

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Throw & Catch

- ◆ When error condition occurs, **throw** an **object** to signify the error
 - Object thrown is like any other object in C++, can be user-defined, from a std library, or even built-in types
- ◆ **Catch** the object and handle it gracefully
- ◆ Key point – the program does not have to abort abruptly

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Try block

- ◆ Can only catch exceptions thrown within a try block
 - "Try to execute this code. If error occurs, catch it."
- ◆ Can have multiple catch blocks for each try block
 - Each catch block must have its own signature (like overloaded functions)

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Example try/catch blocks

```
try {  
    if(divisor == 0)  
        throw ZeroDivideException("Divide by zero in Module X");  
}  
catch (ZeroDivideException &zde ) {  
    // handle division by zero  
}  
catch (MathException &me){  
    // handle any math exception other than division by zero  
}
```

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Recovery Action

- ◆ May be as simple as printing an error message and terminating the program.
- ◆ May require more complex clean-up operations such as deallocating memory, etc.

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Example try/catch blocks

```
try {
    Stack s1;
    s1.push( 45 );
    cout << "top: " << st.top() << endl;
    s1.pop();
    cout << "top: " << s1.top() << endl;
    s1.push( 65 );
    cout << "top: " << s1.top() << endl;
} catch ( underflow_error &e ) {
    cout << e.what() << endl;
}
```

2nd call to top throws exception that is caught by catch block

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Throw & Catch

- ◆ Throw statement must be within try block, but can be down the call stack (within functions called inside the try block)
- ◆ When exception thrown, traverse back up the call stack until caught.
 - If not caught, program terminated

```
int Stack::top( ) const {
    if ( head )
        return head->item;
    else
        throw underflow_error( "Called top on empty Stack" );
}
```

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Std Exception classes

◆ Library: stdexcept

- exception
 - ◆ logic_error
 - domain_error
 - invalid_argument
 - length_error
 - out_of_range
 - ◆ runtime_error
 - range_error
 - overflow_error
 - underflow_error

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Long Distance Throw

- ◆ Suppose function f() inside a try block calls...
 - g(), then g() calls...
 - y(), then y() calls...
 - z()
- ◆ If z() throws an exception, within a suitable try block in z(), with an appropriate catch...
 - then it gets handled,
 - else z() gets popped off the call stack.
- ◆ If y() called z(), within a suitable try block, with an appropriate catch...
 - then it gets handled,
 - else y()... gets popped off the call stack.
- ◆ ...
 - f() with an appropriate catch handles the exception

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