Fortran 90 Basics

I don't know what the programming language of the year 2000 will look like, but I know it will be called FORTRAN.

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F90 Program Structure

- •A Fortran 90 program has the following form:
 - **program-name** is the name of that program
 - **■** specification-part, execution-part, and subprogram-part are optional.
 - Although IMPLICIT NONE is also optional, this is <u>required</u> in this course to write safe programs.

```
PROGRAM program-name

IMPLICIT NONE

[specification-part]

[execution-part]

[subprogram-part]

END PROGRAM program-name
```

Program Comments

- Comments start with a !
- Everything following! will be ignored
- This is similar to // in C/C++

Continuation Lines

- Fortran 90 is not completely format-free!
- A statement must starts with a new line.
- If a statement is too long to fit on one line, it has to be *continued*.
- The continuation character is &, which is not part of the statement.

Alphabets

- Fortran 90 alphabets include the following:
 - **Upper and lower cases letters**
 - Digits
 - Special characters

```
space
' "
( ) * + - / : =
_ ! & $ ; < >
% ? , .
```

Constants: 1/6

- •A Fortran 90 constant may be an integer, real, logical, complex, and character string.
- We will not discuss complex constants.
- An integer constant is a string of digits with an optional sign: 12345, -345, +789, +0.

Constants: 2/6

- A real constant has two forms, decimal and exponential:
 - ■In the decimal form, a real constant is a string of digits with exactly one decimal point. A real constant may include an optional sign. Example: 2.45, .13, 13., -0.12, -.12.

Constants: 3/6

- A real constant has two forms, decimal and exponential:
 - In the exponential form, a real constant starts with an integer/real, followed by a E/e, followed by an integer (*i.e.*, the exponent). Examples:
 - **◆12E3** (12×10³), -12e3 (-12×10³), 3.45E-8 (3.45×10⁻⁸), -3.45e-8 (-3.45×10⁻⁸).
 - \bullet 0E0 (0×10⁰=0). 12.34-5 is wrong!

Constants: 4/6

- A logical constant is either .TRUE. or .FALSE.
- Note that the periods surrounding TRUE and FALSE are required!

Constants: 5/6

- •A character string or character constant is a string of characters enclosed between two double quotes or two single quotes. Examples: "abc", 'John Dow', "#\$%^", and '()()'.
- The content of a character string consists of all characters between the quotes. Example: The content of 'John Dow' is John Dow.
- The length of a string is the number of characters between the quotes. The length of 'John Dow' is 8, space included.

Constants: 6/6

- •A string has length zero (i.e., no content) is an empty string.
- •If single (or double) quotes are used in a string, then use double (or single) quotes as delimiters. Examples: "Adam's cat" and 'I said "go away"'.
- Two consecutive quotes are treated as one!

```
'Lori''s Apple' is Lori's Apple
"double quote""" is double quote"

'abc''def"x''y' is abc'def"x'y

"abc""def'x""y" is abc"def'x"y
```

Identifiers: 1/2

- A Fortran 90 identifier can have no more than 31 characters.
- The first one must be a letter. The remaining characters, if any, may be letters, digits, or underscores.
- Fortran 90 identifiers are CASE INSENSITIVE.
- Examples: A, Name, toTAL123, System_, myFile_01, my_1st_F90_program_X_.
- Identifiers Name, nAME, naME and NamE are the same.

Identifiers: 2/2

- Unlike Java, C, C++, etc, <u>Fortran 90 does not</u> <u>have reserved words</u>. This means one may use Fortran keywords as identifiers.
- Therefore, PROGRAM, end, IF, then, DO, etc may be used as identifiers. Fortran 90 compilers are able to recognize keywords from their "positions" in a statement.
- Yes, end = program + if/(goto while) is legal!
- However, avoid the use of Fortran 90 keywords as identifiers to minimize confusion.

Declarations: 1/3

•Fortran 90 uses the following for variable declarations, where type-specifier is one of the following keywords: INTEGER, REAL, LOGICAL, COMPLEX and CHARACTER, and list is a sequence of identifiers separated by commas.

```
type-specifier :: list
```

Examples:

```
INTEGER :: Zip, Total, counter
REAL :: AVERAGE, x, Difference
LOGICAL :: Condition, OK
COMPLEX :: Conjugate
```

Declarations: 2/3

- Character variables require additional information, the string length:
 - **EXECUTER** When the Keyword CHARACTER must be followed by a length attribute (LEN = l), where l is the length of the string.
 - **■** The **LEN=** part is optional.
 - If the length of a string is 1, one may use CHARACTER without length attribute.
 - Other length attributes will be discussed later.

Declarations: 3/3

- **Examples:**
 - Variables Answer and Quote can hold strings up to 20 characters.
 - **CHARACTER** (20) :: Answer, Quote is the same as above.
 - **CHARACTER :: Keypress** means variable **Keypress** can only hold **ONE** character (*i.e.*, length 1).

The **PARAMETER** Attribute: 1/4

- A **PARAMETER** identifier is a name whose value cannot be modified. In other words, it is a *named constant*.
- The PARAMETER attribute is used after the type keyword.
- Each identifier is followed by a = and followed by a value for that identifier.

```
INTEGER, PARAMETER :: MAXIMUM = 10

REAL, PARAMETER :: PI = 3.1415926, E = 2.17828

LOGICAL, PARAMETER :: TRUE = .true., FALSE = .false.
```

The **PARAMETER** Attribute: 2/4

- Since CHARACTER identifiers have a length attribute, it is a little more complex when used with PARAMETER.
- •Use (LEN = *) if one does not want to count the number of characters in a PARAMETER character string, where = * means the length of this string is determined elsewhere.

```
CHARACTER(LEN=3), PARAMETER :: YES = "yes" ! Len = 3
CHARACTER(LEN=2), PARAMETER :: NO = "no" ! Len = 2
CHARACTER(LEN=*), PARAMETER :: &

PROMPT = "What do you want?" ! Len = 17
```

The **parameter** Attribute: 3/4

- Since Fortran 90 strings are of *fixed* length, one must remember the following:
 - If a string is longer than the **PARAMETER** length, the right end is truncated.
 - If a string is shorter than the **PARAMETER** length, spaces will be added to the right.

```
CHARACTER(LEN=4), PARAMETER :: ABC = "abcdef" CHARACTER(LEN=4), PARAMETER :: XYZ = "xy"
```

$$ABC = \begin{bmatrix} a & b & c & d \end{bmatrix} \qquad XYZ = \begin{bmatrix} x & y & \end{bmatrix}$$

The **PARAMETER** Attribute: 4/4

- ●By convention, **PARAMETER** identifiers use all upper cases. However, this is not mandatory.
- For maximum flexibility, constants other than 0 and 1 should be PARAMETERized.
- A PARAMETER is an alias of a value and is <u>not</u> a variable. Hence, one cannot modify the content of a PARAMETER identifier.
- One can may a **PARAMETER** identifier anywhere in a program. It is equivalent to replacing the identifier with its value.
- The value part can use expressions.

Variable Initialization: 1/2

- A variable receives its value with
 - **Initialization:** It is done once before the program runs.
 - **Assignment:** It is done when the program executes an assignment statement.
 - **Input**: It is done with a **READ** statement.

Variable Initialization: 2/2

- Variable initialization is very similar to what we learned with PARAMETER.
- A variable name is followed by a =, followed by an expression in which all identifiers must be constants or **PARAMETERS** defined *previously*.
- Using an un-initialized variable may cause unexpected, sometimes disastrous results.

```
REAL :: Offset = 0.1, Length = 10.0, tolerance = 1.E-7

CHARACTER(LEN=2) :: State1 = "MI", State2 = "MD"

INTEGER, PARAMETER :: Quantity = 10, Amount = 435

INTEGER, PARAMETER :: Period = 3

INTEGER :: Pay = Quantity Amount, Received = Period 5
```

Arithmetic Operators

- There are four types of operators in Fortran 90: arithmetic, relational, logical and character.
- The following shows the first three types:

| Туре | Operator | | | | Associativity | | |
|------------|-----------------|----|----------------------|----|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | | <u>right to left</u> | | | | |
| Arithmetic | * | | | / | | | left to right |
| | + | | | _ | | | left to right |
| Relational | < | <= | > | >= | == | /= | none |
| Logical | | | <u>right to left</u> | | | | |
| | | | left to right | | | | |
| | .OR. | | | | | | left to right |
| | .EQVNEQV. | | | | | left to right | |

Operator Priority

- ** is the highest; * and / are the next, followed
 by + and -. All relational operators are next.
- Of the 5 logical operators, .EQV. and .NEQV. are the lowest.

| Type | Operator | | | | Associativity | | |
|------------|----------|----|---------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|
| | | | right to left | | | | |
| Arithmetic | * | | | / | | | left to right |
| | + | | | - | | | left to right |
| Relational | < | <= | > | >= | == | /= | none |
| Logical | | | right to left | | | | |
| | | | left to right | | | | |
| | | | left to right | | | | |
| | .EQV. | | | | .NEQV. | | left to right |

highest priority

Expression Evaluation

- Expressions are evaluated from left to right.
- If an operator is encountered in the process of evaluation, its *priority* is compared with that of the next one
 - if the next one is lower, evaluate the current operator with its operands;
 - if the next one is equal to the current, the <u>associativity laws</u> are used to determine which one should be evaluated;
 - if the next one is higher, scanning continues

Single Mode Expression

- A *single mode* arithmetic expression is an expression all of whose operands are of the same type.
- If the operands are INTEGERS (resp., REALS), the result is also an INTEGER (resp., REAL).

```
1.0 + \underbrace{2.0 * 3.0} / (6.0*6.0 + 5.0*44.0) ** 0.25
--> 1.0 + 6.0 / (\underbrace{6.0*6.0} + 5.0*44.0) ** 0.25
--> 1.0 + 6.0 / (36.0 + \underbrace{5.0*44.0}) ** 0.25
--> 1.0 + 6.0 / (\underbrace{36.0} + \underbrace{220.0}) ** 0.25
--> 1.0 + 6.0 / \underbrace{256.0} ** 0.25
--> 1.0 + \underbrace{6.0} / 4.0
--> \underbrace{1.0} + \underbrace{1.5}
--> 2.5
```

Mixed Mode Expression: 1/2

- If operands have different types, it is *mixed mode*.
- INTEGER and REAL yields REAL, and the INTEGER operand is converted to REAL before evaluation. Example: 3.5*4 is converted to 3.5*4.0 becoming single mode.
- Exception: x**INTEGER: x**3 is x*x*x and x**(-3) is 1.0/(x*x*x).
- *****REAL** is evaluated with log() and exp().
- Logical and character cannot be mixed with arithmetic operands.

Mixed Mode Expression: 2/2

Note that a**b**c is a**(b**c) instead of (a**b)**c, and a**(b**c) ≠ (a**b)**c.
This can be a big trap!

6.0**2 is evaluated as 6.0*6.0 rather than converted to 6.0**2.0!

The Assignment Statement: 1/2

- The assignment statement has a form ofvariable = expression
- If the type of variable and expression are identical, the result is saved to variable.
- If the type of variable and expression are not identical, the result of expression is converted to the type of variable.
- If expression is REAL and variable is INTEGER, the result is truncated.

The Assignment Statement: 2/2

The left example uses an initialized variable Unit, and the right uses a PARAMETER PI.

```
INTEGER :: Total, Amount
INTEGER :: Unit = 5

Amount = 100.99
Total = Unit * Amount
```

```
REAL, PARAMETER :: PI = 3.1415926
REAL :: Area
INTEGER :: Radius

Radius = 5
Area = (Radius ** 2) * PI
```

This one is equivalent to Radius ** 2 * PI

Fortran Intrinsic Functions: 1/4

- Fortran provides many commonly used functions, referred to as *intrinsic functions*.
- To use an intrinsic function, we need to know:
 - Name and meaning of the function (e.g., SQRT() for square root)
 - Number of arguments
 - The type and range of each argument (*e.g.*, the argument of SQRT() must be nonnegative)
 - The type of the returned function value.

Fortran Intrinsic Functions: 2/4

Some mathematical functions:

| Function | Meaning | Arg. Type | Return Type |
|----------|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|
| ABC () | absolute value of x | INTEGER | INTEGER |
| ABS(x) | absolute value of x | REAL | REAL |
| SQRT(x) | square root of x | REAL | REAL |
| SIN(x) | sine of x radian | REAL | REAL |
| COS(x) | cosine of x radian | REAL | REAL |
| TAN(x) | tangent of x radian | REAL | REAL |
| ASIN(x) | arc sine of x | REAL | REAL |
| ACOS(x) | arc cosine of x | REAL | REAL |
| ATAN(x) | arc tangent of x | REAL | REAL |
| EXP(x) | exponential e ^x | REAL | REAL |
| LOG(x) | natural logarithm of x | REAL | REAL |

Fortran Intrinsic Functions: 3/4

Some conversion functions:

| Function | Meaning | Arg. Type | Return Type |
|-------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| INT(x) | truncate to integer part x | REAL | INTEGER |
| NINT(x) | round nearest integer to x | REAL | INTEGER |
| FLOOR(x) | greatest integer less than or equal to 🗶 | REAL | INTEGER |
| FRACTION(x) | the fractional part of x | REAL | REAL |
| REAL(x) | convert x to REAL | INTEGER | REAL |

Examples:

INT(-3.5)
$$\rightarrow$$
 -3
NINT(3.5) \rightarrow 4
NINT(-3.4) \rightarrow -3
FLOOR(3.6) \rightarrow 3
FLOOR(-3.5) \rightarrow -4
FRACTION(12.3) \rightarrow 0.3
REAL(-10) \rightarrow -10.0

Fortran Intrinsic Functions: 4/4

Other functions:

| Function | Meaning | Arg. Type | Return Type |
|-------------------|--|-----------|-------------|
| MAX(x1, x2,, xn) | movimum of 11 12 | INTEGER | INTEGER |
| MAX(XI, X2,, XII) | maximum of x1, x2, xn | REAL | REAL |
| MIN(x1, x2,, xn) | minimum of -12 | INTEGER | INTEGER |
| MIN(XI, X2,, XII) | minimum of x1 , x2 , xn | REAL | REAL |
| MOD (** **) | remainder x - INT(x/y)*y | INTEGER | INTEGER |
| MOD(x,y) | remanuer x - INT(x/y) *y | REAL | REAL |

Expression Evaluation

- Functions have the highest priority.
- Function arguments are evaluated first.
- The returned function value is treated as a value in the expression.

```
REAL :: A = 1.0, B = -5.0, C = 6.0, R

R = (-B + SQRT(B*B - 4.0*A*C))/(2.0*A)
R = (-B + SQRT(B*B - 4.0*A*C))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + SQRT(B*B - 4.0*A*C))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + SQRT(25.0 - 4.0*A*C))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + SQRT(25.0 - 4.0*C))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + SQRT(25.0 - 24.0))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + SQRT(1.0))/(2.0*A)
--> (5.0 + 1.0)/(2.0*A)
--> (6.0/(2.0*A)
--> 6.0/(2.0*A)
--> 6.0/(2.0*A)
--> 3.0
```

What is **IMPLICIT NONE**?

- Fortran has an interesting tradition: all variables starting with i, j, k, 1, m and n, if not declared, are of the INTEGER type by default.
- This handy feature can cause serious consequences if it is not used with care.
- IMPLICIT NONE means all names must be declared and there is no implicitly assumed INTEGER type.
- All programs in this class must use **IMPLICIT NONE.** Points will be deducted if you do not use it!

List-Directed **READ**: 1/5

● Fortran 90 uses the READ (*, *) statement to read data into variables from keyboard:

```
READ(*,*) v1, v2, ..., vn
READ(*,*)
```

 The second form has a special meaning that will be discussed later.

```
INTEGER :: Age
REAL :: Amount, Rate
CHARACTER(LEN=10) :: Name

READ(*,*) Name, Age, Rate, Amount
```

List-Directed **READ**: 2/5

- Data Preparation Guidelines
 - **READ**(*,*) reads data from keyboard by default, although one may use input redirection to read from a file.
 - If READ (*, *) has n variables, there must be n Fortran constants.
 - Each constant must have the type of the corresponding variable. Integers can be read into **REAL** variables but not vice versa.
 - Data items are separated by spaces and may spread into multiple lines.

List-Directed **READ**: 3/5

- The execution of READ (*, *) always starts with a new line!
- Then, it reads each constant into the corresponding variable.

```
CHARACTER(LEN=5) :: Name

REAL :: height, length

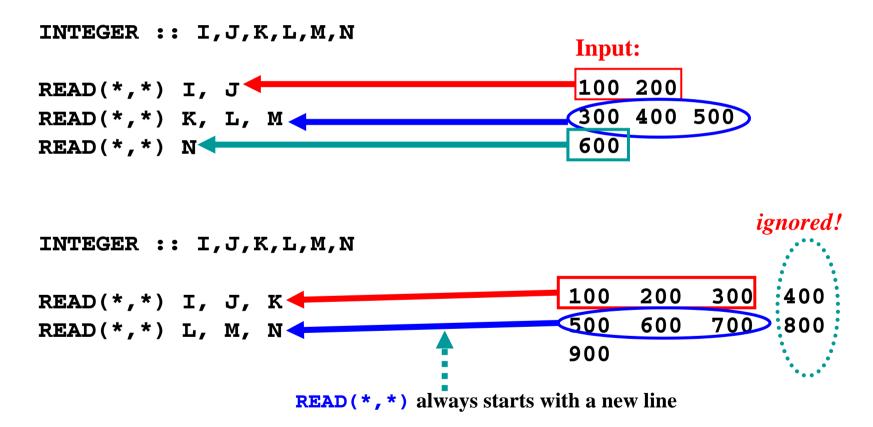
INTEGER :: count, MaxLength

READ(*,*) Name, height, count, length, MaxLength

Input: "Smith" 100.0 25 123.579 10000
```

List-Directed **READ**: 4/5

Be careful when input items are on multiple lines.



List-Directed **READ**: 5/5

Since READ(*,*) always starts with a new line, a READ(*,*) without any variable means skipping the input line!

```
INTEGER :: P, Q, R, S

READ(*,*) P, Q

100 200 300

READ(*,*) 400 500 600

READ(*,*) R, S

700 800 900
```

List-Directed WRITE: 1/3

- Fortran 90 uses the WRITE (*, *) statement to write information to screen.
- WRITE(*,*) has two forms, where exp1,
 exp2, ..., expn are expressions
 WRITE(*,*) exp1, exp2, ..., expn
 WRITE(*,*)
- **WRITE** (*, *) evaluates the result of each expression and prints it on screen.
- **WRITE (*,*)** always starts with a new line!

List-Directed WRITE: 2/3

• Here is a simple example:

```
means length is determined by actual count
  INTEGER :: Target
  REAL :: Angle, Distance
  CHARACTER (LEN≠*), PARAMETER ::
    Time = "The time to hit target ",
    IS = "is ".
    UNIT = " sec."
                                                    Output:
                     continuation lines
  Target = 10
  Angle = 20.0
                                      Distance = 1350.0
  Distance = 1350.0
                                                               27000.0
                                      The time to hit target
  WRITE(*,*) 'Angle = ', Angle
  WRITE(*,*) 'Distance =
                            ', Distance
  WRITE(*,*)
  WRITM(*,*) Time, Target, IS*
                   Angle * Distance, UNIT
                                                                    43
print a blank line
```

List-Directed WRITE: 3/3

- The previous example used LEN=*, which means the length of a CHARACTER constant is determined by actual count.
- **WRITE** (*, *) without any expression advances to the next line, producing a blank one.
- A Fortran 90 compiler will use the *best* way to print each value. Thus, indentation and alignment are difficult to achieve with WRITE(*,*).
- One must use the **FORMAT** statement to produce good looking output.

Complete Example: 1/4

- This program computes the position (x and y coordinates) and the velocity (magnitude and direction) of a projectile, given t, the time since launch, u, the launch velocity, a, the initial angle of launch (in degree), and g=9.8, the acceleration due to gravity.
- The horizontal and vertical displacements, x and y, are computed as follows:

$$x = u \times \cos(a) \times t$$

$$y = u \times \sin(a) \times t - \frac{g \times t^2}{2}$$

Complete Example: 2/4

 The horizontal and vertical components of the velocity vector are computed as

$$V_{x} = u \times \cos(a)$$
$$V_{y} = u \times \sin(a) - g \times t$$

The magnitude of the velocity vector is

$$V = \sqrt{V_x^2 + V_y^2}$$

• The angle between the ground and the velocity vector is

$$\tan(\theta) = \frac{V_x}{V_y}$$

Complete Example: 3/4

• Write a program to read in the launch angle a, the time since launch t, and the launch velocity u, and compute the position, the velocity and the angle with the ground.

```
PROGRAM Projectile
   IMPLICIT NONE
   REAL, PARAMETER :: g = 9.8 ! acceleration due to gravity
   REAL, PARAMETER :: PI = 3.1415926 ! you know this. don't you?
   REAL :: Angle
                                      ! launch angle in degree
  REAL :: Time
                                      ! time to flight
                                      ! direction at time in degree
   REAL:: Theta
                                      ! launch velocity
   REAL :: U
   REAL :: V
                                      ! resultant velocity
   REAL :: Vx
                                      ! horizontal velocity
                                      ! vertical velocity
   REAL :: Vy
                                      ! horizontal displacement
   REAL :: X
                                      ! vertical displacement
   REAL :: Y
      ..... Other executable statements .....
END PROGRAM Projectile
```

Complete Example: 4/4

• Write a program to read in the launch angle a, the time since launch t, and the launch velocity u, and compute the position, the velocity and the angle with the ground.

```
READ(*,*) Angle, Time, U
Angle = Angle * PI / 180.0 ! convert to radian
X = U * COS(Angle) * Time
Y = U * SIN(Angle) * Time - g*Time*Time / 2.0
Vx = U * COS(Angle)
Vy = U * SIN(Angle) - g * Time
V = SORT(Vx*Vx + Vy*Vy)
Theta = ATAN(Vy/Vx) * 180.0 / PI ! convert to degree
WRITE(*,*) 'Horizontal displacement : ', X
WRITE(*,*) 'Vertical displacement : ', Y
WRITE(*,*) 'Resultant velocity : ', V
WRITE(*,*) 'Direction (in degree) : ', Theta
```

CHARACTER Operator //

- Fortran 90 uses // to concatenate two strings.
- If strings A and B have lengths m and n, the concatenation A // B is a string of length m+n.

CHARACTER Substring: 1/3

- A consecutive portion of a string is a *substring*.
- To use substrings, one may add an *extent* specifier to a CHARACTER variable.
- An extent specifier has the following form:

```
( integer-exp1 : integer-exp2 )
```

- The first and the second expressions indicate the start and end: (3:8) means 3 to 8,
- •If A = "abcdefg", then A(3:5) means A's substring from position 3 to position 5 (i.e., "cde").

CHARACTER Substring: 2/3

- •In (integer-exp1:integer-exp2), if the first exp1 is missing, the substring starts from the first character, and if exp2 is missing, the substring ends at the last character.
- •If A = "12345678", then A(:5) is "12345" and A(3+x:) is "5678" where x is 2.
- As a good programming practice, in general, the first expression exp1 should be no less than 1, and the second expression exp2 should be no greater than the length of the string.

CHARACTER Substring: 3/3

- Substrings can be used on either side of the assignment operator.
- •Suppose LeftHand = "123456789" (length is 10).
 - LeftHand(3:5) = "abc" yields LeftHand = "12abc67890"
 - LeftHand(4:) = "lmnopqr" yields
 LeftHand = "1231mnopqr"
 - LeftHand(3:8) = "abc" yields LeftHand =
 "12abc∏∏∏90"
 - LeftHand(4:7) = "lmnopq" yields LeftHand = "1231mno890"

Example: 1/5

- This program uses the DATE_AND_TIME()
 Fortran 90 intrinsic function to retrieve the system date and system time. Then, it converts the date and time information to a readable format. This program demonstrates the use of concatenation operator // and substring.
- System date is a string ccyymmdd, where cc century, yy = year, mm = month, and dd = day.
- System time is a string hhmmss.sss, where hh = hour, mm = minute, and ss.sss = second.

Example: 2/5

The following shows the specification part.
 Note the handy way of changing string length.

This is a handy way of changing string length

Example: 3/5

Decompose DateINFO into year, month and day. DateINFO has a form of ccyymmdd, where cc = century, yy = year, mm = month, and dd = day.

```
Year = DateINFO(1:4)
Month = DateINFO(5:6)
Day = DateINFO(7:8)
WRITE(*,*) 'Date information -> ', DateINFO
WRITE(*,*) ' Year -> ', Year
WRITE(*,*) ' Month -> ', Month
WRITE(*,*) ' Day -> ', Day
```

Example: 4/5

Now do the same for time:

```
Hour = TimeINFO(1:2)
Minute = TimeINFO(3:4)
Second = TimeINFO(5:10)
PrettyTime = Hour // ':' // Minute // ':' // Second
WRITE(*,*)
WRITE(*,*) 'Time Information -> ', TimeINFO
WRITE(*,*) ' Hour -> ', Hour
WRITE(*,*) ' Minute -> ', Minute
WRITE(*,*) ' Second -> ', Second
WRITE(*,*) ' Pretty Time -> ', PrettyTime
```

```
Output: Time Information -> 010717.620

Hour -> 01

Minute -> 07

Second -> 17.620

Pretty Time -> 01:07:17.620
```

Example: 5/5

• We may also use substring to achieve the same result:

```
PrettyTime = " " ! Initialize to all blanks
PrettyTime(:2) = Hour
PrettyTime(3:3) = ':'
PrettyTime(4:5) = Minute
PrettyTime(6:6) = ':'
PrettyTime(7: ) = Second

WRITE(*,*)
WRITE(*,*) ' Pretty Time -> ', PrettyTime
```

What **KIND** Is It?

- Fortran 90 has a KIND attribute for selecting the precision of a numerical constant/variable.
- The KIND of a constant/variable is a positive integer (more on this later) that can be attached to a constant.
- Example:
 - **126_3: 126** is an integer of **KIND 3**
 - 3.1415926_8:3.1415926 is a real of KIND 8

What kind Is It (integer)? 1/2

- Function SELECTED_INT_KIND (k) selects the KIND of an integer, where the value of k, a positive integer, means the selected integer KIND has a value between -10^k and 10^k .
- Thus, the value of k is approximately the number of digits of that KIND. For example, SELECTED_INT_KIND(10) means an integer KIND of no more than 10 digits.
- If SELECTED_INT_KIND() returns -1, this means the hardware does not support the requested KIND.

What kind Is It (integer)? 2/2

SELECTED_INT_KIND() is usually used in the specification part like the following:

```
INTEGER, PARAMETER :: SHORT = SELECTED_INT_KIND(2)
INTEGER(KIND=SHORT) :: x, y
```

- The above declares an INTEGER PARAMETER SHORT with SELECTED_INT_KIND(2), which is the KIND of 2-digit integers.
- Then, the KIND= attribute specifies that INTEGER variables x and y can hold 2-digit integers.
- In a program, one may use -12_SHORT and
 SHORT to write constants of that KIND.

What kind Is It (REAL)? 1/2

- Use SELECTED_REAL_KIND (k, e) to specify a KIND for REAL constants/variables, where k is the number of significant digits and e is the number of digits in the exponent. Both k and e must be positive integers.
- ullet Note that \underline{e} is optional.
- **SELECTED_REAL_KIND** (7, 3) selects a **REAL KIND** of 7 significant digits and 3 digits for the exponent: $\pm 0.xxxxxxxx \times 10^{\pm yyy}$

What kind is it (real)? 2/2

• Here is an example:

Why **KIND**, etc? 1/2

- Old Fortran used INTEGER*2, REAL*8, DOUBLE PRECISION, etc to specify the "precision" of a variable. For example, REAL*8 means the use of 8 bytes to store a real value.
- This is not very portable because some computers may not use bytes as their basic storage unit, while some others cannot use 2 bytes for a short integer (*i.e.*, INTEGER*2).
- Moreover, we also want to have more and finer precision control.

Why **KIND**, etc? 2/2

- Due to the differences among computer hardware architectures, we have to be careful:
 - The requested KIND may not be satisfied.

 For example, SELECTED_INT_KIND(100)

 may not be realistic on most computers.
 - Compilers will find the best way good enough (*i.e.*, larger) for the requested KIND.
 - If a "larger" KIND value is stored to a "smaller" KIND variable, unpredictable result may occur.
- Use KIND carefully for maximum portability.

The End