

Introduction to Programming

Variables, Assignment, Expressions, Logical Expressions

Hye-Chung Kum

Population Informatics Research Group

<http://research.tamhsc.edu/pinformatics/>

<http://pinformatics.web.unc.edu/>

License:

Data Science in the Health Domain by Hye-Chung Kum is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/)

Course URL:

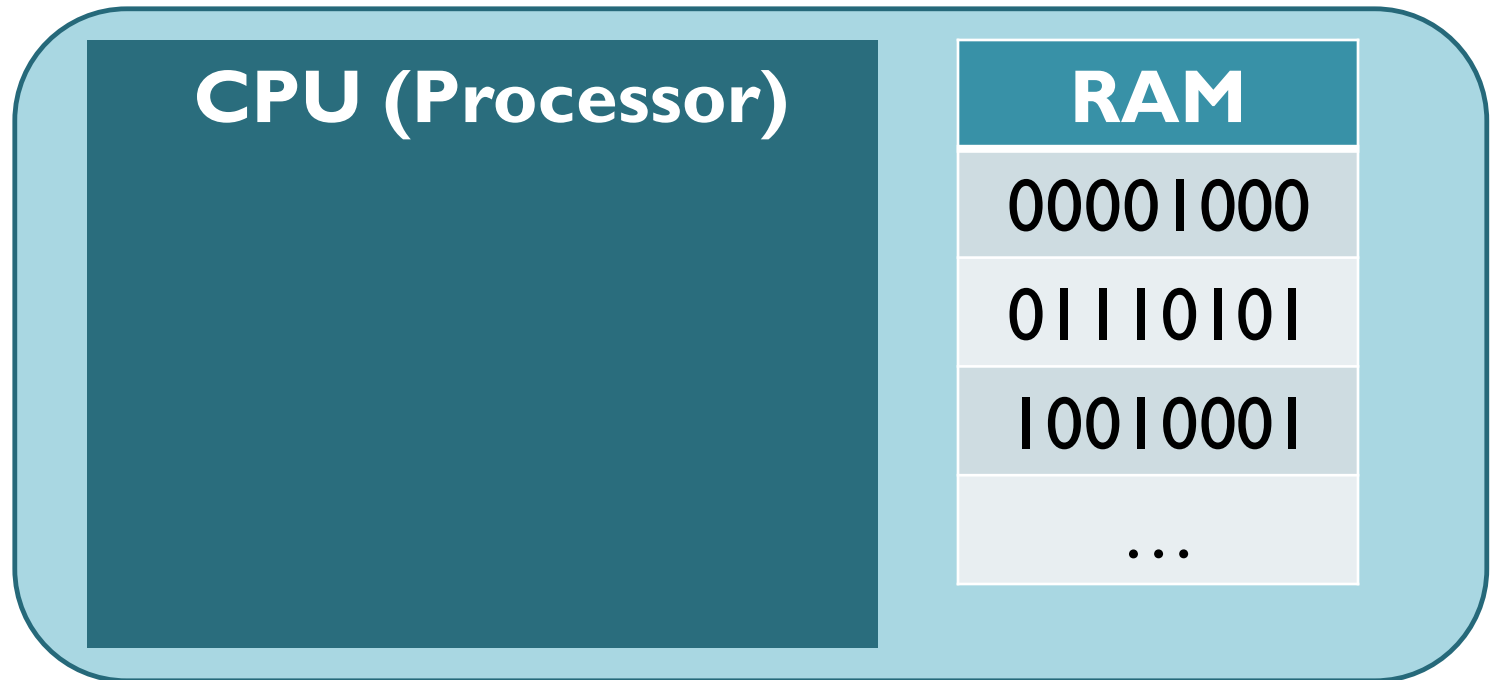
<http://pinformatics.tamhsc.edu/phpm672>

Learn to fish

- Teach you how to fish
 - New software become available
 - Software version upgrade
- Give you good problems (lab & assignment) to learn to fish on your own
 - Basic tools only
 - You need to practice thinking in algorithms
- Available when you get stuck
- Reading: READ sections in the recommended book
- Top (problem) down(data) vs bottom up
 - Need to iterate



Example mini-computer



- CPU (Processor): Type of instructions it can run
 - Example CPU: Intel(R) Core(TM) i7 CPU Q720 @ 1.6 GHz
- RAM: memory
 - 16 GB / 8GB / 4GB / 2GB
- Hard drive: permanent memory for storage

Example mini-computer

CPU (Processor)

- Instruction set (2 bit)
 - 00: Save to
 - 01: Retrieve from
 - 10: Add
 - 11: Subtract

RAM

00001000

01110101

10010001

...

- $5 * 3 = ?$



Example mini-computer

CPU (Processor)

- Instruction set (2 bit)
 - 00: Save to
 - 01: Retrieve from
 - 10: Add
 - 11: Subtract

RAM

00001000

01110101

10010001

...

- $5 * 3 = ?$
 - Add 5
 - Add 5
 - Add 5



Example mini-computer

CPU (Processor)

- Instruction set (2 bit)
 - 00: Save to
 - 01: Retrieve from
 - 10: Add
 - 11: Subtract

RAM

00001000

01110101

10010001

...

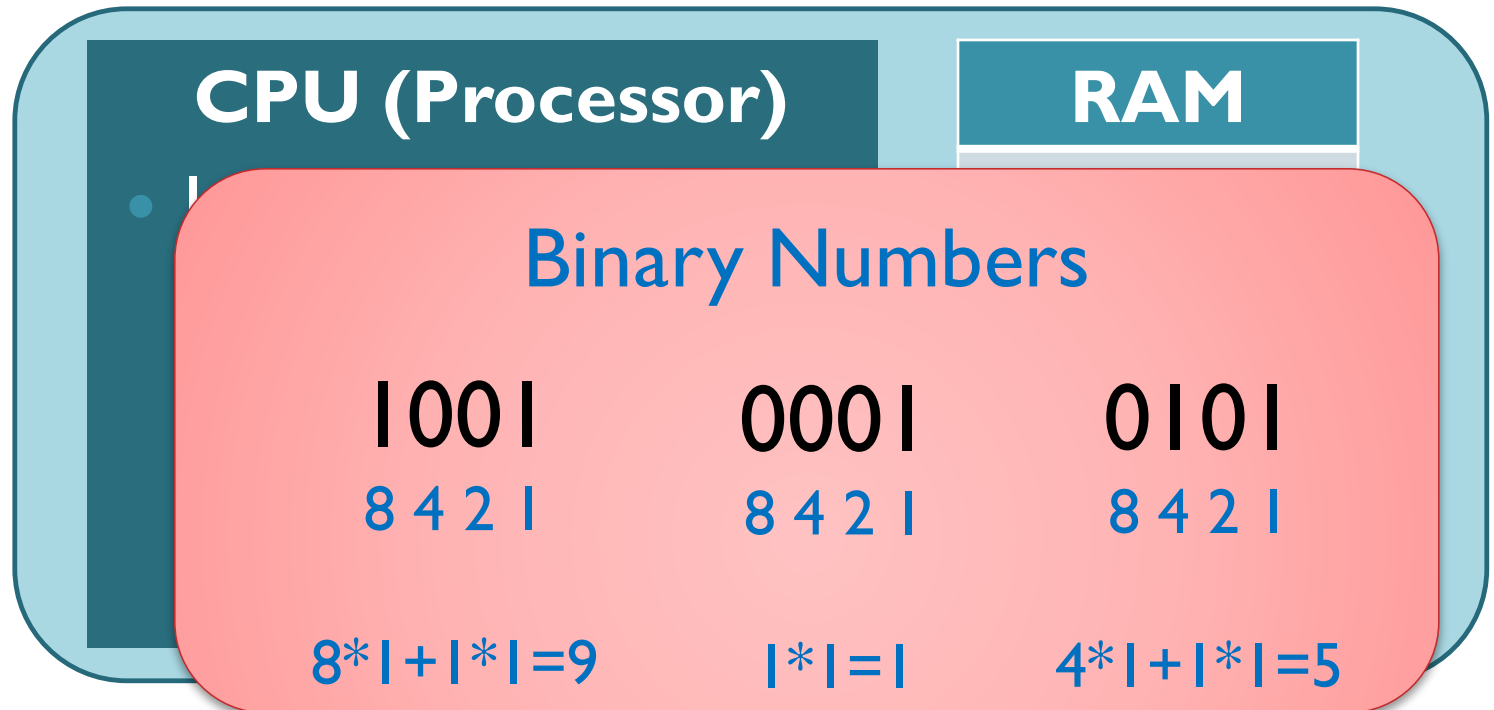
- $5 * 3 = ?$

- Add 5
- Add 5
- Add 5

Address	Instruction	Operand
00	10	0101
01	10	0101
10	10	0101



Example mini-computer



• $5 * 3 = ?$

- Add 5
- Add 5
- Add 5

Address	Instruction	Operand
00	10	0101
01	10	0101
10	10	0101

Example mini-computer

CPU (Processor)

- Instruction set (2 bit)
 - 00: Save to
 - 01: Retrieve from
 - 10: Add
 - 11: Subtract

RAM

00|00|01

01|00|01

10|00|01

...

- $5 * 3 = ?$

- Add 5
- Add 5
- Add 5

Address	Instruction	Operand
00	10	0101
01	10	0101
10	10	0101



Example mini-computer

CPU (Processor)

- Instruction set (2 bit)
 - 00: Save to
 - 01: Retrieve from
 - 10: Add
 - 11: Subtract

RAM

00100101

01100101

10100101

...

- $5 * 3 = ?$

- Add 5
- Add 5
- Add 5

A

Higher level language

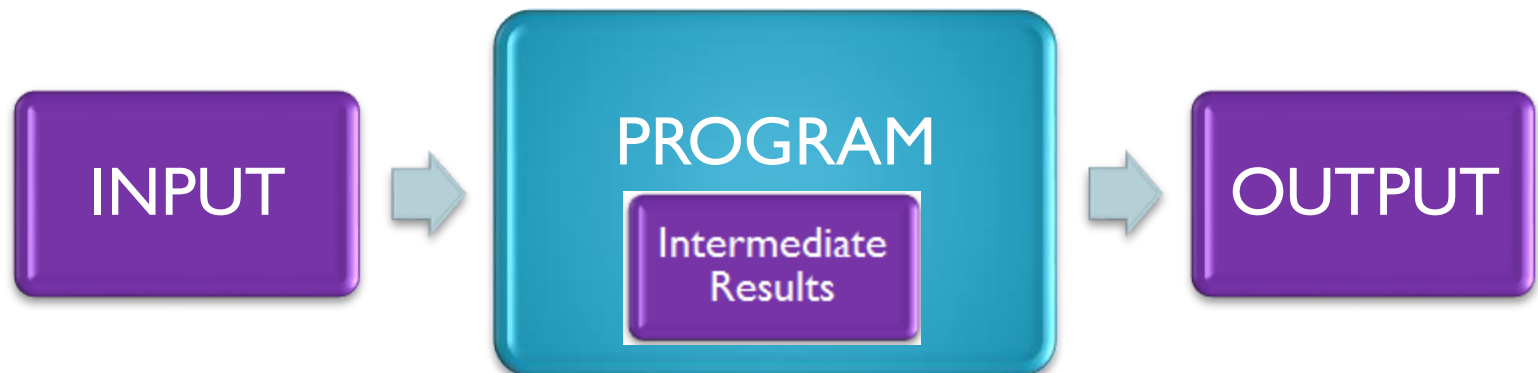
Keyword

Vocabulary of language

SAS: proc/data/print

Programming

- OUTPUT : Know what you want
- INPUT : what you have
- Intermediate results: What you need
- Program: change what you have (INPUT) to what you need (intermediate results. Often more than one level) to what you want (OUTPUT)



Few tricks

- Divide & Conquer
 - Write code to do small things.
 - Combine the small pieces
- Look at memory (table) after each step
 - `proc print data=fn(obs=10);` where condition
- Become good with an editors
 - emacs, vi, internal editors
 - copy & paste/find/replace
- Regular expression/ wild card
 - `*.sas;` [optional]
- `grep` expression files: find things in text files
- `diff fn1 fn2`: compare two programs

What we are going to learn

- Programming
 - Variables Naming rules & Naming guidelines
 - Data Types int double string binary
 - Expressions
 - Logical Expressions
- Operators
 - Logical (\sim / !), (& / and), (| / or)
 - Relational <, <=, ==, >, >
- Learn Conditional programming
 - if then else end
- Common Pitfalls



What is a Variable?

- A user defined name to represent a piece of memory for storing evaluated value(s). A variable consists of 5 items

Name:

meaningful human readable name

How the user refers to variable

Data Type:

How to interpret variable for data representation

Size:

How much storage memory is needed to store data value

Can be inferred from data type

Value:

Actual value associated with variable

stored in memory

Storage location:

Usually hidden from user by the interpreter or compiler

How the computer refers to a variable

For Our Purposes: Columns

Many variables. A columns of variables

Variable, cont.

Name	Data Type	Size	Memory Location (hidden from user)	Value
Radius	float32	4 bytes	0x1800F040	3.23
currKey	char	1 byte	0x1800F049	'k'
firstName	string	6 bytes	0x1800B0E0	"shawn"
width	int32	4 bytes	0x1800CCE8	800
type	int8	1 byte	0x1800CCE7	27

- var label;
- value label (interpretation)
- SAS: proc contents

Naming Rules

Use **Valid** Names

- Length: reasonably short (8) but descriptive
- Syntax: similar to userid
 - Starts with a single letter followed by any number of letters, digits, or underscores.
 - Digits [0 – 9], Letters [a – z A – Z], Underscore
,
—
 - Capitalization
 - STATA: differentiate
 - SAS: does not differentiate
 - Best to not use (too confusing for people)
- No spaces allowed
 - _ or camelCase

Naming Rules, cont

write program for people

- Avoid Keywords (if, else, while, for, ...)
 - **Result:** Error / confusing
- Use **Meaningful** names
 - `currStudent` better than `fido`, `purpleSloth`, or `currItem`
- Write **readable** names
 - `currStudent` better than `(cS, crSt, or crrStdnt)`
- Convention
 - `b_`: binary (`bincome`, `b_income`, `blIncome`)
 - `n_`: number (`nincome`, `n_income`)
 - `c_`: string / character (`cincome`, `c_income`)
 - `g_`: groups (`gincome`)



What is a Data Type?

- How to interpret a storage location to retrieve the correct value.
- Integer, Floating point, Logical, Char, Strings are typical data types
- Other languages require you to explicitly specify the data type of variables
- SAS implicitly infers the data type from the first initialization(use) via the specified expression.
 - Number/Char
 - String static



Data Types : 8 bits = 1 bytes

Data Type	Size (Bytes)	Min	Max	Notes
logical	1	0 (false)	1 (true)	
Int8 (sign bit + 7 bits)	1	-128 $=1111111=2^7$	+127 $=1111111-1=2^7-1$	Numeric, integer, Exact
int16/long	2	-32768	+32767	Ditto
single	4	-3.4028e+038	+3.4028e+038	Numeric Real Approximate
double	8	-1.7977e+308	+1.7977e+308	Ditto
char	2	N/A	N/A	Encoded character
string	Varies len+1	N/A	N/A	String of encoded characters

ASCII: character encoding

0	<NUL>	32	<SPC>	64	@	96	`	128	Ä	160	†	192	ì	224	‡
1	<SOH>	33	!	65	A	97	a	129	Å	161	°	193	í	225	·
2	<STX>	34	"	66	B	98	b	130	Ç	162	¢	194	¬	226	,
3	<ETX>	35	#	67	C	99	c	131	É	163	£	195	√	227	„
4	<EOT>	36	\$	68	D	100	d	132	Ñ	164	§	196	f	228	‰
5	<ENQ>	37	%	69	E	101	e	133	Ö	165	•	197	≈	229	Â
6	<ACK>	38	&	70	F	102	f	134	Ü	166	¶	198	Δ	230	Ê
7	<BEL>	39	'	71	G	103	g	135	á	167	ß	199	«	231	Á
8	<BS>	40	(	72	H	104	h	136	à	168	®	200	»	232	Ë
9	<TAB>	41	)	73	I	105	i	137	â	169	©	201	...	233	È
10	<LF>	42	*	74	J	106	j	138	ä	170	™	202		234	Í
11	<VT>	43	+	75	K	107	k	139	å	171	'	203	À	235	Î
12	<FF>	44	,	76	L	108	l	140	â	172	..	204	Ã	236	Ï
13	<CR>	45	-	77	M	109	m	141	ç	173	≠	205	Õ	237	Ì
14	<SO>	46	.	78	N	110	n	142	é	174	Æ	206	Œ	238	Ó
15	<SI>	47	/	79	O	111	o	143	è	175	Ø	207	œ	239	Ô
16	<DLE>	48	0	80	P	112	p	144	ê	176	∞	208	-	240	Ⓜ
17	<DC1>	49	1	81	Q	113	q	145	ë	177	±	209	—	241	Ò
18	<DC2>	50	2	82	R	114	r	146	í	178	≤	210	"	242	Ú
19	<DC3>	51	3	83	S	115	s	147	ì	179	≥	211	"	243	Û
20	<DC4>	52	4	84	T	116	t	148	î	180	¥	212	`	244	Ü
21	<NAK>	53	5	85	U	117	u	149	ï	181	μ	213	'	245	ı
22	<SYN>	54	6	86	V	118	v	150	ñ	182	ð	214	÷	246	ˆ
23	<ETB>	55	7	87	W	119	w	151	ó	183	Σ	215	◇	247	˜
24	<CAN>	56	8	88	X	120	x	152	ò	184	Π	216	ÿ	248	˘
25		57	9	89	Y	121	y	153	ô	185	π	217	Ÿ	249	˙
26	<SUB>	58	:	90	Z	122	z	154	ö	186	ƒ	218	/	250	˚
27	<ESC>	59	;	91	[	123	{	155	õ	187	ª	219	€	251	°
28	<FS>	60	<	92	\	124	|	156	ú	188	º	220	<	252	¸
29	<GS>	61	=	93	]	125	}	157	ù	189	Ω	221	>	253	”
30	<RS>	62	>	94	^	126	~	158	û	190	æ	222	fi	254	ˆ
31	<US>	63	?	95	_	127		159	ü	191	ø	223	fl	255	˘



Data Types

Type	Stored value	Interpreted value	Label Interpreted Value
int	1000001 (65)	65	65 or older
Char/string (ASCII)	1000001 (65)	A	Asian
date	1000001 (65)	1960/3/6 (SAS)	

- 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 = $64 + 1 = 65$
- 64 32 16 8 4 2 1

Variable Type

- Number
 - Int (long), real (double, float), date time
- String/Character
 - Length matters
- Missing
 - . '.
 - "
 - SAS: .<0



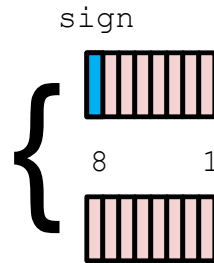
Integer Number Representations

conversion functions `intmin`, `intmax`

int8

8-Bit Integer

uint8



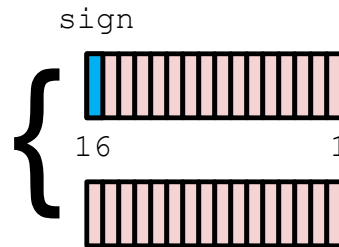
$$[-2^7, +2^7-1] = [-128, +127]$$

$$[0, +2^8-1] = [0, +255]$$

int16

16-Bit Integer

uint16



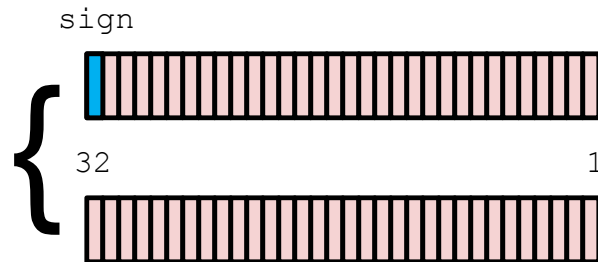
$$[-32,768, +32,767]$$

$$[0, 65,535]$$

int32

32-Bit Integer

uint32



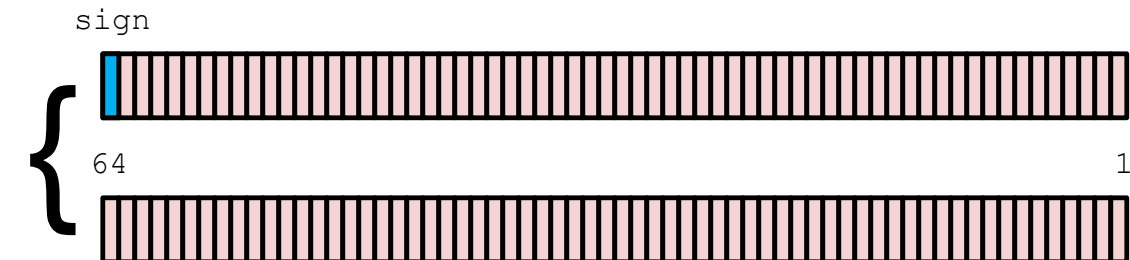
$$[-2^{31}, +2^{31}-1]$$

$$[0, +2^{32}-1]$$

int64

64-Bit Integer

uint64



Integer Issues

- **Overflow**, expression tries to create an integer value larger than allowed valid range $[\min, \max]$
 - `x = int8(127) + 1`
- **Truncation**, fractions not supported
 - `int16(23) / int16(5) = 5` not `4.6`
 - Rounds result to nearest whole number

Real Number Representations

IEEE 754 Floating point standard

- **Reals** (http://kipirvine.com/asm/workbook/floating_tut.htm)
 - Sign bit (1 bit) : + / -
 - Exponent (7 or 11 bits) : biased by 127 = exp-127
 - Mantissa (fraction) (23 bits or 52 bits): $\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} \dots$
 - (+/-) ()

Binary Numbers

1001

8 4 2 1

$$8 * 1 + 1 * 1 = 9$$

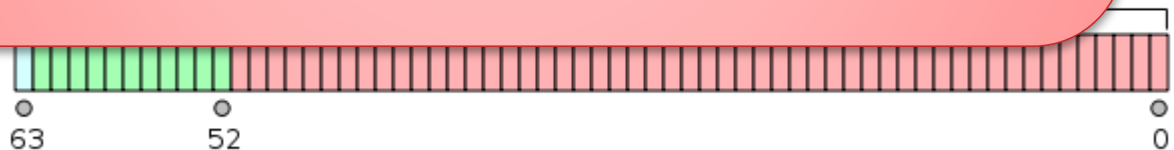
1 0 0 1

1/2 1/4 1/8 1/16

$$0.5 + 0.0625 = 0.5625$$

◦ Single

◦ Double



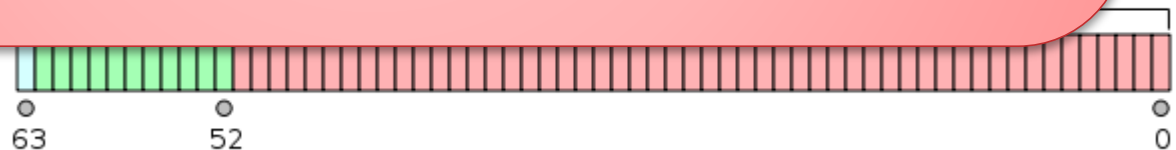
IEEE 754 Floating point standard

- **Reals** (http://kipirvine.com/asm/workbook/floating_tut.htm)
 - Sign bit (*1 bit*) : $+/-$
 - Exponent (*7 or 11 bits*) : *biased by 127 = $exp-127$*

Decimal fraction to Binary fraction

Lose precision

0.2000000000000000
= .0011001100110011001100110011
+ **remainder 0.0000000071526**



Real Issues (single, double)

- **Precision Error** $Error = |actual - representation|$
 - Most numbers don't get represented exactly
 - Finite precision of IEEE floating point
 - Represented by nearest real number
 - Separation between two closest numbers varies over entire range
- **Numeric Stability** (does error overwhelm?)
 - Truncation Errors $Error = |true_answer - computed|$
 - Accumulated error from repeated calculations
- **Don't compare real numbers**
 - $3.0 == 3.0$ (NOT GOOD)

Conversion between types

Conversion: Use cast function

- Upcast to larger data type, no issue
- Downcast to smaller data type,
 - Truncation & clamping problems
 - Conversion between signed and unsigned as an example
- Conversion from real to integer,
 - truncation to closest integer
- Conversion from integer to real,
 - approximation by nearest real
- Conversion from number to/from string
 - Pay attention

Declare a variable

- Tell the computer I need room in memory for a certain variable
 - A certain length
 - A certain type
 - With a certain name
 - Optional: Set to an initial value (initialize)
- Length: static vs dynamic
- SAS
 - SAS: implicit when used for the first time
 - Not one variable, but column of variables

What is Assignment?

<variablename> = <expression>

- Assigning a value of a specified data type to a storage location in computer memory.
- Variable name on left-hand side
- Expression on right-hand side
 - Expression is evaluated and reduced to a single value
 - Value is stored in storage location associated with variable name



Assignment

SAS: <variablename> = <expression>

```
x=32;
```

```
y=7;
```

```
z=sqrt (x^2 + y^2) ;
```



What is an **Expression**?

- A mathematical sequence of operators, function calls, variables, numbers, and parenthesis that evaluates to a value
- Examples:
 - 7
 - $5 * (4 + 3)$
 - $23 + \text{sqrt}(-1) / (4 - 4j)$



Numbers and Strings

SAS (Be careful of Strings getting cutoff)

```
data str2num;  
str="123";  
num=.; * declare numeric variable;  
num=str;
```

```
data num2str;  
num=123;  
Str=num;  
str=put(num,$3.);  
* This will cutoff the 4 at the end, because no space to store;  
str="1234";
```

```
data test;  
length str $10.;  
set readin;  
(or)  
str="
```

```
“;
```


SAS: Numbers and Strings

- Use **length**, or explicit declaration when needed
 - **num=.** ;
 - **str="** **";**
- Be careful of white space
 - **compress()** will take out white space
- String: static length, so be careful not to cut off values when you get longer strings later.
 - **NOTE: Invalid character data, i=110.00 , at line 15 column 10.**
 - Must declare a new variable with longer length, then copy over all values
 - Try running string.sas (course website)



Variables, Types, Assignments, Expressions



... Moving onto logical expressions
& conditional programming (after 10:15 next week)