

# To Do TODAY

1. Push something to first-commits on GitHub
2. Find your group! Submit on Discord:
  1. Group name

# To Ponder

## Evaluate

$$1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2$$

$$-1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2$$

$$1/3r \quad / \quad 1/2r$$

$$(1/3r) \quad / \quad (1/2r)$$

$$0.1 + 0.2 - 0.3$$

# Ruby: Introduction, Basics

Computer Science and Engineering ■ College of Engineering ■ The Ohio State University

## Lecture 3



# Ruby vs Java: Similarities

- Imperative and object-oriented
  - Classes and instances (ie objects)
  - Inheritance
- Strongly typed
  - Classes determine valid operations
- Some familiar operators
  - Arithmetic, bitwise, comparison, logical
- Some familiar keywords
  - `if, then, else, while, for, class, new...`

# But Ruby Looks Different

- Punctuation
  - Omits ;'s and often ()'s on function calls
  - Function names can end in ? or !
- New keywords and operators
  - `def`, `do..end`, `yield`, `unless`
  - `**` (exp), `=~` (match), `<=>` (spaceship)
- Rich core libraries
  - Collections: Hashes, Arrays
  - Strings and regular expressions
  - Enumerators for iteration

# Deeper Differences As Well

- Interpreted (typically)
  - Run a program directly, without compiling
- Dynamically typed
  - Objects have types, variables don't
- Everything is an object
  - C.f. primitives in Java
- *Code* can be passed into a function as a parameter
  - Java has added this too (“lambdas”)

# Compiling Programs

- Program = Text file
  - Contains easy-to-understand statements like “print”, “if”, “while”, *etc.*
- But a computer can only execute *machine instructions*
  - Instruction set architecture of the CPU
- A *compiler* translates the program (source code) into an executable (machine code)
  - Recall “Bugs World” from CSE 2231
- Examples: C, C++, Objective-C, Ada...



# Interpreting Programs

- An interpreter reads a program and executes it *directly*
- Advantages
  - Platform independence
  - Read-eval-print loop (aka REPL)
  - Reflection
- Disadvantages
  - Speed
  - Later error detection (*i.e.*, at run time)
- Examples: JavaScript, Python, Ruby

# Combination of Both

- A language is not *inherently* compiled or interpreted
  - A property of its implementation
- Sometimes a combination is used:
  - Compile source code into an intermediate representation (byte code)
  - Interpret the byte code
- Examples of combination: Java, C#

# Ruby is (Usually) Interpreted

- REPL with Ruby interpreter, irb

```
$ irb
```

```
>> 3 + 4
```

```
=> 7
```

```
>> puts "hello world"
```

```
hello world
```

```
=> nil
```

```
>> def square(x) x**2 end
```

```
=> :square
```

```
>> square -4
```

```
=> 16
```

# Literals

## □ Numbers (Integer, Float, Rational, Complex)

83, 0123, 0x53, 0b1010011, 0b101\_0011

123.45, 1.2345e2, 12345E-2

2/3r, 4+3i

## □ Strings

■ Delimiters " " and ' '

■ Interpolation of `#{...}` occurs (only) inside " "

"Sum 6+3 is `#{6+3}`" is "Sum 6+3 is 9"

■ Custom delimiters with `%Q?...?` and `%q?...?`

## □ Ranges

■ `0..4` is end *inclusive* (0, 1, 2, 3, 4)

■ `0...4` is end *exclusive* (0, 1, 2, 3)

## □ Arrays and hashes (later)

# Comments and Statements

- Single-line comments start with #
  - Don't confuse it with string interpolation!
- Multi-line comments bracketed by  
=begin  
=end
  - Must appear at beginning of line
- Every statement has a value result
- Convention: => to indicate result

```
"Hi #{name}" + "!" #=> "Hi Liam!"  
puts "Bye #{name}" #=> nil
```

# Operators

## □ Arithmetic: + - \* / % \*\*

- / is either ÷ or div, depending on operands

- Integer / (div) rounds towards  $-\infty$ , not 0

- % is modulus, not remainder

1 / 3.0 #=> 0.3333333333333333

1 / 3 #=> 0 (*same as Java*)

-1 / 3 #=> -1 (*not 0, differs from Java*)

-1 % 3 #=> 2 (*not -1, differs from Java*)

## □ Bitwise: ~ | & ^ << >>

5 | 2 #=> 7 (*ie 0b101 | 0b10*)

13 ^ 6 #=> 11 (*ie 0b1101 ^ 0b0110*)

5 << 2 #=> 20 (*ie 0b101 << 2*)

# To Ponder

## Evaluate

$$1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2$$

$$-1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2$$

$$1/3r \quad / \quad 1/2r$$

$$(1/3r) \quad / \quad (1/2r)$$

$$0.1 + 0.2 - 0.3$$

# To Ponder

## Evaluate

$$1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2 \quad \#=> \quad 0$$

$$-1/3 \quad / \quad 1/2 \quad \#=> \quad -1$$

$$1/3r \quad / \quad 1/2r \quad \#=> \quad 1/6r$$

$$(1/3r) \quad / \quad (1/2r) \quad \#=> \quad 2/3r$$

$$0.1 + 0.2 - 0.3 \quad \#=> \quad 5.55111512312e-17$$



# Operators (Continued)

- Comparison: `<` `>` `<=` `>=` `<=>`
  - Last one is so-called “spaceship operator”
  - Returns -1/0/1 iff LHS is smaller/equal/larger than RHS
    - `'cab' <=> 'da' #=> -1`
    - `'cab' <=> 'ba' #=> 1`
- Logical: `&&` `||` `!` `and` `or` `not`
  - Words have low precedence (below =)
  - “do\_this or do\_that” idiom needs low-binding
    - `x = crazy or raise 'problem'`

# Pseudo Variables

## □ Objects

- **self**, the receiver of the current method (recall “this” keyword in Java)
- **nil**, nothingness (recall null)

## □ Booleans

- **true**, **false**
- nil evaluates to false
- 0 is *not* false, it is true just like 1 or -4!

## □ Specials

- **\_\_FILE\_\_**, the current source file name
- **\_\_LINE\_\_**, the current line number

# Significance in Names

- A variable's *name* affects semantics!
- Variable name determines its scope
  - Local: start with lowercase letter (or `_`)
  - Global: start with `$`
    - Many pre-defined global variables exist, *e.g.*:
      - `$/` is the input record separator (newline)
      - `;$` is the default field separator (space)
  - Instance: start with `@`
  - Class: start with `@@`
- Variable name determines mutability
  - Constant: start with uppercase (`Size`)  
but idiom is all upper case (`SIZE`)

# Basic Statements: Conditionals

## □ Classic structure

```
if (boolean_condition) [then]
    ...
else
    ...
end
```

## □ But usually omit ( )'s and "then" keyword

```
if x < 10
    puts 'small'
end
```

## □ `if` can also be a *statement modifier*

```
x = x + 1 if x < LIMIT
```

- Good for single-line body
- Good when statement execution is common case
- Good for positive conditions

# Variations on Conditionals

- Unless: equivalent to “if not...”

```
unless size >= 100
```

```
  puts 'small'
```

```
end
```

- Do not use else with unless

- Do not use negative condition (`unless !...`)

- Can also be a statement modifier

```
x = x + 1 unless x >= LIMIT
```

- Good for: single-line body, positive condition

- Used for: Guard at beginning of method

```
raise 'negative argument' unless x >= 0
```

# Pitfalls with Conditionals

- Keyword `elsif` (not "else if")

```
if x < 10
  puts 'small'
elsif x < 20
  puts 'medium'
else
  puts 'large'
end
```

- If's *do not* create nested lexical scope

```
if x < 10
  y = x
end

puts y # y is defined, but could be nil
puts z # NameError: undefined local var z
```

# Case Statements are General

```
[variable = ] case expression
when nil
    statements execute if the expr was nil
when value # e.g. 0, 'start'
    statements execute if expr equals value
when type # e.g. String
    statements execute if expr resulted in Type
when /regexp/ # e.g. /[aeiou]/
    statements execute if expr matches regexp
when min..max
    statements execute if the expr is in range
else
    statements
end
```

# Basic Iteration: While and Until

- Classic loop structure

```
while boolean_condition [do]
```

```
...
```

```
end
```

- Can also be used as a statement modifier

```
work while awake
```

- `until` is equivalent to “while not...”

```
until i > count
```

```
...
```

```
end
```

- Can also be used as a statement modifier

- Pitfall: Modified *block* executes at least once

```
sleep while is_dark # may not sleep at all
```

```
begin i = i + 1 end while i < MAX
```

```
    # always increments i at least once
```



# Functions

- Definition: keyword `def`

```
def foo(x, y)
    return x + y
end
```

- Notice: no types in signature

- No types for parameters
- No type for return value

- But all functions return *something*

- Value of last statement is implicitly returned
- Convention: Omit explicit return statement

```
def foo(x, y)
    x + y # last statement executed
end
```

# Function Calls

- Dot notation for method call

```
Math::PI.rationalize() # recvr Math::PI
```

- Convention: Omit ( )'s in definition of functions with no parameters

```
def launch() ... end # bad  
def launch ... end # good
```

- Paren's can be omitted in calls too!

```
Math::PI.rationalize  
puts 'hello world'
```

- Convention: Omit for "keyword-like" calls

```
attr_reader :name, :age
```

- Note: needed when chaining

```
foo(13).equal? value
```

# Sample Code Snippet

```
class UsersController < ApplicationController
  before_action :logged_in_user, only: %i[edit update]

  def update
    if @user.update(user_params)
      redirect_to @user, notice: "Success."
    else
      render :edit, status: :unprocessable_entity
    end
  end

  def user_params
    params.require(:user).permit(:name, :email,
                                  :password)
  end
end
```

# Summary

- Ruby is a general-purpose, imperative, object-oriented language
- Ruby is (usually) interpreted
  - REPL
- Familiar flow-of-control and syntax
  - Some new constructs (e.g., unless, until)
  - Terse (e.g., optional parentheses, optional semicolons, statement modifiers)