UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering

ECE 150 *Fundamentals of Programming*

Hello world!

ECE150

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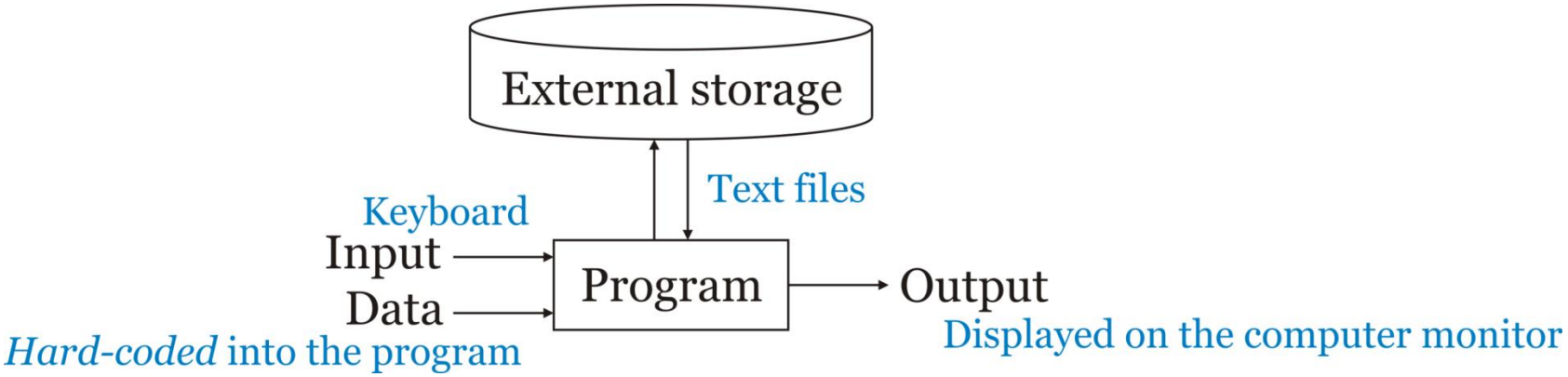
Outline

- In this presentation, we will:
  - Describe programs
  - Define programming languages
  - Our first program: *Hello world!*
  - Integrated development environments and on-line compilers
  - The steps of compiling a program

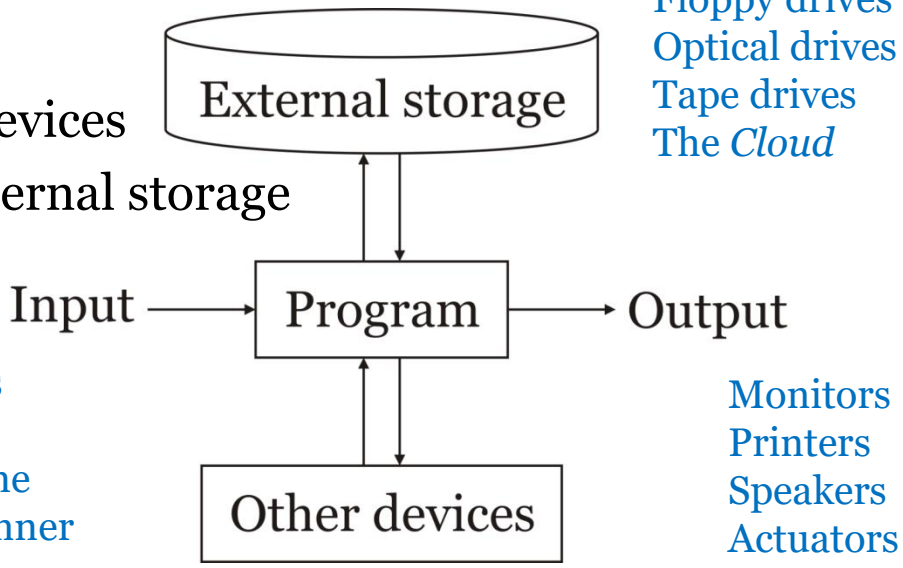
What is a program?

- In this course, our programs will have inputs and outputs
  - Inputs are hard-coded, entered using a keyboard or read from a file
  - Output is displayed on the screen



What is a program?

- In general, a program:
  - Receives input
  - Communicates with other devices
  - Reads and stores data in external storage
  - Produces output



Hard-disk drives
Solid-state drives
Floppy drives
Optical drives
Tape drives
The *Cloud*

Keyboards
Mouse
Microphone
Image scanner
Camera
Sensors

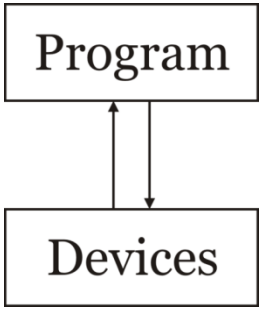
Monitors
Printers
Speakers
Actuators

Through:
- Expansion bus
- Internet
- Bluetooth
- CAN bus

- Note: these definitions are fluid
  - Printers and keyboards may communicate with the program
  - Any external storage is technically a device
    - Their dedication to long-term storage of data

What is a program?

- A simplified model:
  - A program communicates with devices to retrieve, process and store data



- It's still useful to consider the primary use of a device, be it for:
  - Input
  - Output
  - Storage

  or a device to be communicated with

Why learn to program?

- Why learn programming?
  - Programming is a systematic means of giving instructions to perform a task
  - If you are in electrical engineering, we have authored a web site to try to help you understand why the material in this course is relevant:

    Why learn programming for electrical-engineering students?

Executing programs

- When you execute/open/run an application, your computer, laptop or smart phone begins executing *instructions*
  - These instructions are coded using a *binary encoding*: `0`s and `1`s
  - The set of all possible instructions defines a *machine language*
  - These are difficult to read:

```
01100100 0011 0110 0101001000101010
01001110 0101 0011 0011100010001011
10001101 1010 0110 0000000000000000
```

Programming languages

- A *programming language* is a *human readable* means of specifying the operations a computer is to perform
- Programming languages are used to generate source code
  - This source code is compiled and translated into machine instructions
  - The resulting instructions can then be executed

- Programming languages are restricted, however, to the characters that appear on a standard keyboard

Programming languages

- All of programming falls under the domain of mathematics
  - The Cheriton School of Computer Science is within the Faculty of Math
- We cannot use mathematical notation in programming languages, and thus we must use other means of describing our intentions

Expression	Representation in C++
$2(x + y)$	`2*(x + y)`
$\frac{n^3}{3}$	`(n*n*n)/3`
$\frac{1}{2}9.8s^2 + v_0 s$	`0.5*9.8*s*s + v0*s`
$\sin(x)$	`sin(x)`
$\lvert x \rvert$	`abs(x)`
$\sqrt{x}$	`sqrt(x)`

Our first program

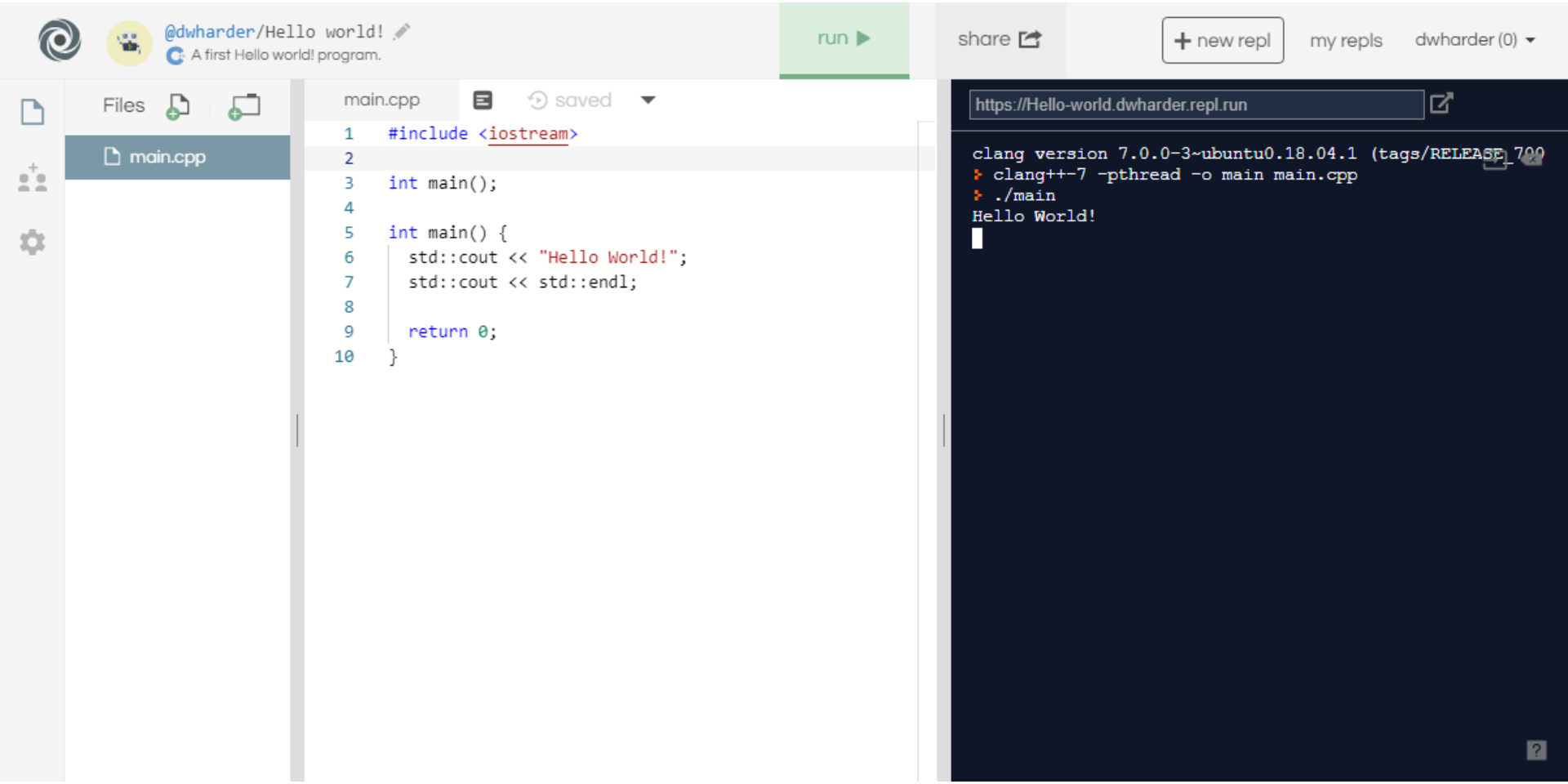
```
#include <iostream>

int main();

int main() {
        std::cout << "Hello world!";
        std::cout << std::endl;

        return 0;
}
```

Our first program

- There are two approaches we can take to compiling and executing this code:
  - Using an Integrated Development Environment (IDE)
    - We will use VS Code in the laboratories
  - Using an on-line compiler such as https://replit.com/

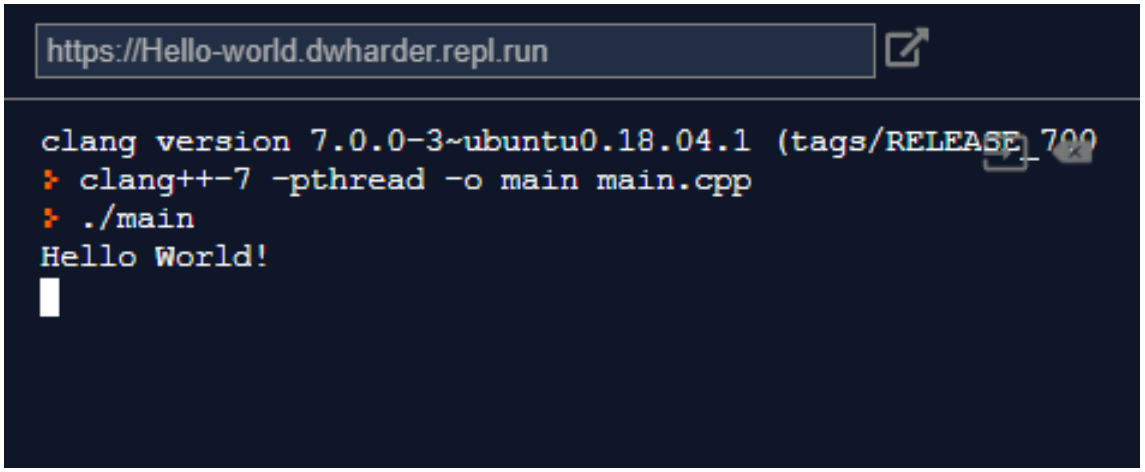
- On-line compilers, however:
  - May not always be available
  - Are sub-optimal for larger projects

Our first program



Our first program

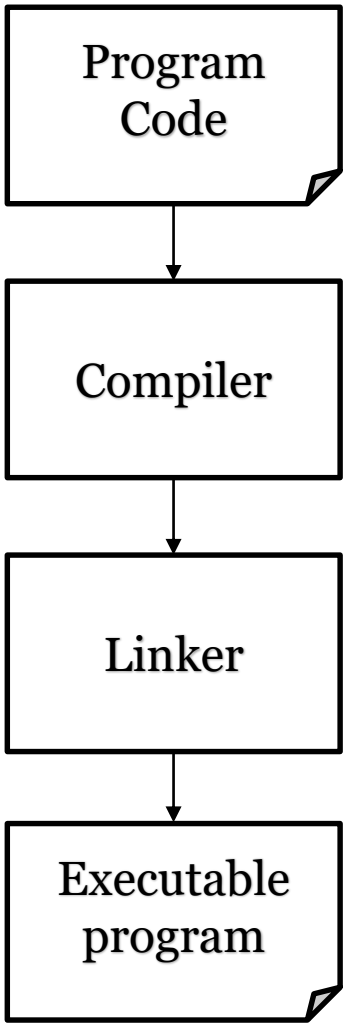
- When you select the **Run** button, text is printed to the console output



  - Question: What is happening behind the scene?

Steps in generating an executable program

- The program undergoes the following four steps in order to create an executable program that you can run
  - Step 1: Creating the program using a programming language, and writing it using an editor
  - Step 2: Compiling the program into machine-language code
  - Step 3: Linking together the program with other helper programs into a single executable program
    - E.g., printing to the screen
  - Step 4: Executing the program



Summary

- In this presentation, you now
  - Understand what a program is
  - Have an overview of how computers executing instructions
    - These are encoded in binary: `0`s and `1`s
  - Understand that programming languages allow us to define programs using a human-readable interface
    - The program must be compiled into an executable and run
  - Have written your first program: the ubiquitous *Hello world!*
  - Saw this output on https://replit.com
    - The first lab includes installing the VS Code IDE
    - You are not required to use VS Code,
      but it is the only IDE that is supported
  - Understand the steps of compilation

References

[1] https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/APL_(programming_language)

Acknowledgments

Proof read by Dr. Thomas McConkey

Colophon

These slides were prepared using the Georgia typeface. Mathematical equations use Times New Roman, and source code is presented using `Consolas`.

The photographs of lilacs in bloom appearing on the title slide and accenting the top of each other slide were taken at the Royal Botanical Gardens on May 27, 2018 by Douglas Wilhelm Harder. Please see

https://www.rbg.ca/

for more information.

Disclaimer

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