Top-Down Design with Functions Chapter 3

Problem Solving & Program Design in C

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Chapter Objectives

- To learn about functions and how to use them to write programs with separate modules
- To understand the capabilities of some standard functions in C
- To understand how control flows between function main and other functions
- To learn how to pass information to functions using input arguments
- To learn how to return a value from a function

Top-Down Design

- top-down design
 - a problem solving method
 - first, break a problem up into its major subproblems
 - solve the subproblems to derive the solution to the original problem

Figure 3.9 House and Stick Figure

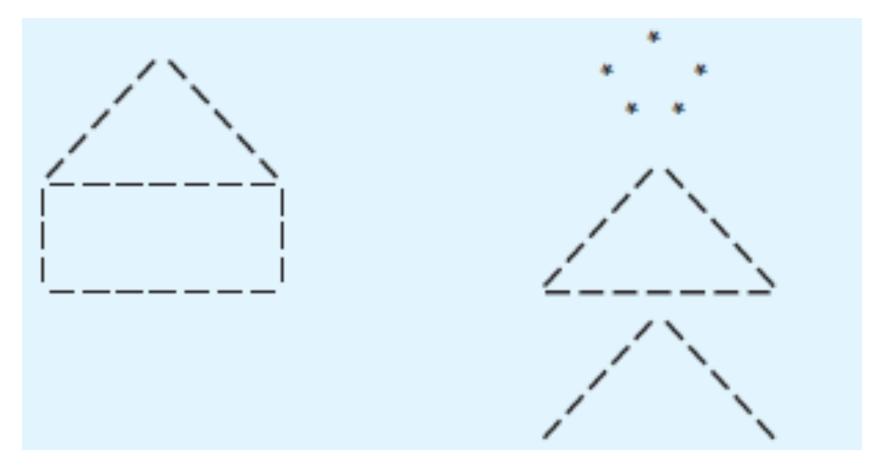
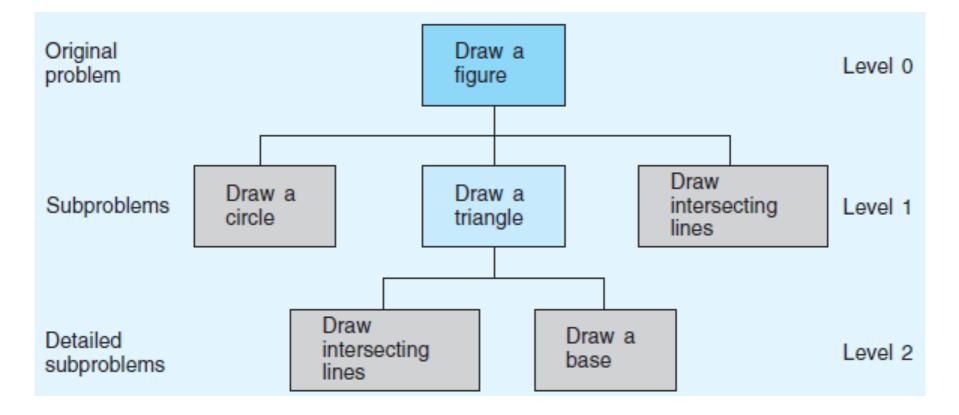


Figure 3.10 Structure Chart for Drawing a Stick Figure



Functions Call Statement (Function Without Arguments)

- Syntax fname();
- Example: draw_circle();
- Interpretation
 - the function fname is called
 - after fname has finished execution, the program statement that follows the function call will be executed

Figure 3.11 Function Prototypes and Main Function for Stick Figure

```
1.
   /*
    * Draws a stick figure
 2.
 3.
     */
 4.
 5.
   #include <stdio.h>
                                   /* printf definition */
 6.
 7.
   /* function prototypes */
 8.
 9.
   void draw circle(void);
                                  /* Draws a circle
                                                                      */
10.
11. void draw intersect(void);
                                   /* Draws intersecting lines
                                                                      */
12.
13. void draw base(void);
                                   /* Draws a base line
                                                                      */
14.
   void draw triangle(void);
15.
                                  /* Draws a triangle
                                                                      */
16.
17. int
   main(void)
18.
19. {
20.
          /* Draw a circle. */
21.
          draw circle();
22.
23.
          /* Draw a triangle. */
24.
          draw_triangle();
25.
26.
          /* Draw intersecting lines. */
27.
          draw intersect();
28.
29.
          return (0);
30. }
```

Function Prototype (Function Without Arguments)

• Syntax

ftype fname(void);

- Example: void draw_circle(void);
- Interpretation
 - the identifier fname is declared to be the name of a function
 - the identifier ftype specifies the data type of the function result

Figure 3.12 Function draw_circle

```
1.
   /*
2.
   * Draws a circle
3.
   */
4. void
5.
  draw circle(void)
6. {
7.
        printf(" * \n");
8.
         printf(" * *\n");
9.
         printf(" * * \n");
10. }
```

Function Definitions (Function Without Arguments)

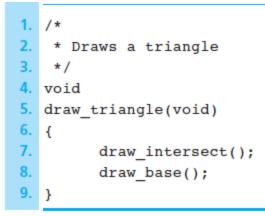
• Syntax

}

ftype fname(void) {

> local declarations executable statements

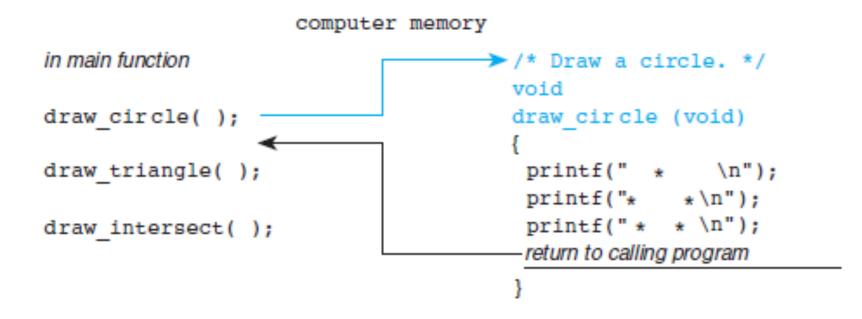
Figure 3.13 Function draw_triangle



Advantages of Using Function Subprograms

- procedural abstraction
 - a programming technique in which a main function consists of function calls and each function is implemented separately
- reuse of function subprograms
 - functions can be executed more than once in a program

Figure 3.15 Flow of Control Between the main Function and a Function Subprogram

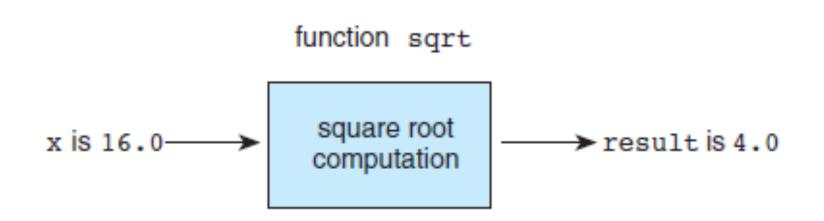


Library Functions

- code reuse
 - reusing program fragments that have already been written and tested
- C standard libraries
 - many predefined functions can be found here

stdio.h math.h Note: must use –Im flag to compile when using math library
 For example, gcc –o exe –Wall my_c_program.c -Im

Figure 3.6 Function sqrt as a "Black Box"



C Math Library Functions

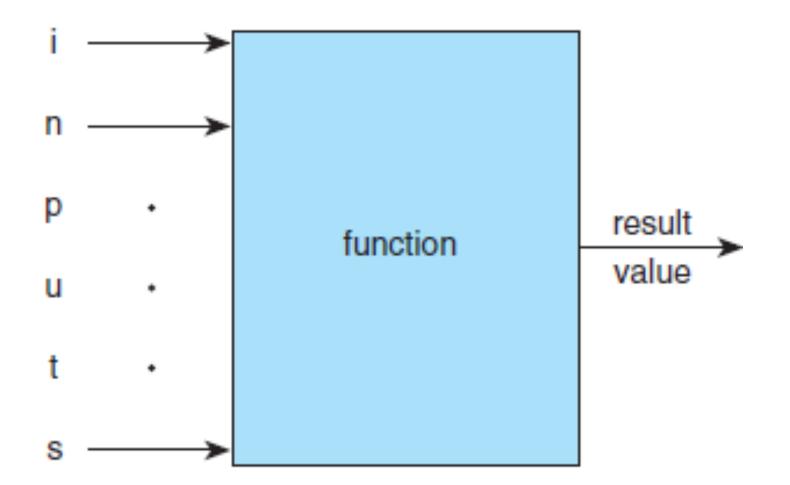
- Examples
 - abs(x)
 - ceil(x)
 - $-\log(x)$
 - $-\sin(x)$
 - sqrt(x)

Functions with Input Arguments

- input argument
 - arguments used to pass information into a function subprogram
- output argument
 - arguments used to return results to the calling function

Figure 3.18

Function with Input Arguments and One Result



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Functions with Multiple Arguments Argument List Correspondence

- The number of actual arguments used in a call to a function must be the same as the number of formal parameters listed in the function prototype.
- Each actual argument must be of a data type that can be assigned to the corresponding format parameter with no unexpected loss of information.

Functions with Multiple Arguments Argument List Correspondence

- The order of arguments in the lists determines correspondence.
 - The first actual argument corresponds to the first formal parameter.
 - The second actual argument corresponds to the second form parameter.
 - And so on...

Figure 3.23 Function scale

```
1.
   /*
2. * Multiplies its first argument by the power of 10 specified
3.
   * by its second argument.
   * Pre : x and n are defined and math.h is included.
4.
5.
   */
6. double
7.
   scale(double x, int n)
8.
  {
9.
        double scale factor; /* local variable */
10.
        scale factor = pow(10, n);
11.
12.
        return (x * scale factor);
13. }
```

Wrap Up

- Code reuse is good.
- When possible, develop your solution from existing information.
- Use C's library functions to simplify mathematical computations.
- You can write functions with none, one, or multiple input arguments.
- Functions can only return one value.