

## Objectives

- Defining your own functions
  - Control flow
  - Scope, variable lifetime
- Defining your own modules

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## DEFINING FUNCTIONS

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## Functions

- We've used functions
  - Built-in functions: `len`, `input`, `eval`
  - Functions from modules, e.g., `math` and `random`
- Benefits
  - Reuse, reduce code
  - Easier to read, write (because of abstraction)

Today, we'll learn how to  
**define our own functions!**

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## Review: Functions

- Function is a **black box**
  - Implementation doesn't matter
  - Only care that function generates appropriate output, given appropriate input
- Example:
  - Didn't care how `input` function was implemented
  - Use: `user_input = input(prompt)`



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## Creating Functions

- A function can have
  - 0 or more inputs
  - 0 or 1 outputs
- When we define a function, we know its **inputs** and if it has **output**



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## Writing a Function

- I want a function that averages two numbers

- What is the input to this function?
- What is the output to this function?

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## Writing a Function

- I want a function that averages two numbers
- What is the input to this function?
  - The two numbers
- What is the output to this function?
  - The average of those two numbers, as a float

These are key questions to ask yourself when designing your own functions.

- Inputs: parameters
- Output: what is getting returned

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## Comparison of Code Using Functions

- Without functions:  
`wheeloffortune.wfiles.py`
- With functions:  
`wheeloffortune.wfiles_functions.py`

How do the two programs compare in terms of

- Length? (all code and just the "main" code)
- Readability?

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## Why Write Functions?

- Allows you to break up a hard problem into *smaller*, more *manageable* parts
- Makes your code easier to *understand*
- Hides implementation details (*abstraction*)
  - Provides interface (input, output)
- Makes part of the code *reusable* so that you:
  - Only have to write function code once
  - Can debug it all at once
    - Isolates errors
  - Can make changes in one function (*maintainability*)

Similar to benefits of OO Programming

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## Averaging Two Numbers



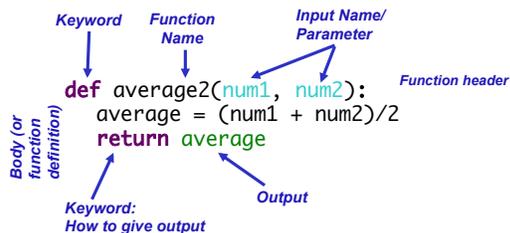
- **Input:** the two numbers
- **Output:** the average of two numbers

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## Syntax of Function Definition



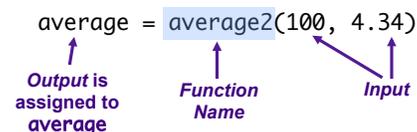
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## Calling your own functions

Same as calling someone else's functions ...



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`average2.py`

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## Functions: Similarity to Math

- In math, a function definition looks like:
  - $f(x) = x^2 + 2$
- Plug values in for  $x$ 
  - $f(3) = 3^2 + 2 = 11$
  - 3 is your input, assigned to  $x$
  - 11 is output

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## Parameters

- The **inputs** to a function are called **parameters** or **arguments**, depending on the context
- When **calling**/using functions, arguments must appear in same order as in the function header
  - Example: `round(x, n)`
    - $x$  is the float to round
    - $n$  is int of decimal places to round  $x$  to

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## Parameters

- **Formal Parameters** are the variables named in the function definition
- **Actual Parameters** or **Arguments** are the variables or literals that really get used when the function is called.

Defined: `def round(x, n) :`  
Use: `roundCelc = round(celc, 2)`

Formal & actual parameters must match in **order**, **number**, and **type**!

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## Passing Parameters

- Only **copies** of the actual parameters are given to the function for **immutable** data types
  - **Immutable types**: most of what we've talked about so far
    - Strings, integers, floats
  - The actual parameters in the **calling code do not change**
- (Lists are mutable and have different rules)

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## Function Output

- When the code reaches a statement like `return x`
  - The function stops executing
  - $x$  is the **output returned** to the place where the function was called
- For functions that don't have explicit output, `return` does not have a value with it, e.g.,  
`return`
  - Optional: don't *need* to have `return`
    - Function *automatically* returns at the end

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## Example Functions

- `userPBPref(username)`
  - For the given user, returns the amount of PB they want on their sandwich
  - Input: ?
  - Output: ?
- `spread(condiment, amount_in_TB, sandwich)`
  - Spreads given amount of condiment on sandwich
  - Input: ?
  - Output: ?

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## Example Functions

- `userPBPref(username)`
  - For the given user, returns the amount of PB they want on their sandwich
  - Input: `username`
  - Output: the user's PB preference
- `spread(condiment, amount_in_TB, sandwich)`
  - Spreads given amount of condiment on sandwich
  - Input: `condiment, amount_in_TB, sandwich`
  - Output: no output
    - State of sandwich changes → now has condiment on it

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## CONTROL FLOW WITH FUNCTIONS

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## Flow of Control

- When program calls a function, the program jumps to the function and executes it
- After executing the function, the program returns to the same place in the *calling code* where it left off

Calling code:

```
# Make conversions
dist1 = 100
miles1 = metersToMiles(dist1)
```

dist1 (100) is assigned to meters

```
def metersToMiles(meters) :
    M2MI=.0006215
    miles = meters * M2MI
    return miles
```

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## Flow of Control

```
def max(num1, num2):
    result = 0
    if num1 >= num2:
        result = num1
    else:
        result = num2
    return result
```

```
x = 12
y = eval(input("Enter a number: "))
z = max(x, y)
print("The max is", z)
```

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flow\_example.py 22

## Flow of Control

```
def max(num1, num2):
    result = 0
    if num1 >= num2:
        result = num1
    else:
        result = num2
    return result
```

What does this function do?

### Function definitions:

- Save functions for later use, nothing executed
- Similar to adding a contact into your phone book → not actually calling

```
x = 12 ← Program starts "doing stuff"
y = eval(input("Enter a number: "))
z = max(x, y)
print("The max is", z)
```

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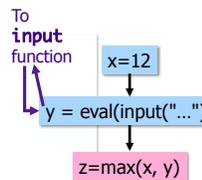
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## Flow of Control

```
def max(num1, num2):
    result = 0
    if num1 >= num2:
        result = num1
    else:
        result = num2
    return result
```

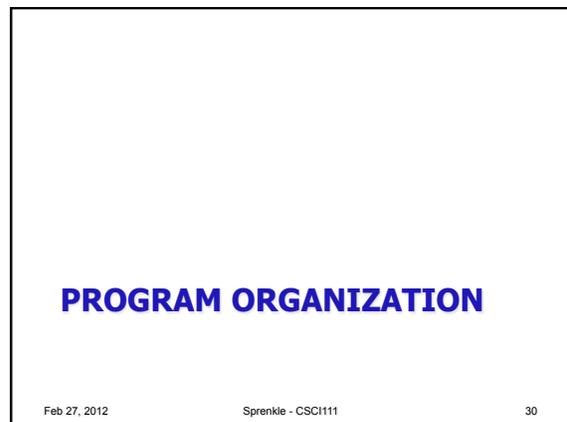
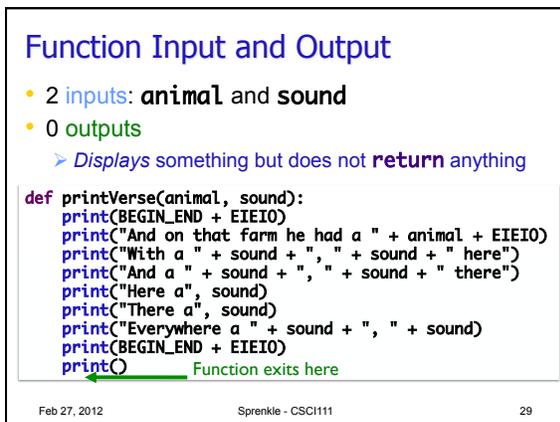
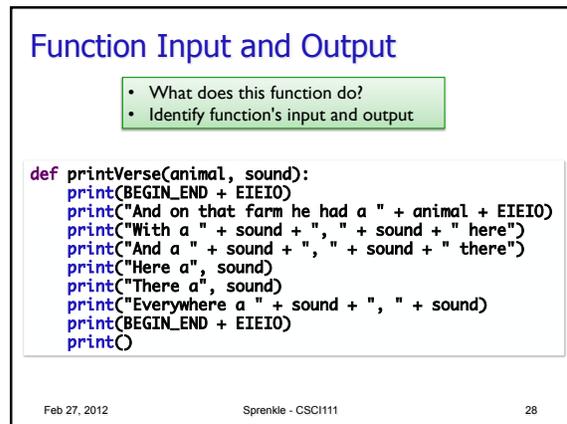
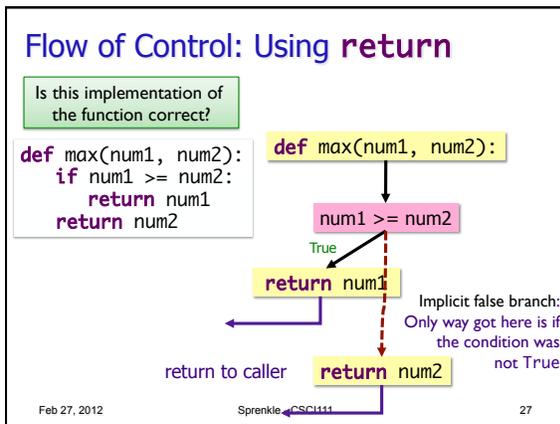
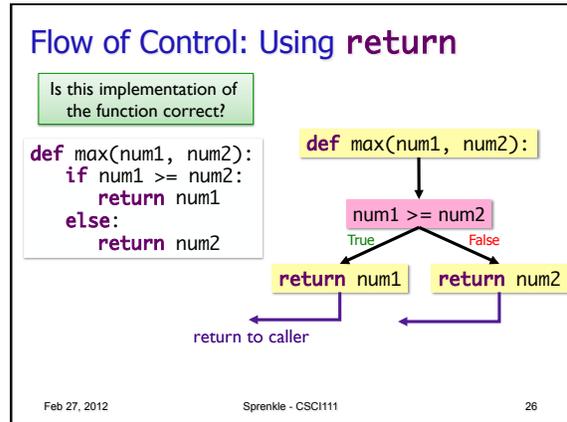
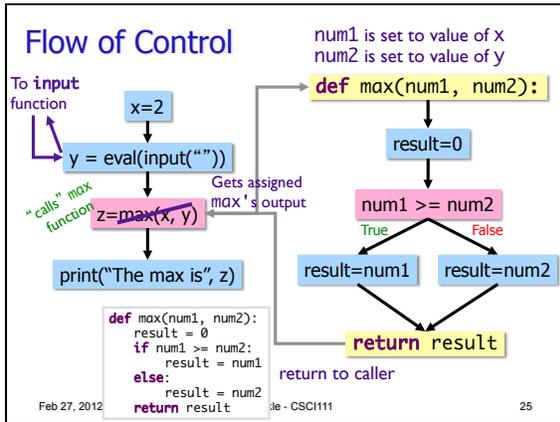
```
x = 12 ← Program starts "doing stuff"
y = eval(input("Enter a number: "))
z = max(x, y)
print("The max is", z)
```



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## Where are Functions Defined?

- Functions can go inside of program script
  - If no `main()` function, defined *before* use/called
    - `wheeloffortune_wfiles_functions.py`
    - `average2.py`
  - If `main()` function, defined anywhere in script
    - More in a bit...
- Functions can go inside a separate *module*

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## Program Organization: `main` function

- In many languages, you put the “driver” for your program in a `main` function
  - You can (and should) do this in Python as well
- Typically `main` functions are defined at the top of your program
  - Readers can quickly see overview of what program does
- `main` usually takes no arguments
  - Example: `def main():`

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## Using a `main` Function

- Call `main()` at the bottom of your program
- Side effects:
  - Do not need to define functions before `main` function
  - `main` can “see” other functions
  - Note that `main` is a function that calls other functions
    - Any function can call other functions

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## Example program with a `main()`

```
def main():
    printVerse("dog", "ruff")
    printVerse("duck", "quack")

    animal_type = "cow"
    animal_sound = "moo"
    printVerse(animal_type, animal_sound)

def printVerse(animal, sound):
    print(BEGIN_END + EIEIO)
    print("And on that farm he had a " + animal + EIEIO)
    print("With a " + sound + ", " + sound + " here")
    print("And a " + sound + ", " + sound + " there")
    print("Here a", sound)
    print("There a", sound)
    print("Everywhere a " + sound + ", " + sound)
    print(BEGIN_END + EIEIO)
    print()

main()
```

Constants, comments are in example program

In what order does this program execute?  
What is output from this program?

oldmac.py

## Example program with a `main()`

```
def main():
    printVerse("dog", "ruff")
    printVerse("duck", "quack")

    animal_type = "cow"
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    print("Here a", sound)
    print("There a", sound)
    print("Everywhere a " + sound + ", " + sound)
    print(BEGIN_END + EIEIO)
    print()

main()
```

1. Set definition of main  
2. Set definition of printVerse  
3. Call main function  
4. Execute main function  
5. Call, execute printVerse

oldmac.py

## Summary: Program Organization

- Larger programs require *functions* to maintain readability
  - Use `main()` and other functions to break up program into *smaller, more manageable* chunks
  - “Abstract away” the details
- As before, can still write smaller scripts without any functions
  - Can try out functions using smaller scripts
- Need the `main()` function when using other functions to keep “driver” at top
  - Otherwise, functions need to be defined *before* use

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# VARIABLE LIFETIMES AND SCOPE

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# What does this program output?

```
def main():
    x = 10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit):
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

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mystery.py

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# Function Variables

```
def main():
    x = 10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit):
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

Why can we name two different variables x?

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mystery.py

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# Tracing through Execution

```
def main():
    x = 10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit):
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

When you call main(), that means you want to execute this function

Defines functions

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# Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

The stack

|      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| main | x | 10 |
|------|---|----|

Variable names are like first names

Function names are like last names

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# Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

Called the function sumEvens  
Add its parameters to the stack

|          |       |    |
|----------|-------|----|
| sumEvens | limit | 10 |
| main     | x     | 10 |

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## Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

|       |          |
|-------|----------|
| sum   | total    |
| Evens | limit 10 |
| main  | x 10     |

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## Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

|       |       |    |
|-------|-------|----|
| sum   | x     | 0  |
| Evens | total | 0  |
|       | limit | 10 |
| main  | x     | 10 |

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## Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

|       |       |    |
|-------|-------|----|
| sum   | x     | 8  |
| Evens | total | 20 |
|       | limit | 10 |
| main  | x     | 10 |

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## Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

Function `sumEvens` returned  
 • no longer have to keep track of its variables on stack  
 • lifetime of those variables is over

|      |     |    |
|------|-----|----|
| main | sum | 20 |
|      | x   | 10 |

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## Function Variables

```
def main() :
    x=10
    sum = sumEvens( x )
    print("The sum of even #s up to", x, "is", sum)

def sumEvens(limit) :
    total = 0
    for x in range(0, limit, 2):
        total += x
    return total

main()
```

|      |     |    |
|------|-----|----|
| main | x   | 10 |
|      | sum | 20 |

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## Variable Scope

- Functions can have the same parameter and variable names as other functions
  - Need to look at the variable's **scope** to determine which one you're looking at
  - Use the **stack** to figure out which variable you're using
- Scope levels
  - **Local scope** (also called **function scope**)
    - Can only be seen within the function
  - **Global scope** (also called **file scope**)
    - Whole program can access
    - More on these later

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## Function Scope

- What variables can we “see” (i.e., use)?

```
def main():
    binary_string = input("Enter a binary #: ")
    if not isBinary(binary_string):
        print("That is not a binary string")
        sys.exit()
    decVal = binaryToDecimal(binary_string)
    print("The decimal value is", decVal)
```

```
def isBinary(string):
    for bit in string:
        if bit != "0" and bit != "1":
            return False
    return True
```

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## Variable Scope

- Practice: `scope.py`
  - Trace through program--what does it do?
- Answer questions in program...

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## Summary: Why Write Functions?

- Allows you to break up a hard problem into *smaller*, more *manageable* parts
- Makes your code easier to *understand*
- Hides implementation details (*abstraction*)
  - Provides interface (input, output)
- Makes part of the code *reusable* so that you:
  - Only have to write function code once
  - Can debug it all at once
    - Isolates errors
  - Can make changes in one function (*maintainability*)

Similar to benefits of OO Programming

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## This Week

- Lab 6 due Monday
  - I leave later today
- Friday – broader issue analysis

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