

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



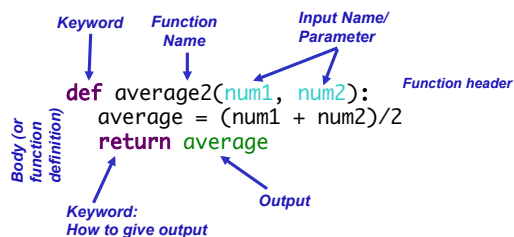
- **Input:** the two numbers
- **Output:** the average of two numbers

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Syntax of Function Definition



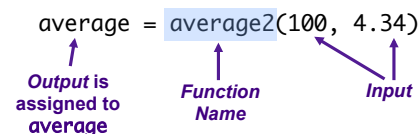
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Calling your own functions

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

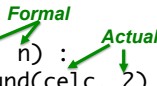
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Parameters

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

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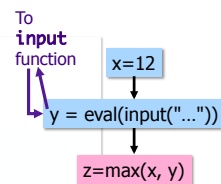
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Flow of Control

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

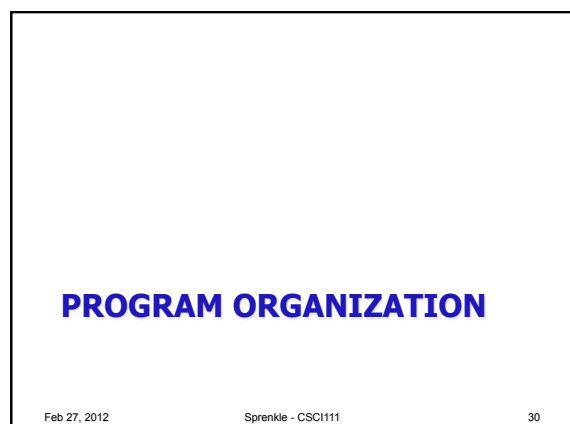
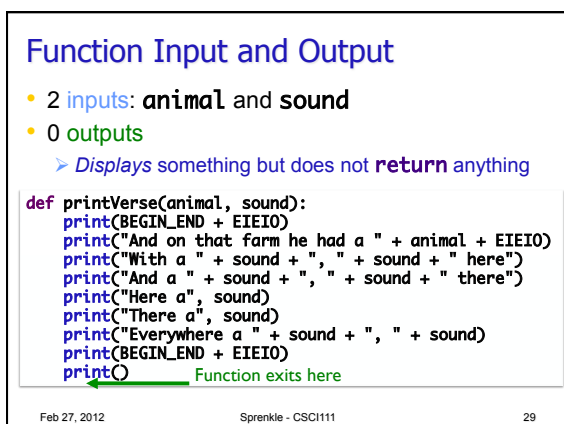
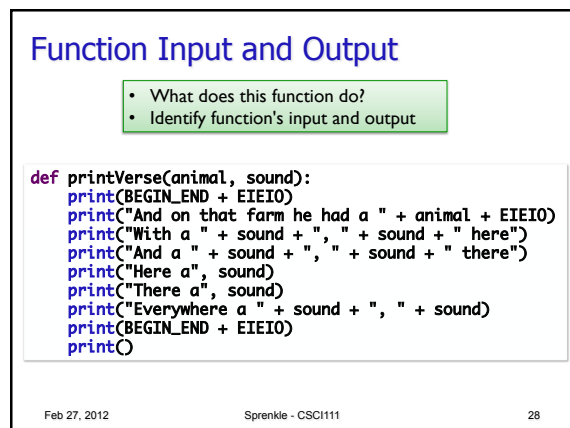
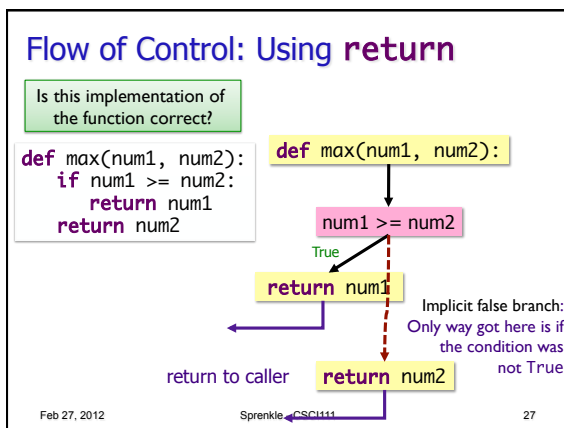
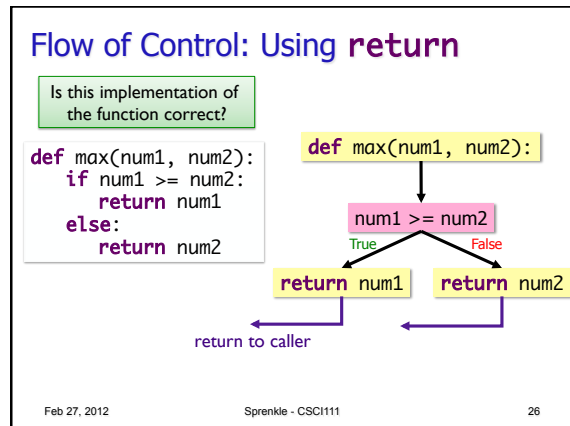
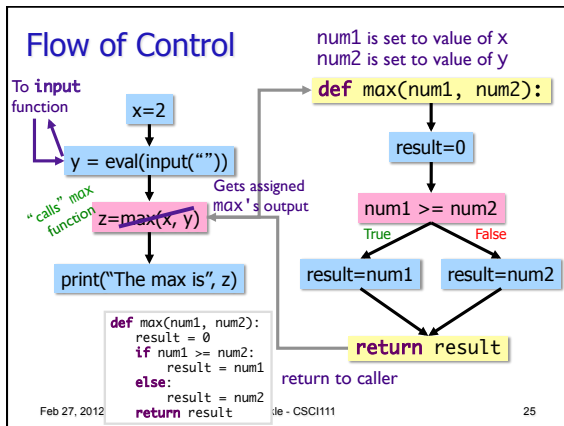
```
x = 12
y = eval(input("Enter a number: "))
z = max(x, y)
print("The max is", z)
```



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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"
    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()
```

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 0
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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