

### Overview

Concepts this lecture
Abstraction for behavior:
"procedural abstraction"
Functions
Function control flow
Two meanings of void
Pre-written functions

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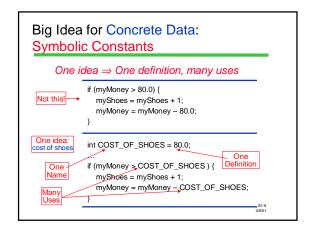
### **Chapter 3**

### Read All!

- 3.1: Reusing program parts
- 3.2: Built-in math functions
- 3.3: Top-Down Design
- 3.4: Functions with no parameters
- 3.5: Functions with parameters

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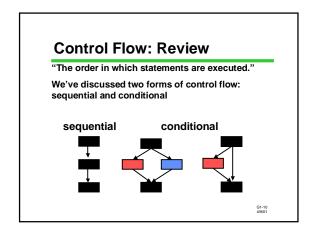
## Deceptively Simple Big Idea: Abstraction One idea ⇒ One definition, many uses One idea ⇒ One definition, many uses



What sorts of *behavior* might we want to give names to?

We can't do this with the tools we've seen so far.

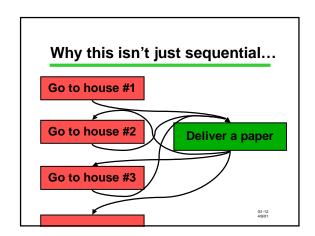
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### Another Form of Control Flow

"Functions" (or "procedures" or "subroutines")
allow you to "visit" a chunk of code and then come back

(The function may be elsewhere in your own program, or may be code in another file altogether.)



# Why Use Functions? Here's one example: Suppose we are writing a program that displays many messages on the screen, and... We'd like to display two rows of asterisks ('\*'s) to separate sections of output:

### 

### 

### Anything Wrong With This? It's correct C code It fulfills the problem specification, i.e., gives the desired result

### **Anything Wrong With This?**

It's correct C code

It fulfills the problem specification, i.e., gives the desired result

What's "wrong" has to do with other issues such as:

- How hard it would be change the program in the future
- How much work is it to write the same statements over and over

• ...

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### What if...

Later on we wants to change...

- The number of rows of asterisks
- The number of asterisks per row
- Use hyphens instead of asterisks
- Ose hyphens instead of asterisks
- Print the date and time with each separator

• ...

How much work is involved?

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### If We Want to Change Anything

- ... have to edit every "copy" of the code in the program.
- ... it's easy to overlook some copies.
- ... it can be hard to find them all (because they might not be written identically).
- ... it can be hard to find them all because code written identically may not serve the same logical purpose.

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### Sound familiar?

These are the *same* problems that lead us to use symbolic constants for data!

Functions let us do the same sort of thing for behavior ("procedural information")!

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### Big Idea for Code: Functions

One idea ⇒ One definition, many uses

One idea → • Identify a "sub-problem" that has to be solved in your program

One Name • Choose a name to represent "the solution of that problem by code"

One definition →• Write that solution code (only once)

Many Uses • Whenever you see that same sub-problem again, use the function name to say

"go to that code now to take care of this problem, and don't come back until you're done"

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### **PrintBannerLines Function**

For our print banner program, that idea means this:

Identify the idea

(NOT print two rows of asterisks)

- Give the function that does that a name PrintBannerLines
- Define the solution by writing the code printf(""""); printf("""""");
- Whenever you want to print a banner, use the function name
   PrintBannerLines();

#include <stdio.h>
int main(void)
{
 /\* produce some output \*/
 PrintBannerLines();
 /\* produce more output \*/
 PrintBannerLines();
 /\* produce more output \*/
 PrintBannerLines();
 /\* produce more output \*/
 return 0 ;
}

### **Discussion Question**

In the new version of the program:

What do we have to do now if we want to change the banner?

How many places in the program have to be changed?

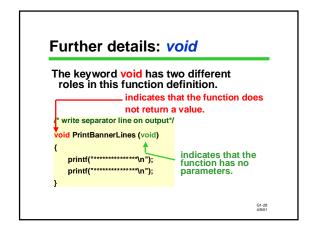
What if we want to print two rows of asterisks for something that isn't a banner?

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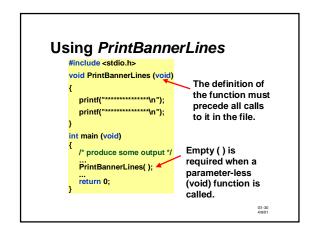
# The Big Picture, So Far You've now some colossal concepts: Abstraction Functions Function control flow The motivation for functions Coming right up... Syntax for defining a function Built-in C functions

```
/* write separator line on output */
void PrintBannerLines (void)
{
    printf("*************\n");
    printf("***********\n");
}
```

### 



# Oops – Two New Concepts 1. Return values: we will postpone for now 2. Parameters: We will postpone this, too! Both concepts are very important in general, but not for this particular example /\* write separator line on output\*/ void PrintBannerLines (void) ...



### Some C Functions

We have already seen and used several functions:

```
int main (void)
{
    return 0;
}

printf ("control", list);

calls to the functions
printf() and scanf()
```

### Library functions

- Pre-written functions are commonly packaged in "libraries"
- Every standard C compiler comes with a set of standard libraries
- Remember #include <stdio.h> ?
  - Tells the compiler you intend to use the "standard I/O library" functions
  - printf and scanf are in the standard I/O library
  - So are lots of other I/O related functions
- There are (many) other useful functions in other libraries

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### **Next Time**

We'll continue our discussion about functions. We will examine how values are passed to functions, and how values are returned

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### QOTD: The Better, The Worse, and The Uglier

Remember "the Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"? Well, it's just as important to use good identifiers for functions.

So, for each of the following situations, give a name that's legal and follows The Way, illegal, and legal but strays:

- Our banner lines function
- A function that retrieves the user's meal preferences (e.g., vegetarian, kosher, etc.)
- A function that calculates the least common denominator of two numbers

What might the rules be for function identifiers?

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