Functions and subroutines in Fortran

Victor Eijkhout, Susan Lindsey

Fall 2022

last formatted: August 28, 2022



1: Procedure basics



1. Procedures in contains clause

```
Program foo
    < declarations>
    < executable statements >
    Contains
      < procedure definitions >
End Program foo
```

Two types of procedures: functions and subroutines. More later.



2. Subroutines

```
subroutine foo()
implicit none
print *,"foo"
if (something) return
print *,"bar"
end subroutine foo
```

- Looks much like a main program
- Ends at the end, or when return is reached
- Note: return does not return anything
- Activated with

```
call foo()
```



3. Subroutine with argument

```
Code:

program printing
  implicit none
  call printint(5)
contains
  subroutine printint(invalue)
  implicit none
  integer :: invalue
  print *, invalue
  end subroutine printint
end program printing
```

```
Output
[funcf] printone:
5
```

4. Subroutine can change argument

```
Code:
program adding
  implicit none
  integer :: i=5
  call addint(i,4)
 print *,i
contains
  subroutine addint(inoutvar,addendum)
    implicit none
    integer :: inoutvar,addendum
    inoutvar = inoutvar + addendum
  end subroutine addint
end program adding
```

```
Output
[funcf] addone:
```

Parameters are always 'by reference'!



Function vs Subroutine

Subroutines can only 'return' results through their parameters.

Functions have an actual return result.



5. Function example

```
Code:
program plussing
  implicit none
  integer :: i
  i = plusone(5)
  print *,i
contains
  integer function plusone(invalue)
    implicit none
    integer :: invalue
    plusone = invalue+1 ! note!
  end function plusone
end program plussing
```

```
Output
[funcf] plusone:
6
```



6. Function definition and usage

- subroutine VS function: compare void functions vs non-void in C++.
- Function header:
 Return type, keyword function, name, parameters
- Function body has statements
- Result is returned by assigning to the function name
- Use: y = f(x)

7. Why a 'contains' clause?

```
Program NoContains
  implicit none
  call DoWhat()
end Program NoContains

subroutine DoWhat(i)
  implicit none
  integer :: i
  i = 5
end subroutine DoWhat
```

Warning only, crashes.

```
Program ContainsScope
  implicit none
  call DoWhat()
contains
  subroutine DoWhat(i)
   implicit none
   integer :: i
   i = 5
  end subroutine DoWhat
end Program ContainsScope
```

Error, does not compile



8. Why a 'contains' clause, take 2

```
Code:

Program NoContainTwo
implicit none
integer :: i=5
call DoWhat(i)
end Program NoContainTwo

subroutine DoWhat(x)
implicit none
real :: x
print *,x
end subroutine DoWhat
```

```
Output
[funcf] nocontaintype:
nocontain2.F90:15:16:
   15 | call
    DoWhat(i)
Warning: Type
    mismatch in
    argument 'x' at
    (1); passed
    INTEGER(4) to
    REAL(4)
    [-Wargument-mismatch]
   7.00649232E-45
```

At best compiler warning if all in the same file



Exercise 1

Write a program that asks the user for a positive number; negative input should be rejected. Fill in the missing lines in this code fragment:

```
Code:
program readpos
  implicit none
  real(4) :: userinput
  print *, "Type a positive number:"
  userinput = read_positive()
  print *,"Thank you for", userinput
contains
  real(4) function read_positive()
    implicit none
  !! ...
  end function read_positive
end program readpos
```

```
Output
[funcf] readpos:

Type a positive
    number:
No, not -5.00000000
No, not 0.00000000
No, not -3.14000010
Thank you for
    2.48000002
```



9. Procedure arguments

Arguments are declared in procedure body:

```
subroutine f(x,y,i)
  implicit none
  integer,intent(in) :: i
  real(4),intent(out) :: x
  real(8),intent(inout) :: y
  x = 5; y = y+6
end subroutine f
! and in the main program
call f(x,y,5)
```

declaring the 'intent' is optional, but highly advisable.



10. Fortran nomenclature

The term dummy argument is what Fortran calls the parameters in the procedure definition:

```
subroutine f(x)! 'x' is dummy argument
```

The arguments in the procedure call are the actual arguments:

```
call f(x)! 'x' is actual argument
```



11. Parameter passing

- Everything is passed by reference.
 Don't worry about large objects being copied.
- Optional intent declarations:
 Use in, out, inout qualifiers to clarify semantics to compiler.



12. Intent checking

Compiler checks your intent against your implementation. This code is not legal:

```
subroutine ArgIn(x)
  implicit none
  real,intent(in) :: x
  x = 5 ! compiler complains
end subroutine ArgIn
```



13. Why intent checking?

Self-protection: if you state the intended behaviour of a routine, the compiler can detect programming mistakes.

Allow compiler optimizations:

```
x = f()
call ArgOut(x)
print *, x
Call to f removed
do i=1,1000
x = ! something
y1 = .... x ....
call ArgIn(x)
y2 = ! same expression as y1
y2 is same as y1 because x not
```

changed

(May need further specifications, so this is not the prime justification.)



Exercise 2

Write a subroutine trig that takes a number α as input and passes $\sin \alpha$ and $\cos \alpha$ back to the calling environment.



Exercise 3

Take your prime number testing function test_if_prime, and use it to write a program that prints multiple primes:

- Read an integer how_many from the input, indicating how many (successive) prime numbers should be printed.
- Print that many successive primes, each on a separate line.
- (Hint: keep a variable number_of_primes_found that is increased whenever a new prime is found.)



Turn it in!

- If you have compiled your program, do: coe_primef yourprogram.F90 where 'yourprogram.F90' stands for the name of your source file.
- Is it reporting that your program is correct? If so, do: coe_primef -s yourprogram.F90 where the -s flag stands for 'submit'.
- If you don't manage to get your code working correctly, you can submit as incomplete with coe_primef -i yourprogram.F90
- Use the -d debug flag for more information.



14. Saved values

Local variable is initialized only once, second time it uses its retained value.

```
code:
integer function maxof2(i,j)
implicit none
integer,intent(in) :: i,j
integer :: max=0
if (i>max) max = i
if (j>max) max = j
maxof2 = max
end function maxof2
```

```
Output
[funcf] save:

Comparing: 1 3
3
Comparing: -2 -4
3
```

