## better call $\mathbf{SOL}$

# SHAPE ORIENTED LANGUAGE REFERENCE MANUAL

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## Contents

1	Intr	roduction	3
2	Con	nventions	3
3	Lex	ical Conventions	4
	3.1	Comments	4
	3.2	Identifiers	4
	3.3	Keywords	
	3.4	Integer Constants	
	3.5	Float Constants	
	3.6	Character Constants	
	3.7	Escape Sequences	
	3.8	String constants	6
	3.9	Operators	6
		3.9.1 Assignment Operator	6
		3.9.2 Arithmetic Operators	

		3.9.3 Comparison Operators	7
		3.9.4 Logical Operators	7
	3.10	Punctuators	7
4	Ider	ntifier Scope	8
	4.1	Block Scope	8
	4.2	File Scope	8
5	Exp	ressions and Operators	8
	5.1	$Type casting \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots$	8
	5.2	Precedence and Associativity	8
	5.3	Dot Accessor	Ĉ
6	Dec	larations	ç
	6.1	Type Specifiers	Ć
	6.2	Array Declarators	Ć
	6.3	Function Declarators and Definition	
	6.4	Constructor Declarators	1(
	6.5	Definitions	10
7	Stat	tements 1	1
	7.1	Expression Statement	11
	7.2	If Statement	11
	7.3		11
	7.4	Return statement	12
8	Inte	ernal Functions	2
	8.1	main	12
	8.2	length	13
	8.3	setFramerate	13
	8.4	consolePrint	13
9	Dra	wing Functions 1	13
	9.1	drawPoint	13
	9.2	drawCurve	
	9.3		1:

10	Ani	mation	F	ur	ıc	tic	on	$\mathbf{s}$														14
	10.1	translat	$\dot{e}$																			14
	10.2	rotate																				14
		render																				
	10.4	wait .																				14
11	Clas	sses																				14
	11.1	shape.																				15
	11.2	Inherite	an	ce																		16
		11.2.1	na	re	nt	t (	ke	vv	ZO:	rd	)										_	17

## 1 Introduction

SOL is a simple language that allows programmers to create 2D animations with ease. Programmers will have the ability to define and create objects, known as shapes, and dictate where they appear, and how they move. As a lightweight object-oriented language, SOL allows for unlimited design opportunities and eases the burden of animation. In addition, SOLs simplicity saves programmers the trouble of learning complicated third-party animation tools, without sacrificing control over behavior of objects.

## 2 Conventions

The following conventions are followed throughout this SOL Reference Manual.

- 1. literal Fixed space font for literals such as commands, functions, keywords, and programming language structures.
- 2. variable The variables for SOL programming language and words or concept being defined are denoted in italics.

The following are conventions used while drawing and animating objects, used in internal functions (see Section 8):

- 1. The origin of the drawing canvas is on the top left of the screen.
- 2. The positive X-axis goes from left to right.

- 3. The positive Y-axis goes from top to bottom.
- 4. Positive angles specify rotation in a clockwise direction.
- 5. Coordinates are specified as integer arrays of size 2, consisting of an X-coordinate followed by a Y-coordinate.
- 6. Colors are specified as integer arrays of size 3, consisting of Red, Green and Blue values in the range 0 255, where [0, 0, 0] is black and [255, 255, 255] is white.

## 3 Lexical Conventions

This section describes the complete lexical conventions followed for a syntactically correct SOL program, forming various parts of the language.

#### 3.1 Comments

Comments in SOL start with character sequence /\* and end at character sequence \*/. They may extend over multiple lines and all characters following /\* are ignored until an ending \*/ is encountered.

## 3.2 Identifiers

In SOL, an identifier is a sequence of characters from the set of english alphabets, arabic numerals and underscore (\_). The first character cannot be a digit. Identifiers are case sensitive. Identifiers cannot be any of the reserved keywords mentioned in section 3.3.

## 3.3 Keywords

Keywords in SOL include data types, built-in functions, and control statements, and may not be used as identifiers as they are reserved.

int	if	main	shape
float	while	setFramerate	parent
char	func	translate	extends
string	construct	rotate	
	return	render	
		wait	
		drawPoint	
		drawCurve	
		print	
		length	
		consolePrint	

## 3.4 Integer Constants

A sequence of one or more digits representing a number in base-10. Eg: 1234

#### 3.5 Float Constants

Similar to an integer, a float has an *integer*, a decimal point (.), and a fractional part. Both the integer and fractional part are a sequence of one or more digits.

Eg: 0.55 10.2

#### 3.6 Character Constants

An ASCII character within single quotation marks. Eg: 'x' 'a'

## 3.7 Escape Sequences

The following are special characters represented by escape sequences.

Name	Escape
newline	\n
tab	$\backslash \mathrm{t}$
backslash	\\
single quote	\',
double quote	\"
ASCII NUL character	\0

## 3.8 String constants

A SOL string is a sequence of zero or more characters within double quotation marks.

Eg: "cat"

## 3.9 Operators

SOL has mainly four categories of operators defined below:

#### 3.9.1 Assignment Operator

An assignment operator is denoted by the = symbol having a variable identifier to its left and a valid expression on its right. The assignment operator assigns the evaluated value of the expression on the right to the variable on the left.

#### 3.9.2 Arithmetic Operators

SOL has the following binary arithmetic operators. A binary arithmetic operator operates on two arithmetic expressions specified before and after the operator respectively. The said expressions must be of type int or float.

Operator	Definition
+	Addition
_	Subtraction
*	Multiplication
/	Division
%	Modulo

#### $3.9.3 \quad Comparison \ Operators$

The comparison operators are binary operators for comparing values of operands defined as expressions.

Operator	Definition
==	Equality
!=	Not Equals
<	Less than
>	Greater than
<=	Less than or equals
>=	Greater than or equals

#### $3.9.4\quad Logical\ Operators$

The logical operators evaluate boolean expressions and return an integer as the result - with 0 as False and 1 as True. The AND (&&) and OR (||) operators are binary, while the NOT (!) operator is unary.

Operator	Definition
&&	AND
	OR
!	NOT

#### 3.10 Punctuators

The following symbols are used for semantic organization in SOL:

Punctuator	Usage
{}	Used to denote a block of code. Must be present as a pair.
()	Specifies conditions for statements before the subsequent
	code, or denotes the arguments of a function. Must be
	present as a pair.
	Indicates an array. Must be present as a pair.
;	Signals the end of a line of code.
,	Used to separate arguments for a function, or elements in
	an array definition.

## 4 Identifier Scope

## 4.1 Block Scope

Identifier scope is a specific area of code wherein an identifier exists. A scope of an identifier is from its declaration until the end of the code block within which it is declared.

## 4.2 File Scope

Any identifier (such as a variable or a function) that is defined outside a code block has file scope i.e. it exists throughout the file.

If an identifier with file scope has the same name as an identifier with block scope, the block-scope identifier gets precedence.

## 5 Expressions and Operators

## 5.1 Typecasting

A typecast is the conversion of an expression from one type to another. SOL supports explicit casting of *int* to *float*, *float* to *int*, and *int*, *float* and *char* to *string*. To cast an expression to a different type, place the desired type in parentheses in front of the expression.

 ${
m Eg:}$  (int) myFloat /\* Returns the integer value of myFloat \*/

## 5.2 Precedence and Associativity

SOL expressions are evaluated with the following rules:

- Expressions are evaluated from left to right
- Multiplication, division and modulo operations take precedence over addition and subtraction
- Parentheses override all precedence rules
- Logical NOT has precedence over logical AND, which has precedence over logical OR

#### 5.3 Dot Accessor

To access members of a declared **shape** (further described in section 7), use the dot accessor '.'.

Eg: shape\_object.point1 /\* This accesses the variable point1 within the object shape\_object \*/

#### 6 Declarations

Declarations determine how an identifier should be interpreted by the compiler. A declaration should include the identifier type and the given name

## 6.1 Type Specifiers

SOL provides four type specifiers for data types:

- *int* integer number
- float floating point number
- char a single character
- string string (ordered sequence of characters)

## 6.2 Array Declarators

An array may be formed from any of the primitive types and shapes, but each array may only contain one type of primitive or shape. At declaration, the type specifier and the size of the array must be indicated (the array size need not be specified for strings, which are character arrays). In a function signature, the size of the array should not be specified. Arrays are most commonly used in SOL to specify coordinates with two integers.

 $\mathrm{Eg:}$  int[2] coor; /\* Array of two integers \*/

## 6.3 Function Declarators and Definition

Functions are declared with the keyword: func. This is followed by the return type of the function. If no return type is specified, then the function automatically returns nothing. Functions are given a name (which is a valid

identifier) followed by function arguments. These arguments are a commaseparated list of variable declarations within parentheses. Primitives are passed into functions by value, and objects and arrays are passed by reference. This function declaration is then followed by the function definition, within curly braces; functions must always be defined immediately after they are declared.

```
Eg: func example(int a, int b){
    /* a function named example that
        takes two arguments that are both of
        type int */
}
```

#### 6.4 Constructor Declarators

Constructors are declared with the keyword: construct. Constructor definitions are similar to a function definition with three additional constraints:

- 1. Constructors are defined inside the class definition
- 2. Constructors are given the same name as the class and followed by arguments, within parenthesis as a comma-separated list of variable declarations, similar to function definitions
- 3. Constructors do not have a return type specified

## 6.5 Definitions

A definition of an object or type includes a value, assigned by the assignment operator '='.

```
Eg: int x = a; /* declaration & definition */
char y; /* declaration */
y = b; /* definition */
```

```
float z = 3.4;
int[3] w = [5, 2, 0];
string f = "cats";
```

#### 7 Statements

A statement in SOL refers to a complete instruction for a SOL program. All statements are executed in order of sequence. The four types of statements are described in detail below:

## 7.1 Expression Statement

Expression statements are those statements that get evaluated and produce a result. This can be as simple as an assignment or a function call.

```
Eg: int x = 5; /* assign 5 to variable x */
```

## 7.2 If Statement

An *if* statement is a conditional statement, that is specified with the **if** keyword followed by an *expression* specified within a pair of parenthesis; further followed by a block of code within curly braces. The code specified within the **if** block executes if the expression evaluates to a non-zero *integer*.

```
Eg: int x = 1; if (x == 1) {

/* This code gets executed */
}
```

#### 7.3 While Statement

A while statement specifies the looping construct in SOL. It starts with the while keyword, followed by an expression specified within a pair of parenthesis; this is followed by a block of code within curly braces which is executed repeatedly as long as the condition in parentheses is valid. This condition is re-evaluated before each iteration and the code within while block executes if the condition evaluates to a non-zero integer.

Eg:

```
int x = 5;
while (x > 0) {
    /* This code gets executed 5 times */
    x = x - 1;
}
```

#### 7.4 Return statement

Stops execution of a function and returns to where the function was called originally in the code. Potentially returns a value; this value must conform with the return type specified in the function declaration. If no return type was specified, a *return* statement without any value specified is syntactically valid (but not compulsory).

## 8 Internal Functions

SOL specifies a set of required/internal functions that must be defined for specific tasks such as drawing, rendering or as an entry point to the program, described below.

#### $8.1 \quad main$

Every SOL program must contain a main function as this is the entrypoint of the program. The main function may call other functions written in the program. The main function does not take inputs as SOL programs do not depend on user input. The main function does not allow for member variables of shape objects to be changed.

Arguments: None

## 8.2 length

Returns the number of elements in an array.

Arguments: Array of elements

#### 8.3 setFramerate

Defined once at the start of the program, to specify the frames rendered per second. May only be defined once.

Arguments: rate (float)

#### 8.4 consolePrint

Prints a string to the console. Com monly used to print error messages.

Arguments: text (string)

## 9 Drawing Functions

The following set of functions are also a category of internal/required functions, which describe the drawing aspects for **shape** objects defined in a SOL program.

#### 9.1 drawPoint

Draws a point at a specified coordinate in the specified color.

Arguments: pt (int[2]), color (int[3])

#### $9.2 \quad drawCurve$

Draws a Bézier curve in the specified color defined by three coordinates, which are the three control points of the curve in order.

 $\underline{\text{Arguments}}$ : pt1 (int[2]), pt2 (int[2]), pt3 (int[2]), color (int[3])

## 9.3 print

Displays text onto the render screen at the coordinates specified by the user, in the specified color.

Arguments: pt (int[2]), text (string), color (int[3])

#### 10 Animation Functions

The following functions are used to animate the objects drawn in a SOL program.

#### 10.1 translate

Displaces a **shape** by specifying a two-element array of integers, where the first element is the number of pixels along the horizontal axis and the second element along the vertical axis, over a specified time period in seconds.

Arguments: displace (int[2]) /\* horizontal, vertical \*/

#### 10.2 rotate

Rotate a shape around an axis point by a specified number of degrees over a time period in seconds.

Arguments: axis (int[2]), angle (float), time (float)

#### 10.3 render

Specify the set of motions to be animated. This code-block can be defined for shapes that need to move or can be left undefined for non-moving shapes. Within this function, various rotate and translate calls can be made to move the shape. This should be specified in the main function.

Arguments: None

#### 10.4 *wait*

Pauses animation for a specified amount of time (in seconds). To be called in the render function.

Arguments: time (float)

#### 11 Classes

SOL follows an object-oriented paradigm for defining objects (drawn shapes) which can be further animated using the animation functions described in Section 10.

#### 11.1 shape

Similar to a class in C++; a shape defines a particular 2-D shape as part of the drawing on screen. Every shape has a user-defined draw function that specifies how shapes are statically rendered, using multiple drawPoint, drawCurve and print commands. The class may contain multiple member variables that could be used to draw the shape. These member variables are defined in a constructor, specified by the keyword construct. It is also possible to declare member functions for a shape. When member variables are accessed within a member function, it is implied that the member variables belong to the current object that calls the function.

Once a shape object has been instantiated, these member variables cannot be changed, but may still be accessed later, using the dot accessor, '.'.

```
Eg:
        shape Triangle {
             int [2]
                    a:
             int [2] b;
             int [2] c;
             construct Triangle(int[] a_init, int[]
                b_init, int[] c_init) {
                 a = a_i nit;
                 b = b_init;
                 c = c_i nit;
             }
             func int[] findCentre(int[] x, int []y) {
                 if(length(a) != length(b)) {
                      consolePrint ("Arrays size mismatch.
                          Abort");
                     return int [0];
                 }
                 int i = 0;
                 int c[length(a)];
                 while (i < length(x)) {
                     c[i] = a[i] + b[i] / 2;
                     i = i + 1;
                 return c;
```

```
func draw() {
    /* Draw lines between the three
        vertices of the triangle */
    drawcurve(a, findCentre(a, b), b, [255,
        0, 0]);
    drawcurve(b, findCentre(b, c), c, [0,
        255, 0]);
    drawcurve(c, findCentre(c, a), a, [0,
        0, 255]);
}
```

#### 11.2 Inheritance

SOL allows single class inheritance for shapes i.e given a shape, such as Line, one may create a sub-shape of Line, called LineBottom, and inherit all of its fields from the parent shape, Line, using the keyword extends.

```
int i = 0;
        int c[length(a)];
        while (i < length(x)) {
            c[i] = a[i] + b[i] / 2;
            i = i + 1;
        }
        return c;
    }
    func draw() {
        drawcurve(a, findCentre(a, b), b, [0,
           [0, 0];
    }
}
/* Subclass of Line */
shape LineBottom extends Line {
    int [2] c;
    int [2] d;
    construct LineBottom(int[] a_init, int[]
       b_init, int[] c_init) {
        parent(a_init, b_init);
        c = c_i nit;
        d = b;
    }
    func draw() {
        parent();
        drawcurve(c, findCentre(c, d), d, [0,
           0, 0]);
    }
}
```

#### 11.2.1 parent (keyword)

The parent shape's functions can be accessed by the function call parent(). This invokes the implementation of the current member function defined in

the parent  ${\tt shape}.$  In constructors, the  ${\tt parent()}$  calls the constructor for the parent  ${\tt shape}.$