

Chapter Five: Functions

Slides by Evan Gallagher

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Chapter Goals

- · To be able to implement functions
- To become familiar with the concept of parameter passing
- · To appreciate the importance of function comments
- To develop strategies for decomposing complex tasks into simpler ones
- · To be able to determine the scope of a variable
- To recognize when to use value and reference parameters

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Call a Function to Get Something Done



If it's chilly in here... do something about it!

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What Is a Function? Why Functions?

A function is a sequence of instructions with a name.

A function packages a computation into a form that can be easily understood and reused.

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Calling a Function

A programmer calls a function to have its instructions executed.



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Calling a Function

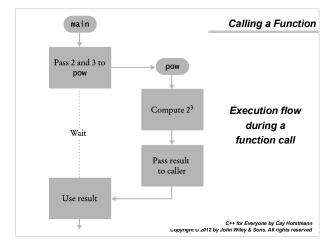
```
int main()
{
    double z = pow(2, 3);
    ...
}
```

By using the expression: pow(2, 3) main calls the pow function, asking it to compute 2³.

The main function is temporarily suspended.

The instructions of the pow function execute and compute the result.

The pow function returns its result back to main, and the main function resumes execution.



Parameters

```
int main()
{
    double z = pow(2, 3);
    ...
```

When another function calls the pow function, it provides "inputs", such as the values 2 and 3 in the call pow(2, 3).

In order to avoid confusion with inputs that are provided by a human user (cin >>), these values are called parameter values.

The "output" that the pow function computes is called the return value (not output using <<).

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An Output Statement Does Not Return a Value

output ≠ return

If a function needs to display something for a user to see, it cannot use a return statement.

An output statement using << communicates only with the user running the program.

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The Return Statement Does Not Display (Good!)

output ≠ return

If a programmer needs the result of a calculation done by a function, the function must have a return statement.

An output statement using << does not communicate with the calling programmer

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The Return Statement Does Not Display (Good!)

```
int main()
{
    double z = pow(2, 3);

    // display result of calculation
    // stored in variable z
    cout << z << endl;

    // return from main - no output here!!!
    return 0;
}

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```

The Black Box Concept



Do you care what's inside a thermostat?

The Black Box Concept

- You can think of it as a "black be where you can't see what's insid but you know what it does.
 - 2, 3
 pow
 Output
- How did the pow function do its job?
- · You don't need to know.
- · You only need to know its specification.

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Implementing Functions

Write the function that will do this:



Compute the volume of a cube with a given side length

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Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

• Pick a good, descriptive name for the function

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Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

• Pick a good, descriptive name for the function

(What else would a function named cube_volume do?)

cube_volume

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Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

- Pick a good, descriptive name for the function
- Give a type and a name for each parameter.

cube_volume

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Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

- Pick a good, descriptive name for the function
- Give a type and a name for each parameter.
 There will be one parameter for each piece of information the function needs to do its job.

(And don't forget the parentheses)

cube_volume(double side_length)

Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

- · Pick a good, descriptive name for the function
- Give a type and a name for each parameter.
 There will be one parameter for each piece of information the function needs to do its job.
- Specify the type of the return type

cube_volume(double side_length)

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Implementing Functions

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double cube_volume(double side_length)

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Implementing Functions

When writing this function, you need to:

- · Pick a good, descriptive name for the function
- Give a type and a name for each parameter.
 There will be one parameter for each piece of information the function needs to do its job.
- · Specify the type of the return type

Now write the body of the function:

the code to do the cubing

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Implementing Functions

The code the function names must be in a block:

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   double volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
   return volume;
```

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Implementing Functions

The parameter allows the caller to give the function information it needs to do it's calculating.

```
double cube_volume(double side_length
{
   double volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
   return volume;
}
```

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Implementing Functions

The return statement gives the function's result to the caller.

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
```

```
double volume | side_length * side_length * side_length;
return volume;
```

Test Your Function

You should always test the function.

You'll write a main function to do this.

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#include <iostream> using namespace std; /** Computes the volume of a cube. @param side_length the side length of the cube @return the volume */ double cube_volume(double side_length) { double volume = side_length * side_length; return volume; }

A Complete Testing Program

ch05/cube.cpp

Implementing Functions

Syntax 5.1 Function Definition Type of return value Name of function Name of parameter variable Name of parameter variable double cube_volume(double side_length) { double volume = side_length * side_length * side_length; return volume; } return statement exits function and returns result.

Commenting Functions

- Whenever you write a function, you should comment its behavior.
- Comments are for human readers, not compilers
- There is no universal standard for the layout of a function comment.
 - The layout used in the previous program is borrowed from the Java programming language and is used in some C++ tools to produce documentation from comments.

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Commenting Functions

Function comments do the following:

- explain the purpose of the function
- explain the meaning of the parameters
- state what value is returned
- state any special requirements

Comments state the things a programmer who wants to use your function needs to know.

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Calling Functions

Consider the order of activities when a function is called.

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Parameter Passing

```
In the function call,
    a value is supplied for each parameter,
    called the parameter value.
    (Other commonly used terms for this value
    are: actual parameter and argument.)

int hours = read_value_between(1, 12);
. . .
```

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Parameter Passing

When a function is called,

a parameter variable is created for each value passed in

(Another commonly used term is formal parameter.)
(Parameters that take values are also known as value parameters.)

```
int hours = read_value_between(1, 12);
. . .
```

int read_value_between(int_low_int_high)

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Parameter Passing

Each parameter variable is initialized with the corresponding parameter value from the call.

```
int hours = read_value_between(1, 12);
...
int read_value_between(int low, int high)
1
```

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Parameter Passing

```
Parameter Passing

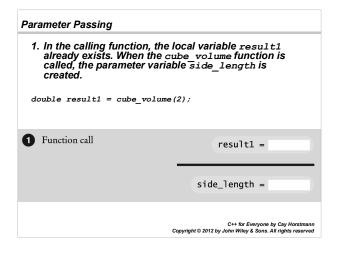
Here is a call to the cube_volume function:

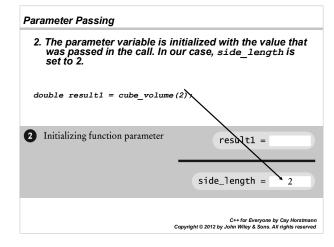
double result1 = cube_volume(2);

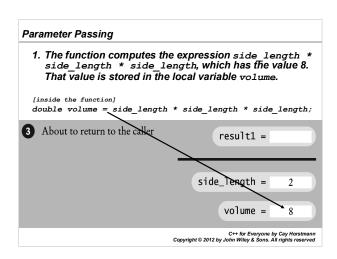
Here is the function definition:

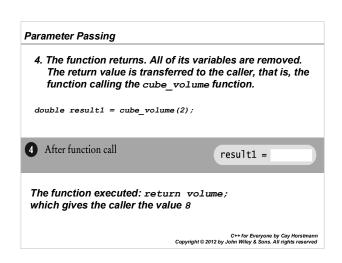
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   double volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
   return volume;
}

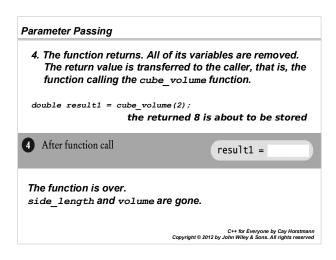
We'll keep up with their variables and parameters:
   result1
   side_length
   volume
```

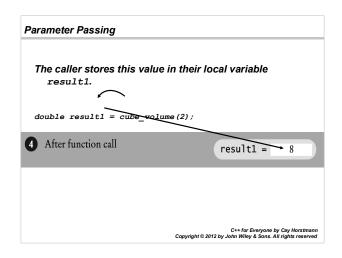












Return Values

The return statement yields the function result.

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Return Values

Also,

The return statement

- terminates a function call
- immediately

// you are here



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Return Values

Also,

The return statement

- terminates a function call
- immediately

// you are here

return // now you are here



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Return Values

This behavior can be used to handle unusual cases.

What should we do if the side length is negative? We choose to return a zero and not do any calculation:

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   if (side_length < 0) return 0;
   double volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
   return volume;
}</pre>
```

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Return Values

The return statement can return the value of any expression.

Instead of saving the return value in a variable and returning the variable, it is often possible to eliminate the variable and return a more complex expression:

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
    return side_length * side_length * side_length;
}
```

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Common Error - Missing Return Value

Your function always needs to return something.

Consider putting in a guard against negatives and also trying to eliminate the local variable:

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   if (side_length >= 0)
   {
      return side_length * side_length *
      side_length; }
```

Common Error - Missing Return Value

Consider what is returned if the caller does pass in a negative value!

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   if (side_length >= 0)
   {
      return side_length * side_length *
   side_length; }
```

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Common Error - Missing Return Value

Every possible execution path should return a meaningful value:

```
double cube_volume(double side_length)
{
   if (side_length >= 0)
   {
      return side_length * side_length * side_length;
   }
}
```

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Common Error - Missing Return Value

Depending on circumstances, the compiler might flag this as an error, or the function might return a random value.

This is always bad news, and you must protect against this problem by returning some safe value.

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Functions Without Return Values

Consider the task of writing a string with the following format around it.

Any string could be used.

For example, the string "Hello" would produce:

!Hello!

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

A function for this task can be defined as follows:

void box_string(string str)

Notice the return type of this functionoid

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

This kind of function is called a void function.

void box_string(string str)

Use a return type of void to indicate that a function does not return a value.

void functions are used to simply do a sequence of instructions – They do not return a value to the caller.

Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

void functions are used only to do a sequence of instructions.

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

!Hello!



- Print a line that contains the '-' character n + 2 times, where n is the length of the string.
- Print a line containing the string, surrounded with a! to the left and right.
- Print another line containing the character n + 2

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

```
void box_string(string str)
{
   int n = str.length();
   for (int i = 0; i < n + 2; i++) { cout << "-"; }
   cout << endl;
   cout << "!" << str << "!" << endl;
   for (int i = 0; i < n + 2; i++) { cout << "-"; }
   cout << endl;
}</pre>
```

Note that this function doesn't compute any value.

It performs some actions and then returns to the caller

without returning a value.
 (The return occurs at the end of the block.)

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

Because there is no return value, you cannot use box_string in an expression.

You can make this call kind of call:

```
box_string("Hello");
but not this kind:

result = box_string("Hello");
    // Error: box_string doesn't
    // return a result.
```

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Functions Without Return Values - The void Type

If you want to return from a void function before reaching the end, you use a return statement without a value. For example:

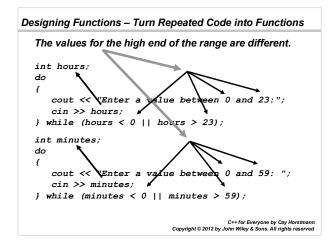
```
void box_string(string str)
{
  int n = str.length();
  int n = str.length();
  if (n == 0)
  {
    return; // Return immediately
  }
    . . . // None of these statements
    // will be executed
```

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Designing Functions - Turn Repeated Code into Functions

When you write nearly identical code multiple times, you should probably introduce a function.

Designing Functions — Turn Repeated Code into Functions Consider how similar the following statements are: int hours; do { cout << "Enter a value between 0 and 23:"; cin >> hours; } while (hours < 0 || hours > 23); int minutes; do { cout << Enter a value between 0 and 59: "; cin >> minutes; } while (minutes < 0 || minutes > 59); C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons AH rights reserved



```
Designing Functions — Turn Repeated Code into Functions

The names of the variables are different.

int hours;

do
{
    cout << Enter a value between 0 and 23:";
    cin >> hours;
} while (hours < 0 || hours > 23);

int minutes;

do
{
    cout << Enter a value between 0 and 59: ";
    cin >> minutes;
} while (minutes < 0 || minutes > 59);

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```

```
Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

Here we read one value, making sure it's within the range.

int read_int_up_to(int high)
{
    int input:

    do {
        cout << 'Enter a value between "
        << "0 and " << high << ": ";
        cin >> input;
    } while (input < 0 || input > high);

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```

Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

Then we can use this function as many times as we need:

```
int hours = read_int_up_to(23);
int minutes = read_int_up_to(59);
```

Note how the code has become much easier to understand.

And we are not rewriting code

- code reuse!

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Designing Functions - Turn Repeated Code into Functions

Perhaps we can make this function even better:

```
int months = read_int_up_to(12);
```

Can we use this function to get a valid month? Months are numbered starting at 1, not 0.

We can modify the code to take two parameters: the end points of the valid range.

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Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

Again, consider how similar the following statements are:

```
int month;
do
{
   cout << 'Enter a value between 1 and 12:";
   cin >> month;
} while (month < 1 || month > 12);
int minutes;
do
{
   cout << 'Enter a value between 0 and 59: ";
   cin >> minutes;
} while (minutes < 0 || minutes > 59);
```

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Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

As before, the values for the range are different.

```
int month;
do
{
   cout << 'Enter a value between 1 and 12:";
   cin >> month;
} while (month < 1 || month > 12);
int minutes;
do
{
   cout << 'Enter a value between 0 and 59: ";
   cin >> minutes;
} while (minutes < 0 || minutes > 59);
```

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Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

But the names of the variables are different.

```
int month;
do
{
   cout << Enter a value between 1 and 12:";
   cin >> month;
} while (month < 1 || month > 12);
int minute;;
do
{
   cout << Enter a value between 0 and 59: ";
   cin >> minutes;
} while (minutes < 0 || minutes > 59);
```

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Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

Notice the common behavior?

```
int month;
do
{
    cout << "Enter a value between _ and _:";
    cin >> month;
} while (month < || month > ):
int minutes:
do
{
    cout << "Enter a value between _ and _: ";
    cin >> minutes;
} while (minutes < || minutes > ):
```


Designing Functions – Turn Repeated Code into Functions

We can use this function as many times as we need, passing in the end points of the valid range:

```
int hours = read_value_between(1, 12);
int minutes = read_value_between(0, 59);
```

Note how the code has become even better.

And we are still not rewriting code

- code reuse!

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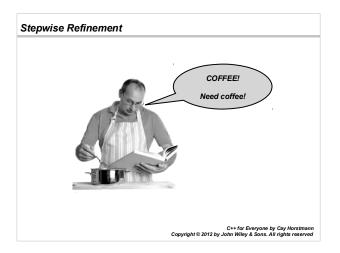
Stepwise Refinement

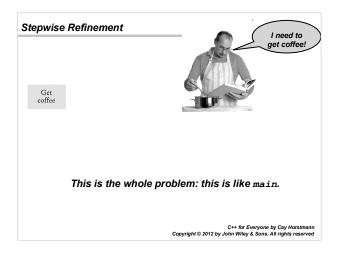
- One of the most powerful strategies for problem solving is the process of stepwise refinement.
- To solve a difficult task, break it down into simpler tasks.
- Then keep breaking down the simpler tasks into even simpler ones, until you are left with tasks that you know how to solve.

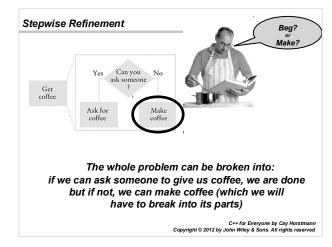
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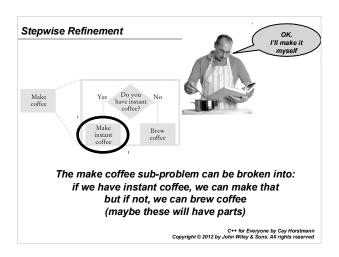
Stepwise Refinement

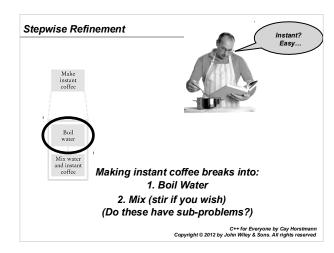
Use the process of stepwise refinement to decompose complex tasks into simpler ones.

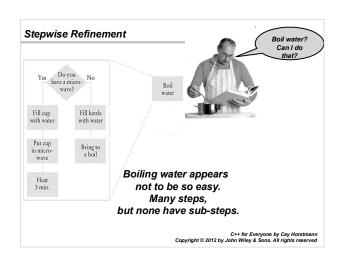


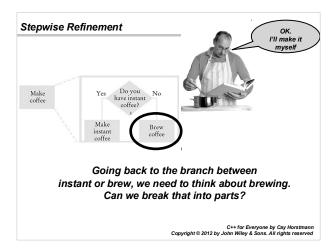


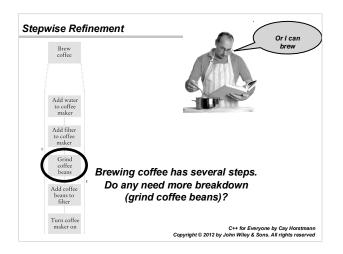


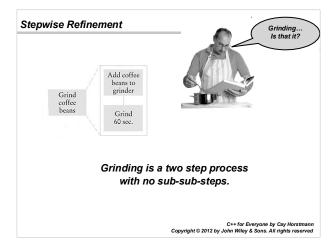


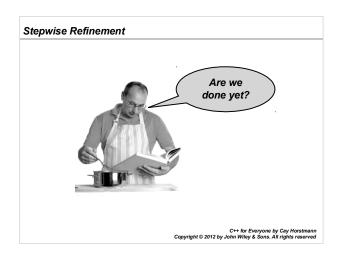


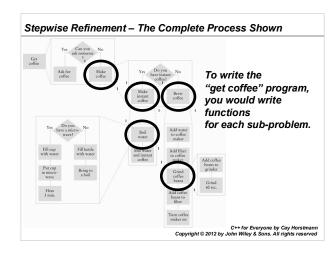


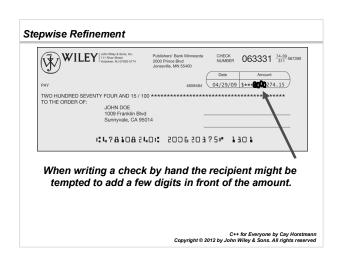


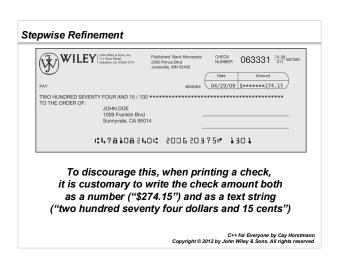












Stepwise Refinement



We will a program to take an amount and produce the text.

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Stepwise Refinement

Sometimes we reduce the problem a bit when we start:
we will only deal with amounts less than \$1,000.

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Stepwise Refinement

Of course we will write a function to solve this subproblem.

```
Turns a number into its English name.

@param number a positive integer < 1,000

@return the name of number (e.g., "two hundred seventy four")

*/

string int_name(int number)
```

Notice that we started by writing only the comment and the first line of the function.

Also notice that the constraint of < \$1,000 is announced in the comment.

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Stepwise Refinement

Before starting to write this function, we need to have a plan.

Are there special considerations?

Are there subparts?

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Stepwise Refinement

If the number is between 1 and 9, we need to compute "one" ... "nine".

In fact, we need the same computation again for the hundreds ("two" hundred).

Any time you need to do something more than once, it is a good idea to turn that into a function:

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Stepwise Refinement

```
/**
Turns a digit into its English name.
@param digit an integer between 1 and 9
@return the name of digit ("one" ... "nine")
*/
string digit_name(int digit)
```

Stepwise Refinement

Numbers between 10 and 19 are special cases.

Let's have a separate function teen name that converts them into strings "eleven", "twelve", "thirteen", and so on:

```
/**
Turns a number between 10 and 19 into its English
    name.
@param number an integer between 10 and 19
@return the name of the number ("ten" ...
    "nineteen")
    */
string teen_name(int number)
```

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Stepwise Refinement

Next, suppose that the number is between 20 and 99. Then we show the tens as "twenty", "thirty", ..., "ninety". For simplicity and consistency, put that computation into a separate function:

```
/**
Gives the name of the tens part of a number between 20 and 99.
@param number an integer between 20 and 99
@return the name of the tens part of the number ("twenty"..."ninety")
*/
string tens_name(int number))
```

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Stepwise Refinement

- Now suppose the number is at least 20 and at most 99.
 - If the number is evenly divisible by 10, we use tens name, and we are done.
 - Otherwise, we print the tens with tens_name and the ones with digit_name.
- · If the number is between 100 and 999,
 - then we show a digit, the word "hundred", and the remainder as described previously.

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Stepwise Refinement - The Pseudocode

part = number (The part that still needs to be converted)

name = "" (The name of the number starts as the empty string)

If part >= 100

name = name of hundreds in part + " hundred"

Remove hundreds from part

If part >= 20

Append tens_name(part) to name

Remove tens from part.

Else if part >= 10

Append teen_name(part) to name

part = 0

If (part > 0)

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Stepwise Refinement - The Pseudocode

- This pseudocode has a number of important improvements over the descriptions and comments.
 - It shows how to arrange the order of the tests, starting with the comparisons against the larger numbers
 - It shows how the smaller number is subsequently processed in further if statements.

Stepwise Refinement - The Pseudocode

- On the other hand, this pseudocode is vague about:
 - The actual conversion of the pieces, just referring to "name of hundreds" and the like.
 - Spaces—it would produce strings with no spaces:

"twohundredseventyfour"

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Stepwise Refinement - The Pseudocode

Compared to the complexity of the main problem, one would hope that spaces are a minor issue.

It is best not to muddy the pseudocode with minor details.

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Stepwise Refinement - Pseudocode to C++

Now for the real code. The last three cases are easy so let's start with them:

```
if (part >= 20)
{
    name = name + " " + tens_name(part);
    part = part % 10;
}
else if (part >= 10)
{
    name = name + " " + teen_name(part);
    part = 0;
}
if (part > 0)
{
    name = name + " " + digit_name(part);
}

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```

Stepwise Refinement - Pseudocode to C++

Finally, the case of numbers between 100 and 999.

Because part < 1000, part / 100 is a single digit, and we obtain its name by calling digit_name.

Then we add the "hundred" suffix:

```
if (part >= 100)
{
    name = digit_name(part / 100) + " hundred";
    part = part % 100;
}
```

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Stepwise Refinement - Pseudocode to C++

Now for the complete program.

#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;

ch05/intname.cpp

```
The Complete Program

ch05/intname.cpp
```

```
Turns a digit into its English name.

*** **param digit an integer between 1 and 9

**Freturn the name of digit ("one" ... "nine")

**/

**string digit_name(int digit)

{

if (digit == 1) return "one";

if (digit == 2) return "two";

if (digit == 3) return "three";

if (digit == 4) return "four";

if (digit == 5) return "five";

if (digit == 6) return "seven";

if (digit == 7) return "seven";

if (digit == 8) return "nine";

return "";

}

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```

```
The Complete Program

/**

Turns a number between 10 and 19 into its English name.

@param number an integer between 10 and 19

@return the name of the given number ("ten" ... "nineteen")

*/

string teens_name(int number)

{
    if (number = 10) return "ten";
    if (number = 11) return "eleven";
    if (number = 12) return "twelve";
    if (number = 13) return "thirteen";
    if (number = 14) return "fourteen";
    if (number = 15) return "fifteen";
    if (number = 16) return "sixteen";
    if (number = 17) return "seventeen";
    if (number = 19) return "eighteen";
    if (number = 19) return "nineteen";
    return "";
}

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```

```
The Complete Program

/**

Gives the name of the tens part of a number between 20 and 99.

&param number an integer between 20 and 99

&return the name of the tens part of the number ("twenty" ...

"ninety")

*/

string tens_name(int number)

{

if (number >= 90) return "ninety";

if (number >= 80) return "sieventy";

if (number >= 60) return "sieventy";

if (number >= 50) return "fifty";

if (number >= 30) return "forty";

if (number >= 30) return "forty";

if (number >= 30) return "twenty";

return "";

}

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```

```
The Complete Program

/**

Turns a number into its English name.

@param number a positive integer < 1,000

@return the name of the number (e.g. "two hundred seventy four")

*/

string int_name(int number)

{
   int part = number; // The part that still needs to be converted string name; // The return value

if (part >= 100)
   {
      name = digit_name(part / 100) + " hundred";
      part = part % 100;
   }

if (part >= 20)
   {
      name = name + " " + tens_name(part);
      part = part % 10;
   }

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```

The Complete Program else if (part >= 10) { name = name + " " + teens_name(part); part = 0; } if (part > 0) { name = name + " " + digit_name(part); } return name; } int main() { cout < "Please enter a positive integer: "; int input; cin >> input; cout << int_name(input) << endl; return 0; Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved</pre>

Good Design - Keep Functions Short

- There is a certain cost for writing a function:
 - You need to design, code, and test the function.
 - The function needs to be documented.
 - You need to spend some effort to make the function reusable rather than tied to a specific context.

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Good Design - Keep Functions Short

- · And you should keep your functions short.
- As a rule of thumb, a function that is so long that its will not fit on a single screen in your development environment should probably be broken up.
- · Break the code into other functions



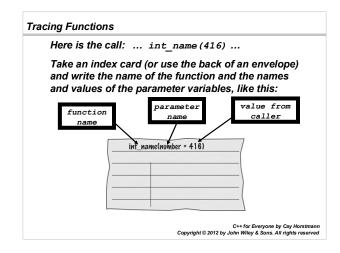
Tracing Functions

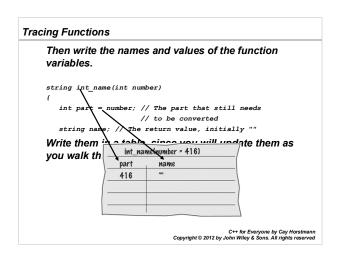
When you design a complex set of functions, it is a good idea to carry out a manual walkthrough before entrusting your program to the computer.

This process is called tracing your code.

You should trace each of your functions separately.

Tracing Functions To demonstrate, we will trace the int_name function when 416 is passed in. C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley 4 Sons. All rights reserved





```
Tracing Functions

The test (part >= 100) is true so the code is executed.

if (part >= 100)
{
    name = digit_name(part / 100) + " hundred";
    part = part % 100;
}

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```

```
Tracing Functions

part / 100 is 4

if (part >= 100)
{
    name = digit_name(part / 100) + " hundred";
    part = part % 100;
}

so digit_name(4) is easily seen to be "four".

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```

```
if (part >= 100)
{
    name = digit_name(part / 100) + " hundred";
    part = part % 100;
}

part % 100 is 16.

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```

Tracing Functions

name has changed to

name + " " + digit name(part / 100) + "hundred" which is the string "four hundred",

part has changed to part \$ 100, or 16.

part	name	
416	111	

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Tracing Functions

name has changed to

name + " " + digit name(part / 100) + "hundred" which is the string "four hundred",

part has changed to part % 100, or 16.

Cross out the old values and write the new ones.

part name	
410_ ···	
410	
16 "four hundred"	
16 "four hundred"	

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Tracing Functions

If digit_name's parameter had been complicated, you would have started another sheet of paper to trace that function call.

Your work table will probably be covered with sheets of paper (or envelopes) by the time you are done tracing!

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Tracing Functions

Let's continue...

Here is the status of the parameters and variables now:

part	name
416	
16	"four hundred"

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Tracing Functions

The test (part >= 20) is false but the test (part >= 10) is true so that code is executed.

```
if (part >= 20)...
else if (part >= 10) {
   name = name + " " + teens_name(part);
    part = 0;
```

teens name (1 ci is "sixtoon" ----t is set to 0 so do this:

int_name(number = 416)		
part	name	
416	_m_	
-16-	"four hundred"	
0	"four hundred sixteen"	

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Tracing Functions

Why is part set to 0?

```
if (part >= 20)...
else if (part >= 10) {
   name = name + " " + teens_name(part);
    part = 0;
if (part > 0)
    name = name + " " + digit_name(part);
```

After the if-else statement ends, name is complete.

The test in the following if statement needs to be "fixed" so that part of the code will not be executed

- nothing should be added to name.

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Stubs

- · When writing a larger program, it is not always feasible to implement and test all functions at once.
- You often need to test a function that calls another, but the other function hasn't yet been implemented.

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Stubs

- · You can temporarily replace the body of function yet to be implemented with a stub.
- · A stub is a function that returns a simple value that is sufficient for testing another function.
- It might also have something written on the screen to help you see the order of execution.
- · Or, do both of these things.

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Stubs

Here are examples of stub functions.

```
Turns a digit into its English name
    @param digit an integer between 1 and 9
    Greturn the name of digit ("one" ... "nine")
string digit name(int digit)
   return "mumble";
Gives the name of the tens part of a number between 20 and 99.

@param number an integer between 20 and 99
Freturn the tens name of the number ("twenty" ... "ninety") \star/
string tens_name(int number)
   return "mumblety";
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```

Stubs

If you combine these stubs with the completely written int_name function and run the program testing with the value 274, this will the result:

Please enter a positive integer: 274 mumble hundred mumblety mumble

which eveyone knows indicates that the basic logic of the int_name function is working correctly.

(OK, only you know, but that is the important thing with stubs)

Now that you have tested <code>int_name</code>, you would "unstubify" another stub function, then another...

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Variable Scope







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Variable Scope



Which main





Variable Scope

You can only have one main function but you can have as many variables and parameters spread amongst as many functions as you need.

Can you have the same name in different functions?

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Variable Scope



The railway_avenue and main_street variables in the oklahoma_city function





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Variable Scope

A variable or parameter that is defined within a function is visible from the point at which it is defined until the end of the block named by the function.

This area is called the scope of the variable.

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Variable Scope

The scope of a variable is the part of the program in which it is visible.

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Variable Scope

The scope of a variable is the part of the program in which it is visible.

Because scopes do not overlap, a name in one scope cannot conflict with any name in another scope.

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Variable Scope

The scope of a variable is the part of the program in which it is visible.

Because scopes do not overlap, a name in one scope cannot conflict with any name in another scope.

A name in one scope is "invisible" in another scope

Variable Scope

```
double cube_volume(double side_len)
{
  double volume = side_len * side_len * side_len;
  return volume;
}
int main()
{
  double volume = cube_volume(2);
  cout << volume << end1;
  return 0;
}</pre>
```

Each volume variable is defined in a separate function, so there is not a problem with this code.

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Variable Scope

Because of scope, when you are writing a function you can focus on choosing variable and parameter names that make sense for your function.

You do not have to worry that your names will be used elsewhere.

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Variable Scope

Names inside a block are called local to that block.

A function names a block.

Recall that variables and parameters do not exist after the function is over—because they are local to that block.

But there are other blocks.

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Variable Scope

It is <u>not legal</u> to define two variables or parameters with the same name in the same scope.

For example, the following is not legal:

```
int test(double volume)

{
    double volume = cube_volume(2);
    double volume = cube_volume(10);

// ERROR: cannot refine another volume variable

// ERROR: or parameter in the same scope
...
}
```

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Variable Scope - Nested Blocks

However, you can define another variable with the same name in a nested block.

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Variable Scope - Nested Blocks

The scope of the parameter variable amount is the entire function, except the nested block.

Inside the nested block, amount refers to the local variable that was defined in that block.

You should avoid this potentially confusing situation in the functions that you write, simply by renaming one of the variables.

Why should there be a variable with the same name in the same function?

Global Variables

· Generally, global variables are not a good idea.

But ...

here's what they are and how to use them

(if you must).

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Global Variables

Global variables are defined outside any block.

They are visible to every function defined after them.

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Global Variables

In some cases, this is a good thing:

The <iostream> header defines these global variables:

cin cout

This is good because there should only be one of each of these and every function who needs them should have direct access to them.

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Global Variables

But in a banking program, how many functions should have direct access to a balance variable?

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Global Variables

```
int balance = 10000; // A global variable

void withdraw(double amount)
{
   if (balance >= amount)
   {
      balance = balance - amount;
   }
}
int main()
{
   withdraw(1000);
   cout << balance << endl;
   return 0;
}

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```

Global Variables

In the previous program there is only one function that updates the balance variable.

But there could be many, many, many functions that might need to update balance each written by any one of a huge number of programmers in a large company.

Then we would have a problem.

Global Variables

When multiple functions update global variables, the result can be difficult to predict.

Particularly in larger programs that are developed by multiple programmers, it is very important that the effect of each function be clear and easy to understand.

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Global Variables - Breaking Open the Black Box

When functions modify global variables, it becomes more difficult to understand the effect of function calls.

Programs with global variables are difficult to maintain and extend because you can no longer view each function as a "black box" that simply receives parameter values and returns a result something.

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Global Variables - Breaking Open the Black Box

When functions modify global variables, it becomes more difficult to understand the effect of function calls.

Programs with global variables are difficult to maintain and extend because you can no longer view each function as a "black box" that simply parameter values and returns a result something.

And what good is a broken black box?

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Global Variables - Just Say "No"

You should **aVOid** global variables in your programs!

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Reference Parameters

- Suppose you would like a function to get the user's last name and ID number.
- · The variables for this data are in your scope.
- · But you want the function to change them for you.
- If you want to write a function that changes the value of a parameter, you must use a reference parameter.

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Reference Parameters

To understand the need for a different kind of parameter, you must first understand why the parameters you now know do not work.

Reference Parameters

Consider a function that simulates withdrawing a given amount of money from a bank account, provided that sufficient funds are available.

If the amount of money is insufficient, a \$10 penalty is deducted instead.

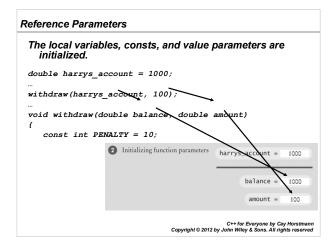
The function would be used as follows:

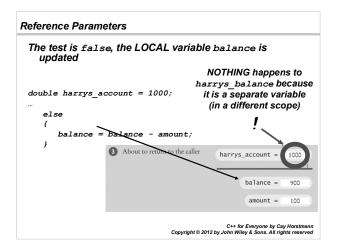
```
double harrys_account = 1000;
withdraw(harrys_account, 100);
    // Now harrys_account is 900
withdraw(harrys_account, 1000);
    // Insufficient funds.
    // Now harrys account is 890
```

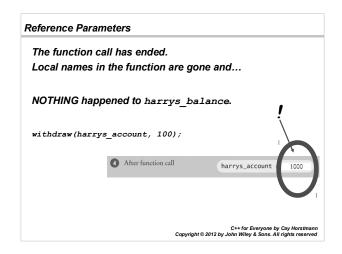
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Reference Parameters Here is a first attempt: void withdraw(double balance, double amount) { const double PENALTY = 10; if (balance >= amount) { balance = balance - amount; } else { balance = balance - PENALTY; } But this doesn't work. C++for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

Reference Parameters What is actually happening? Let's call the function passing in 100 to be taken from harrys_account. double harrys_account = 1000; withdraw(harrys_account, 100); 1 Function call harrys_account = 1000 balance = amount = 1000 C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved







Reference Parameters

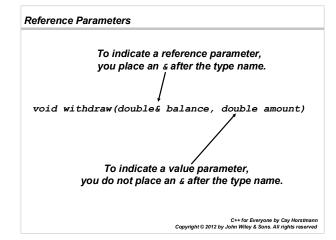
A reference parameter refers to a variable that is supplied in a function call.

"refers" means that during the execution of the function, the reference parameter name is another name for the caller's variable.

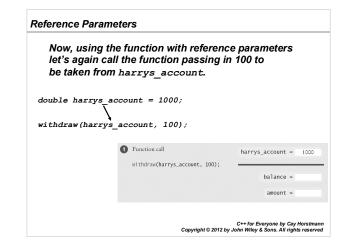
This "referring" is how a function can change non-local variables:

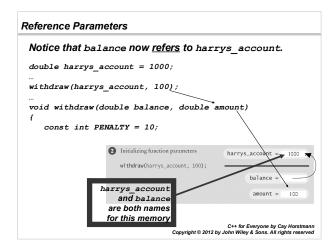
changes to its local parameters' names cause changes to the callers variables they "refer" to.

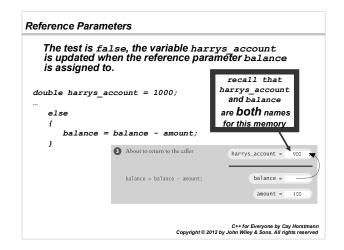
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Reference Parameters Here is correct code, using reference parameters: void withdraw(double balance, double amount) { const int PENALTY = 10; if (balance >= amount) { balance = balance - amount; } else { balance = balance - PENALTY; } } Let's see this in action. C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved







Reference Parameters The function call has ended. Local names in the function are gone and... harrys_balance was correctly changed! withdraw(harrys_account, 100); ② After function call harrys_account = 900 C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

```
### Reference Parameters

/**

Withdraws the amount from the given balance, or withdraws a penalty if the balance is insufficient.

@param balance the balance from which to make the withdrawal

@param amount the amount to withdraw

*/

void withdraw(double& balance, double amount)

{
    const double PENALTY = 10;
    if (balance >= amount)
    {
        balance = balance - amount;
    }
    else
    {
        balance = balance - PENALTY;
    }
}

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```

Int main() { double harrys_account = 1000; double sallys_account = 500; withdraw(harrys_account, 100); // Now harrys_account is 900 withdraw(harrys_account, 1000); // Insufficient funds // Now harrys_account is 890 withdraw(sallys_account, 150); cout << "Harry's account: " << harrys_account << endl; cout << "Sally's account: " << sallys_account << endl; return 0; } C++ for Everyone by Cay Horstmann Copyright © 2012 by John Wiley & Sons. All rights reserved

Reference Parameters The type double& is pronounced: reference to double or double ref

(The type double is, of course, pronounced: double)

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Reference Parameters

A reference parameter must always be called with a

It would be an error to supply a number:

The reason is clear—the function modifies the reference parameter, but it is impossible to change the value of a number.

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Reference Parameters

For the same reason, you cannot supply an expression:

```
withdraw(harrys_account + 150, 500);
// Error: reference parameter must be a variable
```

Prefer Return Values to Reference Parameters

Some programmers use reference parameters as a mechanism for setting the result of a function.

For example:

```
void cube_volume(double side_length, double& volume)
   volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
```

However, this function is less convenient than our previous cube_volume function.

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Prefer Return Values to Reference Parameters

```
void cube volume (double side length, double& volume)
  volume = side_length * side_length * side_length;
```

This function cannot be used in expressions such as:

```
cout << cube volume(2)</pre>
```

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Prefer Return Values to Reference Parameters

Another consideration is that the return statement can return only one value.

If caller wants more than two values, then the only way to do this is with reference parameters (one for each wanted value).

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Constant References

It is not very efficient to have a value parameter that is a large object (such as a string value).

Copying the object into a parameter variable is less efficient than using a reference parameter.

With a reference parameter, only the location of the variable, not its value, needs to be transmitted to the function.

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Constant References

You can instruct the compiler to give you the efficiency of a reference parameter and the meaning of a value parameter, by using a constant reference:

```
void shout const string& str)
   cout << str << "!!!" << endl;
```

This is a bit more efficient than having str be a value parameter.

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CHAPTER SUMMARY

Understand the concepts of functions, arguments, and return values.



- · A function is a named sequence of instructions
- Arguments are supplied when a function is called. The return value is the result that the function computes.

Be able to implement functions.



- When defining a function, you provide a name for the function, a variable for each argument, and a type for the result.
- Function comments explain the purpose of the function, the meaning of the parameter variables and return value, as well as any special requirements.

Describe the process of parameter passing.

Parameter variables hold the argument values supplied in the function call.



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CHAPTER SUMMARY

Describe the process of returning a value from a function.

The return statement terminates a function call and yields the function result.



Design and implement functions without return values.



• Use a return type of void to indicate that a function does not return a value.

Develop functions that can be reused for multiple problems.

- Eliminate replicated code or pseudocode by defining a function.
- Design your functions to be reusable. Supply parameter variables for the values that can vary when the function is reused.

Apply the design principle of stepwise refinement.



- Use the process of stepwise refinement to decompose complex tasks into
- When you discover that you need a function, write a description of the parameter variables and return values.
- A function may require simpler functions to carry out its work.

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Slides by Evan Gallagher

End Chapter Five

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CHAPTER SUMMARY

Determine the scope of variables in a program.

- The scope of a variable is the part of the program in which it is visible.
- A variable in a nested block shadows a variable with the same name in an outer block.
- A local variable is defined inside a function.
 A global variable is defined outside a function.
- Avoid global variables in your programs.

Describe how reference parameters work.

- Modifying a value parameter has no effect on the caller.
- A reference parameter refers to a variable that is supplied in a function call.
 Modifying a reference parameter updates the variable that was supplied in the call.