

# Module 1: Functions and Organization

## Topic 1.3: Call by Value, Reference

# Call by Value

- Passed arguments are copied to parameters
- Modifying parameters has no effect outside the function

```
func foo(y int) {  
    y = y + 1  
}  
func main() {  
    x := 2  
    foo(x)  
    fmt.Print(x)  
}
```

# Tradeoffs of Call by Value

- **Advantage: Data Encapsulation**
- Function variables only changed inside the function
- **Disadvantage: Copying Time**
- Large objects may take a long time to copy

# Call by Reference

- Programmer can **pass a pointer** as an argument
- Called function has direct access to caller variable in memory

```
func foo(y *int) {  
    *y = *y + 1  
}  
func main() {  
    x := 2  
    foo(&x)  
    fmt.Print(x)  
}
```

# Tradeoffs of Call by Reference

- **Advantage: Copying Time**
- Don't need to copy arguments
- **Disadvantage: Data Encapsulation**
- Function variables may be changed in called functions
- May be what you want
  - Sort an array