Lecture 6: Functions and Recursion – Part I

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Learning Objective

- To construct programs modularly from functions.
- To use common math library functions.
- The mechanisms for passing data to functions and returning results.
- The function call mechanism and activation records.
- To use random number generation to implement game-playing applications.
- How the visibility of identifiers is limited to specific regions of programs.
- To write recursive functions.

Introduction

- **Construct programs from small, simple pieces, or components.**
  - divide and conquer
- **We emphasize how to declare and use functions to facilitate the design, implementation, operation and maintenance of large programs.**
  - You'll learn how to declare your own functions.
- **We'll discuss function prototypes and how the compiler uses them to ensure that functions are called properly.**
- **We'll take a brief diversion into simulation techniques with random number generation**

Introduction

- **The C++ Standard Library provides a rich collection of functions for**
  - common mathematical calculations,
  - string manipulations,
  - character manipulations,
  - input/output,
  - error checking and
  - many other useful operations.

Math Functions in <cmath>

Function	Description	Example
`ceil( x )`	rounds *x* to the smallest integer not less than *x*	`ceil( 9.2 )` is 10.0 `ceil( -9.8 )` is -9.0
`cos( x )`	trigonometric cosine of *x* (*x* in radians)	`cos( 0.0 )` is 1.0
`exp( x )`	exponential function e^x	`exp( 1.0 )` is 2.718282 `exp( 2.0 )` is 7.389056
`fabs( x )`	absolute value of *x*	`fabs( 5.1 )` is 5.1 `fabs( 0.0 )` is 0.0 `fabs( -8.76 )` is 8.76
`floor( x )`	rounds *x* to the largest integer not greater than *x*	`floor( 9.2 )` is 9.0 `floor( -9.8 )` is -10.0
`fmod( x, y )`	remainder of *x*/*y* as a floating-point number	`fmod( 2.6, 1.2 )` is 0.2
`log( x )`	natural logarithm of *x* (base *e*)	`log( 2.718282 )` is 1.0 `log( 7.389056 )` is 2.0
`log10( x )`	logarithm of *x* (base 10)	`log10( 10.0 )` is 1.0 `log10( 100.0 )` is 2.0

Math Functions in <cmath>

Function	Description	Example
`pow( x, y )`	x raised to power y (x^y)	`pow( 2, 7 )` is 128 `pow( 9, .5 )` is 3
`sin( x )`	trigonometric sine of x (x in radians)	`sin( 0.0 )` is 0
`sqrt( x )`	square root of x (where x is a nonnegative value)	`sqrt( 9.0 )` is 3.0
`tan( x )`	trigonometric tangent of x (x in radians)	`tan( 0.0 )` is 0

Introduction

- **Functions you write are referred to as user-defined functions or programmer-defined functions.**
- **Motivations for "functionalizing" a program.**
  - Divide-and-conquer makes program development more manageable.
  - Software reusability—using existing functions as building blocks to create new programs.
    - Programs can be created from standardized functions that accomplish specific tasks.
  - Avoid repeating code in a program.
    - Packaging code as a function allows the code to be executed from different locations in a program simply by calling the function.

Function Definition

- **The format of a function definition is as follows:**

```
return-value-type  function-name( parameter-list )
{
    declarations and statements
}
```

- **The *function-name* is any valid identifier.**
- **The *return-value-type* is the data type of the returned result to the caller.**
  - The type `void` indicates that a function does not return a value.
- **All variables defined in a function are local variables—they're known only in the function in which they're defined.**
- **Most functions have a list of parameters that provide the means for communicating information between functions.**
  - A function's parameters are also local variables of that function.

Example

```
1
2  // Creating and using a programmer-defined function.
3  #include <iostream>
4  using namespace std;
5
6  int square( int ); // function prototype
7
8  int main()
9  {
10    // loop 10 times and calculate and output the
11    // square of x each time
12    for ( int x = 1; x <= 10; x++ )
13       cout << square( x ) << "  ";  // function call
14
15    cout << endl;
16 } // end main
17
18 // square function definition returns square of an integer
19 int square( int y )  // y is a copy of argument to function
20 {
21    return y * y;     // returns square of y as an int
22 } // end function square
```

Debrief

- Function `square` is invoked or called in `main` with the expression `square( x )` in line 13.
- The parentheses `()` in the function call are an operator in C++ that causes the function to be called.
- Function `square` (lines 19–22) receives a copy of the value of argument `x` from line 13 and stores it in the parameter `y`.
- Then `square` calculates `y * y` (line 21) and passes the result back to the point in `main` where `square` was invoked (line 13).
- The result is displayed.
- The function call does not change the value of `x`.
- The `for` repetition structure repeats this process for each of the values 1 through 10.

```
 8  int main()
 9  {
10     // loop 10 times and calculate and output the
11     // square of x each time
12     for ( int x = 1; x <= 10; x++ )
13        cout << square( x ) << "  ";  // function call
14
15     cout << endl;
16  } // end main
17
18  // square function definition returns square of an integer
19  int square( int y )  // y is a copy of argument to function
20  {
21     return y * y;     // returns square of y as an int
22  } // end function square
```

Debrief

- The definition of `square` (lines 19–22) shows that it uses integer parameter `y`.
- Keyword `int` preceding the function name indicates that `square` returns an integer result.
- The `return` statement in `square` (line 21) passes the result of the calculation back to the calling function.

```
 8  int main()
 9  {
10     // loop 10 times and calculate and output the
11     // square of x each time
12     for ( int x = 1; x <= 10; x++ )
13        cout << square( x ) << "  ";  // function call
14
15     cout << endl;
16  } // end main
17
18  // square function definition returns square of an integer
19  int square( int y )  // y is a copy of argument to function
20  {
21     return y * y;     // returns square of y as an int
22  } // end function square
```

Function With Multiple Arguments

```
1
2  // Finding the maximum of three floating-point numbers.
3  #include <iostream>
4  using namespace std;
5
6  double maximum( double, double, double ); // function prototype
7
8  int main()
9  {
10    double number1;
11    double number2;
12    double number3;
13
14    cout << "Enter three floating-point numbers: ";
15    cin >> number1 >> number2 >> number3;
16
17    // number1, number2 and number3 are arguments to
18    // the maximum function call
19    cout << "Maximum is: "
20         << maximum( number1, number2, number3 ) << endl;
21 } // end main
22
```

Function with Multiple Arguments

```
23  // function maximum definition;
24  // x, y and z are parameters
25  double maximum( double x, double y, double z )
26  {
27     double max = x; // assume x is largest
28
29     if ( y > max ) // if y is larger,
30        max = y; // assign y to max
31
32     if ( z > max ) // if z is larger,
33        max = z; // assign z to max
34
35     return max; // max is largest value
36  } // end function maximum
```

Function with Multiple Arguments

```
Enter three floating-point numbers: 99.32 37.3 27.1928
Maximum is: 99.32
```

```
Enter three floating-point numbers: 1.1 3.333 2.22
Maximum is: 3.333
```

```
Enter three floating-point numbers: 27.9 14.31 88.99
Maximum is: 88.99
```

Case Study: Random Number Generator

- **The element of chance can be introduced into computer applications by using the C++ Standard Library function rand.**
  - The function prototype for the `rand` function is in `<cstdlib>`.
  - For example: `i = rand();`
- **Function `rand` generates an unsigned integer between 0 and RAND_MAX (a constant defined in the `<cstdlib>` header file).**
  - For GNU C++, the value of RAND_MAX is 2147483647; for Visual Studio, the value of RAND_MAX is 32767.
- **To produce integers in the range 0 to 5, we use the modulus operator (%) with `rand` as follows → `rand() % 6`**
  - The number 6 is called the scaling factor.
- **Shifting the range of numbers produces the integers from 1 to 6.**

```
1 + rand() % 6
```

Case Study: Random Number Generator

```
1
2   // Roll a six-sided die 6,000,000 times.
3   #include <iostream>
4   #include <iomanip>
5   #include <cstdlib> // contains function prototype for rand
6   using namespace std;
7
8   int main()
9   {
10     int frequency1 = 0; // count of 1s rolled
11     int frequency2 = 0; // count of 2s rolled
12     int frequency3 = 0; // count of 3s rolled
13     int frequency4 = 0; // count of 4s rolled
14     int frequency5 = 0; // count of 5s rolled
15     int frequency6 = 0; // count of 6s rolled
16
17     int face; // stores most recently rolled value
18
19     // summarize results of 6,000,000 rolls of a die
20     for ( int roll = 1; roll <= 6000000; roll++ )
21     {
22        face = 1 + rand() % 6; // random number from 1 to 6
23
```

Case Study: Random Number Generator

```
24          // determine roll value 1-6 and increment appropriate counter
25          switch ( face )
26          {
27             case 1:
28                ++frequency1; // increment the 1s counter
29                break;
30             case 2:
31                ++frequency2; // increment the 2s counter
32                break;
33             case 3:
34                ++frequency3; // increment the 3s counter
35                break;
36             case 4:
37                ++frequency4; // increment the 4s counter
38                break;
39             case 5:
40                ++frequency5; // increment the 5s counter
41                break;
42             case 6:
43                ++frequency6; // increment the 6s counter
44                break;
45             default: // invalid value
46                cout << "Program should never get here!";
47          } // end switch
48       } // end for
```

Case Study: Random Number Generator

```
49
50      cout << "Face" << setw( 13 ) << "Frequency" << endl; // output headers
51      cout << "   1" << setw( 13 ) << frequency1
52         << "\n   2" << setw( 13 ) << frequency2
53         << "\n   3" << setw( 13 ) << frequency3
54         << "\n   4" << setw( 13 ) << frequency4
55         << "\n   5" << setw( 13 ) << frequency5
56         << "\n   6" << setw( 13 ) << frequency6 << endl;
57   } // end main
```

```
Face      Frequency
   1         999702
   2        1000823
   3         999378
   4         998898
   5        1000777
   6        1000422
```

True Randomness …?

- Function `rand` actually generates pseudorandom numbers.
- The numbers in the sequence appear to be random, but the sequence repeats itself each time the program executes.
- It can be conditioned to produce a different sequence of random numbers for each execution.
- This is called randomizing and is accomplished with the C++ Standard Library function `srand`.
- Function `srand` takes an `unsigned` integer argument and seeds the `rand` function to produce a different sequence of random numbers for each execution.
  - The function prototype for `srand` is in header file `<cstdlib>`.

True Randomness …?

```
1
2  // Randomizing die-rolling program.
3  #include <iostream>
4  #include <iomanip>
5  #include <cstdlib> // contains prototypes for functions srand and rand
6  using namespace std;
7
8  int main()
9  {
10    unsigned seed; // stores the seed entered by the user
11
12    cout << "Enter seed: ";
13    cin >> seed;
14    srand( seed ); // seed random number generator
15
16    // loop 10 times
17    for ( int counter = 1; counter <= 10; counter++ )
18    {
19       // pick random number from 1 to 6 and output it
20       cout << setw( 10 ) << ( 1 + rand() % 6 );
21
```

True Randomness …?

```
22          // if counter is divisible by 5, start a new line of output
23          if ( counter % 5 == 0 )
24             cout << endl;
25       } // end for
26    } // end main
```

```
Enter seed: 67
          6          1          4          6          2
          1          6          1          6          4
```

```
Enter seed: 432
          4          6          3          1          6
          3          1          5          4          2
```

```
Enter seed: 67
          6          1          4          6          2
          1          6          1          6          4
```

Practical Use of Seed

- To randomize without having to enter a seed each time, we may use a statement like

```
srand( time( 0 ) );
```

- This causes the computer to read its clock to obtain the value for the seed.
- Function time (with the argument 0) typically returns the current time as the number of seconds since January 1, 1970, at midnight Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).
- This value is converted to an `unsigned` integer and used as the seed to the random number generator.
- The function prototype for `time` is in `<ctime>`.

Summary

- ❑ Function
- ❑ Function with Multiple Arguments
- ❑ Case Study: Random Number Generator

LAB

- **Write a function “is_prime” that**
  - Takes an positive integer N
  - Returns “true” if N is a prime or “false”
- **In the main function, write a for loop that**
  - Loops from 2 to 1000
  - Call the function “is_prime” at each iteration to check if the number is a prime
  - Prints all prime numbers in the range [2, 1000]