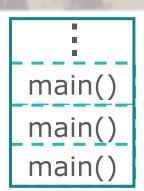


Lecture 6 - Function and Scope

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```
int main ()
{
  return main();
}
```





6.1 Defining and Calling Functions

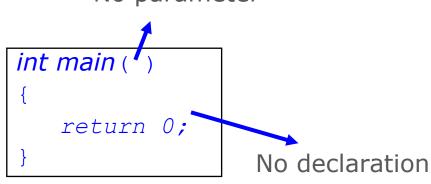
Function

- A function is a series of statements that have been grouped together and given a name.
- Each function is essentially a small program, with its own declarations and statements.
- Advantages of functions:
 - A program can be divided into small pieces that are easier to understand and modify.
 - We can avoid duplicating code that's used more than once.
 - A function that was originally part of one program can be reused in other programs.

Function Definitions

General form of a function definition:

```
return-type function-name ( parameters ) {
    declarations
    statements
}
```





- The return type of a function is the type of value that the function returns.
- Rules governing the return type:
 - Functions may not return arrays.
 - Specifying that the return type is void indicates that the function doesn't return a value.

```
void print_pun(void)
{
   printf("To C, or not to C: that is the question.\n");
}
```



- After the function name comes a list of parameters.
- Each parameter is preceded by a specification of its type; parameters are separated by commas.

```
double average(double a, double b, double c) { ... }
```

• If the function has no parameters, the word void should appear between the parentheses.

```
int main(void) { ... }
```

```
void print_pun(void)
{
   printf("To C, or not to C: that is the question.\n");
}
```

- The body of a function may include both declarations and statements.
- Variables declared in the body of a function can't be examined or modified by other functions.
- Variable declarations and statements can be mixed, as long as each variable is declared prior to the first statement that uses the variable.



• The body of a function whose return type is void (a "void function") can be empty:

```
void print_pun(void)
{
}
```

 Leaving the body empty may make sense as a temporary step during program development.



Function Calls

 A function call consists of a function name followed by a list of arguments, enclosed in parentheses:

```
average(x, y)
print_count(i)
print_pun()
```

 If the parentheses are missing, the function won't be called:

```
print pun; /*** WRONG ***/
```

This statement is legal but has no effect.



Function Calls (cont.)

 A call of a void function is always followed by a semicolon to turn it into a statement:

```
print_count(i);
print pun();
```

 A call of a non-void function produces a value that can be stored in a variable, tested, printed, or used in some other way:

```
avg = average(x, y);
if (average(x, y) > 0)
  printf("Average is positive\n");
printf("The average is %g\n", average(x, y));
```



Function Calls (cont.)

 The value returned by a non-void function can always be discarded if it's not needed:

```
average(x, y); /* discards return value */
```

- Ignoring the return value of average is an odd thing to do, but for some functions it makes sense.
- printf returns the number of characters that it prints.
- After the following call, num_chars will have the value 9:

```
num chars = printf("Hi, Mom!\n");
```

We normally discard printf's return value:

printf("Hi, Mom!\n"); /* discards return value */

Program #1: Computing Averages

 A function named average that computes the average of two double values:

```
double average(double a, double b)
{
  return (a + b) / 2;
}
```

- The word double at the beginning is the *return type* of average.
- The identifiers a and b (the function's *parameters*) represent the numbers that will be supplied when average is called.

- Every function has an executable part, called the body, which is enclosed in braces.
- The body of average consists of a single return statement.
- Executing this statement causes the function to "return" to the place from which it was called; the value of (a + b) / 2 will be the value returned by the function.



- A function call consists of a function name followed by a list of arguments.
 - average (x, y) is a call of the average function.
- Arguments are used to supply information to a function.
 - The call average (x, y) causes the values of x and y to be copied into the parameters a and b.
- An argument doesn't have to be a variable; any expression of a compatible type will do.
 - average (5.1, 8.9) and average (x/2, y/3) are legal.



- We'll put the call of average in the place where we need to use the return value.
- A statement that prints the average of x and y:

```
printf("Average: %g\n", average(x, y));
```

The return value of average isn't saved; the program prints it and then discards it.

 If we had needed the return value later in the program, we could have captured it in a variable:

```
avg = average(x, y);
```



• The average.c program reads three numbers and uses the average function to compute their averages, one pair at a time:

```
Enter three numbers: 3.5 9.6 10.2

Average of 3.5 and 9.6: 6.55

Average of 9.6 and 10.2: 9.9

Average of 3.5 and 10.2: 6.85
```



average.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
double average (double a, double b)
  return (a + b) / 2;
int main(void)
  double x, y, z;
  printf("Enter three numbers: ");
  scanf("%lf%lf%lf", &x, &y, &z);
  printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", x, y, average(x, y));
  printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", y, z, average(y, z));
  printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", x, z, average(x, z));
  return 0;
```

Program #2: Printing a Countdown

 To indicate that a function has no return value, we specify that its return type is void:

```
void print_count(int n)
{
   printf("T minus %d and counting\n", n);
}
```

- void is a type with no values.
- A call of print_count appears in a statement by itself: print count(i);
- The countdown.c program calls print_count 10 times inside a loop.

Program #2: Printing a Countdown (cont.)

```
countdown.c
#include <stdio.h>
void print count(int n)
 printf("T minus %d and counting\n", n);
int main(void)
  int i;
  for (i = 10; i > 0; --i)
    print count(i);
  return 0;
```

Program #3: Testing Whether a Number Is Prime

• The prime.c program tests whether a number is prime:

```
Enter a number: 34 Not prime
```

- The program uses a function named is_prime that returns true if its parameter is a prime number and false if it isn't.
- is_prime divides its parameter n by each of the numbers between 2 and the square root of n; if the remainder is ever 0, n isn't prime.



Program #3: Testing Whether a Number Is Prime (cont.)

```
prime.c
#include <stdbool.h>
                                    int main(void)
#include <stdio.h>
                                      int n;
bool is prime(int n)
                                      printf("Enter a number: ");
  int divisor;
                                      scanf("%d", &n);
                                      if (is prime(n))
  if (n <= 1)
                                        printf("Prime\n");
    return false;
                                      else
                                        printf("Not prime\n");
  for (divisor = 2; divisor *
                                      return 0;
       divisor <= n; divisor++)</pre>
    if (n % divisor == 0)
      return false;
  return true;
```

Function Declarations

- Either a declaration or a definition of a function must be present prior to any call of the function.
- A function declaration provides the compiler with a brief glimpse at a function whose full definition will appear later.
- General form of a function declaration:
 return-type function-name (parameters) ;
- The declaration of a function must be consistent with the function's definition.
- Here's the average.c program with a declaration of average added.

Function Declarations (cont.)

```
#include <stdio.h>
double average(double a, double b);  /* DECLARATION */
int main(void)
 double x, y, z;
 printf("Enter three numbers: ");
  scanf("%lf%lf%lf", &x, &y, &z);
 printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", x, y, average(x,
 y));
 printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", y, z, average(y,
  z));
 printf("Average of %g and %g: %g\n", x, z, average(x,
  z));
  return 0;
double average(double a, double b) /* DEFINITION */
 return (a + b) / 2;
```

Function Declarations (cont.)

- Function declarations of the kind we're discussing are known as function prototypes.
- A function prototype doesn't have to specify the names of the function's parameters, as long as their types are present:

```
double average (double, double);
```



6.2 Arguments

Arguments

- In C, arguments are *passed by value:* when a function is called, each argument is evaluated and its value assigned to the corresponding parameter.
- Since the parameter contains a copy of the argument's value, any changes made to the parameter during the execution of the function don't affect the argument.



Consider the following function, which raises a number x to a power n:

```
int power(int x, int n)
{
  int i, result = 1;

  for (i = 1; i <= n; i++)
    result = result * x;

  return result;
}</pre>
```



• Since n is a *copy* of the original exponent, the function can safely modify it, removing the need for i:

```
int power(int x, int n)
{
  int result = 1;

  while (n-- > 0)
    result = result * x;

  return result;
}
```



- C's requirement that arguments be passed by value makes it difficult to write certain kinds of functions.
- Suppose that we need a function that will decompose a double value into an integer part and a fractional part.
- Since a function can't return two numbers, we might try passing a pair of variables to the function and having it modify them:

A call of the function:

```
decompose (3.14159, i, d);
```

• Unfortunately, i and d won't be affected by the assignments to int part and frac part.



Argument Conversions

- C allows function calls in which the types of the arguments don't match the types of the parameters.
- Note that the compiler has encountered a prototype prior to the call.
- The value of each argument is implicitly converted to the type of the corresponding parameter as if by assignment.
- Example: If an int argument is passed to a function that was expecting a double, the argument is converted to double automatically.



Array Arguments

 When a function parameter is a one-dimensional array, the length of the array can be left unspecified:

```
int f(int a[]) /* no length specified */
{
   ...
}
```

- C doesn't provide any easy way for a function to determine the length of an array passed to it.
- Instead, we'll have to supply the length—if the function needs it—as an additional argument.



Example:

```
int sum_array(int a[], int n)
{
  int i, sum = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    sum += a[i];
  return sum;
}</pre>
```

• Since sum_array needs to know the length of a, we must supply it as a second argument.



 The prototype for sum_array has the following appearance:

```
int sum_array(int a[], int n);
```

As usual, we can omit the parameter names if we wish:

```
int sum_array(int [], int);
```



 When sum_array is called, the first argument will be the name of an array, and the second will be its length:

```
#define LEN 100
int main(void)
{
  int b[LEN], total;
  ...
  total = sum_array(b, LEN);
  ...
}
```

 Notice that we don't put brackets after an array name when passing it to a function:



- A function has no way to check that we've passed it the correct array length.
- Suppose that we've only stored 50 numbers in the b array, even though it can hold 100.
- We can sum just the first 50 elements by writing

```
total = sum array(b, 50);
```

 Be careful not to tell a function that an array argument is larger than it really is:

```
total = sum array(b, 150); /*** WRONG ***/
```

sum array will go past the end of the array, causing undefined behavior.

Array Arguments (cont.)

- A function is allowed to change the elements of an array parameter, and the change is reflected in the corresponding argument.
- A function that modifies an array by storing zero into each of its elements:

```
void store_zeros(int a[], int n)
{
  int i;
  for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    a[i] = 0;
}</pre>
```



Array Arguments (cont.)

- If a parameter is a multidimensional array, only the length of the first dimension may be omitted.
- If we revise sum_array so that a is a two-dimensional array, we must specify the number of columns in a:

```
#define LEN 10
int sum_two_dimensional_array(int a[][LEN], int n)
{
  int i, j, sum = 0;
  for (i = 0; i < n; i++)
    for (j = 0; j < LEN; j++)
      sum += a[i][j];
  return sum;
}</pre>
```



6.3 Function and Program Termination

The return Statement

- A non-void function must use the return statement to specify what value it will return.
- The return statement has the form

```
return expression;
```

The expression is often just a constant or variable:

```
return 0;
return status;
```

More complex expressions are possible:

```
return n \ge 0? n : 0;
```



The return Statement (cont.)

- If the type of the expression in a return statement doesn't match the function's return type, the expression will be implicitly converted to the return type.
 - If a function returns an int, but the return statement contains a double expression, the value of the expression is converted to int.

```
int average(double a, double b)
{
  return (a + b)/2;
}
  double
```



The return Statement (cont.)

 return statements may appear in functions whose return type is void, provided that no expression is given:

```
return; /* return in a void function */
```

• Example:

```
void print_int(int i)
{
  if (i < 0)
    return;
  printf("%d", i);
}</pre>
```



The return Statement (cont.)

 A return statement may appear at the end of a void function:

```
void print_pun(void)
{
  printf("To C, or not to C: that is the question.\n");
  return;    /* OK, but not needed */
}
```

Using return here is unnecessary.

• If a non-void function fails to execute a return statement, the behavior of the program is undefined if it attempts to use the function's return value.



Program Termination

Normally, the return type of main is int:

```
int main(void)
{
   ...
}
```

 Omitting the word void in main's parameter list remains legal, but—as a matter of style—it's best to include it.



Program Termination (cont.)

- The value returned by main is a status code that can be tested when the program terminates.
- main should return 0 if the program terminates normally.
- To indicate abnormal termination, main should return a value other than 0.
- It's good practice to make sure that every C program returns a status code.



The exit Function

- Executing a return statement in main is one way to terminate a program.
- Another is calling the exit function, which belongs to <stdlib.h>.
- The argument passed to exit has the same meaning as main's return value: both indicate the program's status at termination.
- To indicate normal termination, we pass 0:

```
exit(0); /* normal termination */
```



The exit Function (cont.)

Since 0 is a bit cryptic, C allows us to pass EXIT_SUCCESS instead (the effect is the same):

```
exit(EXIT SUCCESS);
```

• Passing EXIT FAILURE indicates abnormal termination:

```
exit(EXIT_FAILURE);
```

- EXIT_SUCCESS and EXIT_FAILURE are macros defined in <stdlib.h>.
- The values of EXIT_SUCCESS and EXIT_FAILURE are implementation-defined; typical values are 0 and 1, respectively.



The exit Function (cont.)

The statement

```
return expression;
in main is equivalent to
exit (expression);
```

- The difference between return and exit is that exit causes program termination regardless of which function calls it.
- The return statement causes program termination only when it appears in the main function.



6.4 Scope

Local Variables

 A variable declared in the body of a function is said to be *local* to the function:

```
int sum digits(int n)
  int sum = 0;  /* local variable */
 while (n > 0) {
    sum += n % 10;
   n /= 10;
  return sum;
```

Local Variables

- Default properties of local variables:
 - Automatic storage duration. Storage is "automatically" allocated when the enclosing function is called and deallocated when the function returns.
 - Block scope. A local variable is visible from its point of declaration to the end of the enclosing function body.



Local Variables

 Since C doesn't require variable declarations to come at the beginning of a function, it's possible for a local variable to have a very small scope:



Static Local Variables

- Including static in the declaration of a local variable causes it to have static storage duration.
- A variable with static storage duration has a permanent storage location, so it retains its value throughout the execution of the program.
- Example:

```
void f(void)
{
   static int i;    /* static local variable */
   ...
}
```

 A static local variable still has block scope, so it's not visible to other functions.

Parameters

- Parameters have the same properties—automatic storage duration and block scope—as local variables.
- Each parameter is initialized automatically when a function is called (by being assigned the value of the corresponding argument).



External Variables

- Passing arguments is one way to transmit information to a function.
- Functions can also communicate through external variables—variables that are declared outside the body of any function.
- External variables are sometimes known as global variables.



External Variables

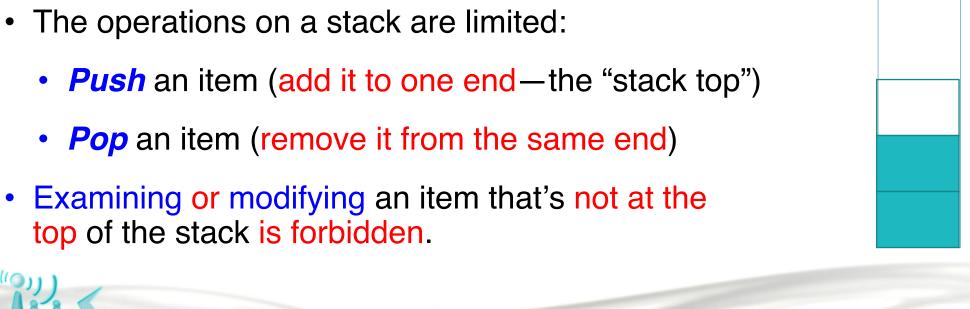
- Properties of external variables:
 - Static storage duration
 - File scope
- Having file scope means that an external variable is visible from its point of declaration to the end of the enclosing file.



Example: Using External Variables to Implement a Stack

- To illustrate how external variables might be used, let's look at a data structure known as a stack.
- A stack, like an array, can store multiple data items of the same type.
- The operations on a stack are limited:

top of the stack is forbidden.



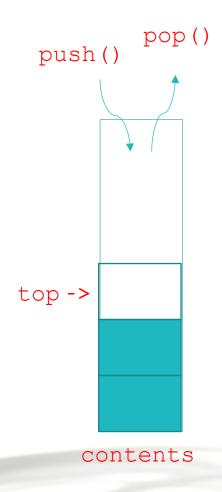


pop()

push()

Example: Using External Variables to Implement a Stack (cont.)

- One way to implement a stack in C is to store its items in an array, which we'll call contents.
- A separate integer variable named top marks the position of the stack top.
 - When the stack is empty, top has the value 0.
- To push an item: Store it in contents at the position indicated by top, then increment top.
- To pop an item: Decrement top, then use it as an index into contents to fetch the item that's being popped.





Example: Using External Variables to Implement a Stack (cont.)

- The following program fragment declares the contents and top variables for a stack.
- It also provides a set of functions that represent stack operations.
- All five functions need access to the top variable, and two functions need access to contents, so contents and top will be external.



Example: Using External Variables to Implement a Stack (cont.)

pop()

60

```
stack.c
                              bool is full (void)
#include <stdbool.h>
                                                           push()
                                return top == STACK SIZE;
#define STACK SIZE 100
/* external variables */
                              void push(int i)
int contents[STACK SIZE];
                                if (is full())
int top = 0;
                                  stack overflow();
                                else
void make empty(void)
                                  contents[top++] = i;
                                                          top ->
  top = 0;
                              int pop (void)
bool is empty(void)
                                if (is empty())
                                  stac\overline{k} underflow();
  return top == 0;
                                else
                                  return contents[--top];
                                                               contents
                                                                STACK SIZE
```

Pros and Cons of External Variables

- External variables are convenient when many functions must share a variable or when a few functions share a large number of variables.
- In most cases, it's better for functions to communicate through parameters rather than by sharing variables:
 - If we change an external variable during program maintenance (by altering its type, say), we'll need to check every function in the same file to see how the change affects it.
 - If an external variable is assigned an incorrect value, it may be difficult to identify the guilty function.
 - Functions that rely on external variables are hard to reuse in other
) programs.

Pros and Cons of External Variables (cont.)

- Don't use the same external variable for different purposes in different functions.
- Suppose that several functions need a variable named i to control a for statement.
- Instead of declaring $\dot{}$ in each function that uses it, some programmers declare it just once at the top of the program.
- This practice is misleading; someone reading the program later may think that the uses of i are related, when in fact they're not.



Pros and Cons of External Variables (cont.)

- Make sure that external variables have meaningful names.
- Local variables don't always need meaningful names: it's often hard to think of a better name than i for the control variable in a for loop.



Pros and Cons of External Variables (cont.)

- Making variables external when they should be local can lead to some rather frustrating bugs.
- Code that is supposed to display a 10×10 arrangement of asterisks:

```
int i;
void print_one_row(void)
{
  for (i = 1; i <= 10; i++)
      printf("*");
}

void print_all_rows(void)
{
  for (i = 1; i <= 10; i++) {
      print_one_row();
      printf("\n");
    }
}</pre>
```

Instead of printing 10 rows, print all rows prints only one.

Program: Guessing a Number

 The guess.c program generates a random number between 1 and 100, which the user attempts to guess in as few tries as possible:

```
Guess the secret number between 1 and 100.

A new number has been chosen.

Enter guess: 55

Too low; try again.

Enter guess: 65

Too high; try again.

Enter guess: 60

Too high; try again.

Enter guess: 58

You won in 4 guesses!
```

```
Play again? (Y/N) \underline{y}
A new number has been chosen. Enter guess: \underline{78}
Too high; try again. Enter guess: \underline{34}
You won in 2 guesses! Play again? (Y/N) n
```

- Tasks to be carried out by the program:
 - Initialize the random number generator
 - Choose a secret number
 - Interact with the user until the correct number is picked
- Each task can be handled by a separate function.



guess.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
                         void initialize number generator(void)
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <time.h>
                           srand((unsigned) time(NULL));
#define MAX NUMBER 100
                         void choose_new secret number(void)
/* external variable */
                           secret number = rand() % MAX NUMBER + 1;
int secret number;
/* prototypes */
void initialize number generator(void);
void choose new secret number(void);
void read_guesses(void);
```



```
int main(void)
  char command;
  printf("Guess the secret number between 1 and %d.\n\n",
         MAX NUMBER);
  initialize number generator();
  do {
    choose new secret number();
    printf("A new number has been chosen.\n");
    read guesses();
    printf("Play again? (Y/N) ");
    scanf(" %c", &command);
    printf("\n");
  } while (command == 'y' || command == 'Y');
  return 0;
```

```
void read guesses(void)
  int guess, num guesses = 0;
  for (;;) {
    num quesses++;
    printf("Enter guess: ");
    scanf("%d", &quess);
    if (quess == secret number) {
      printf("You won in %d guesses!\n\n", num guesses);
      return;
    } else if (guess < secret number)</pre>
      printf("Too low; try again.\n");
    else
      printf("Too high; try again.\n");
```



- Although guess.c works fine, it relies on the external variable secret number.
- By altering choose_new_secret_number and read_guesses slightly, we can move secret_number into the main function.
- The new version of guess.c follows, with changes in bold.



guess2.c

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>
#include <time.h>
#define MAX_NUMBER 100

/* external variable */
int secret_number;

/* prototypes */
void initialize_number_generator(void)

{
    srand((unsigned) time(NULL));
}
int new_secret_number(void)

{
    return rand() % MAX_NUMBER + 1;
}

/* prototypes */
void initialize_number_generator(void);
```



int new secret number(void);

void read guesses(int secret number);

```
int main(void)
  char command;
  int secret number;
  printf("Guess the secret number between 1 and %d.\n\n",
         MAX NUMBER);
  initialize number generator();
  do {
    secret number = new secret number();
    printf("A new number has been chosen.\n");
    read quesses(secret number);
    printf("Play again? (Y/N) ");
    scanf(" %c", &command);
    printf("\n");
  } while (command == 'y' || command == 'Y');
  return 0;
```

```
void read guesses(int secret number)
  int guess, num guesses = 0;
  for (;;) {
    num quesses++;
    printf("Enter guess: ");
    scanf("%d", &quess);
    if (quess == secret number) {
      printf("You won in %d guesses!\n\n", num guesses);
      return;
    } else if (quess < secret number)</pre>
      printf("Too low; try again.\n");
    else
      printf("Too high; try again.\n");
```



Blocks

 In Lecture 3, we encountered compound statements of the form

```
{ statements }
```

 C allows compound statements to contain declarations as well as statements:

```
{ declarations statements }
```

 This kind of compound statement is called a block.

```
if (i > j) {
   /* swap i and j */
   int temp = i;
   i = j;
   j = temp;
}
```



Blocks (cont.)

- By default, the storage duration of a variable declared in a block is automatic: storage for the variable is allocated when the block is entered and deallocated when the block is exited.
- The variable has block scope; it can't be referenced outside the block.
- A variable that belongs to a block can be declared static to give it static storage duration.



Blocks (cont.)

- The body of a function is a block.
- Blocks are also useful inside a function body when we need variables for temporary use.
- Advantages of declaring temporary variables in blocks:
 - Avoids cluttering declarations at the beginning of the function body with variables that are used only briefly.
 - Reduces name conflicts.
- C allows variables to be declared anywhere within a block.



Scope Rules

- In a C program, the same identifier may have several different meanings.
- When a declaration inside a block names an identifier that's already visible, the new declaration temporarily "hides" the old one, and the identifier takes on a new meaning.
- At the end of the block, the identifier regains its old meaning.



Scope Rules (cont.)

- In Declaration 1, i is a variable with static storage duration and file scope.
- In Declaration 2, i is a parameter with block scope.
- In Declaration 3, i is an automatic variable with block scope.
- In Declaration 4, i is also automatic and has block scope.

```
int(i);
                  /* Declaration 1 */
void f(int(i))
                  /* Declaration 2 */
  i = 1;
void q(void)
  int(i) = 2;
                  /* Declaration 3 */
  if (i > 0) {
    int(i);
                  /* Declaration 4 */
  i = 4;
void h(void)
  i = 5;
```

A Quick Review to This Lecture

General form of a function definition:

```
return-type function-name ( parameters )
{
    declarations
    statements
}
```

- Variables declared in the body of a function can't be examined or modified by other functions.
- Function call: function name followed by arguments in parentheses:
- This statement is legal but has no effect.
 fun; // fun() won't be called

```
average(x, y)
print_count(i)
print_pun()
```

- Specifying return type as void indicates no return value.
- The word void is placed in parentheses indicates that a function has no parameters.
- Functions may not return arrays.
 The parentheses must be present.
- General form of a function declaration:
 return-type function-name (parameters) ;
- Either a declaration or a definition of a function must be present prior to any call of the function.



```
void fun(int n) {
}

void fun(void) {
```

```
void fun(void) {
}
fun();
```

- In C, arguments are *passed by value*: when a function is called, each argument is evaluated and its value assigned to the corresponding parameter.
- Passing one-dimensional array, length is supplied as second argument:

```
int sum array(int a[], int n) { ... }
```

 Passing two-dimensional array, number of columns must be specified:

```
int sum_two_dimensional_array(int a[][LEN], int n) {...}
```

The return statement has the form

```
return expression ;
```

- The value returned by main is a status code that can be tested when the program terminates. (0: normal, non-0: abnormal)
- Program termination
 - return statement in main()
 - Calling exit() in any function



0x 00000000

external variables

static local

variables and

dynamically

text

heap

```
int global;
                         external variable
fun ( int parm )
                     parameter
                       auto/local variable
  int var;
  static int
               svar;
                          static local variable
  return var;
```

Туре	Storage duration	Scope
Local variable	Automatic	Block
Parameter	Automaitc	Block
Static local variable	Static	Block
External variable	Static	File

