

Hardware Modeling [VU] (191.011)

– WS25 –

Subprograms

Florian Huemer & Sebastian Wiedemann & Dylan Baumann

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■ Functions

■ Procedures

- Functions
 - Call is **expression** returning a value
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 - `pure`: No side effects, same parameters $\Rightarrow$ same return value
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 - In case of zero parameters no parentheses
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■ Examples

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function f1(a,b : integer; signal c : natural) return bit
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function f1(a,b : integer; signal c : natural) return bit  
function f2(a : integer := 42) return bit
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function f3 return string
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1 function resolved (s : std_ulogic_vector) return std_ulogic is
2     variable result : std_ulogic := 'Z';
3 begin
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- Arithmetic and logic operators

```
1 function "+" (a, b: integer) return integer is
2 begin
3     return a+b;
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2   variable ran : std_ulogic_vector(7 downto 0) := 8d"42";  
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 - Easier to understand and debug

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- **Caveat:** File parameters can introduce non-determinism and side effects into pure-functions
 - ⇒ Recommendation: Do not use file parameters for pure functions

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■ Default parameter mode and class are `in` and `constant`

Example - Procedure

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Apply pulse to probe, wait and check if alive is set

■ probe, PULSE_WIDTH, alive, alive_cnt from outer scope

```
1 procedure probe_alive(wait_time : time) is
2 begin
3     probe <= '1';
4     wait for PULSE_WIDTH;
5     probe <= '0';
6     wait for wait_time;
7     if alive = '0' then
8         report "Module not alive";
9     else
10         alive_cnt := alive_cnt + 1;
11     end if;
12 end procedure;
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5     probe <= '0';
6     wait for wait_time;
7     if alive = '0' then
8         report "Module not alive";
9     else
10         alive_cnt := alive_cnt + 1;
11     end if;
12 end procedure;
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Example - Procedure

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Overloading

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Apply pulse to probe, wait and check if alive is set

■ probe, PULSE_WIDTH, alive, alive_cnt from outer scope

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1 procedure probe_alive(wait_time : time) is
2 begin
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 - The *package body* contains the subprogram bodies
- ⇒ Similar to C function prototype and definition

Example - Package with Body

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```
1 package math_pkg is
2     constant WIDTH, HEIGHT : natural := 100;
3     function max3(value1, value2, value3 : integer) return integer;
4 end package;
5
6 package body math_pkg is
7     -- package-local auxiliary function; must be declared before use in max3
8     function max(value1, value2 : integer) return integer is
9     begin
10         if value1 > value2 then
11             return value1;
12         end if;
13         return value2;
14     end function;
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Lecture Complete!