COMPUTER NUMERICAL CONTROL OF MACHINE TOOLS

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Chapter 12: Do Loops and Subprograms



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Objectives of Chapter 12

Describe a do loop

• Describe a **subprogram**

ORJECTIVES

• Describe **nested loops**

Write simple programs using loops, subroutines and nested loops



If an operation is to be repeated over a number of equal steps, it may be programmed in what is referred to as a do loop

In a do loop, the Machine Control Unit (MCU) is instructed to repeat an operation (in this case, drill a hole five times) rather than be programmed for five separate hole locations

A do loop simply instructs the MCU to repeat a series of NC program statements a specified number of times



- Usually, looping capability on a CNC controller is an optional item, therefore not all controllers have it
- The looping feature is sometimes added to the controller by the controller's manufacturer
- In other cases, it is programmed into the controller by the machine tool manufacturer







Figure 1: Part drawing and cutter path for do loop example (Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming")



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12.7



Figure 2: Process flow of a do loop (Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming")



Programming a Loop

• Naturally, there is a **G code** to institute a **do loop**

• As mentioned previously, there are **no standard codes** for **do loops**



The method described in this section **is only one of the schemes**

Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"



% O1103 (* *********)	 The format for a do loop is:
(* X0/Y0 IS LOWER LEFT CORNER) (* TOOL 1 - NO. 3 C-DRILL) (* ********) N001 G00 G40 G80 G70 G90 G98 N101 T01 M06 N102 G00 X.5 Y1. S3500 M03 N103 G43 Z0. H01 M08 N104G81 G99 X.5 Y1. Z162 R0. F7. (BEGIN LOOP) N105 G25 P106 Q106 L5 N106 G91 X1. N107 G80 M09	N G25 Pppp Qqqq Ll N ppp X/Y/Z N X/Y/Z N X/Y/Z N qqq X/Y/Z
N108 G00 G91 G30 Z0. M05 N109 G30 X0. Y0. M19 N110 M01 (* *********) (* TOOL 2 - 1/4 DRILL) (* *********)	Where:
N002 G00 G40 G80 G70 G90 G98 N201 T01 M06	G25: Signals the start of a loop
N202 G00 X.5 Y1. S3500 M03 N203 G43 Z0. H01 M08 N204 G81 G99 X.5 Y1. Z375 R0. F7. (BEGIN LOOP) N205 G25 P206 O20 6L5	P: Specifies the beginning block number of the loop
N206 G91 X1. N207 G80 M09 N208 G00 G91 G30 Z0. M05 N209 G30 X0, Y0, M19	Q: Specifies the ending block number of the loop
N211 M30 %	L: Specifies the number of times to

%

Figure 3: Program to mill the part in Figure 1



perform the loop

01103

Program number.

N001 through N103 is the tool change sequence N001

Program safety line.

N101

T01 — Places tool 1 in the tool change standby position. M06 — Initiates an automatic tool change.

N102

G00X.5Y1. — Positions the spindle at the X/Y starting position of the drill cycle at rapid traverse.

S3500M03 — Sets the spindle speed to 3,500 rpm, and turns on the spindle in a clockwise direction.

N103

- G43 Turns on tool length compensation.
- **Z0.** Positions the spindle .100 above the part at rapid.
- H01 Instructs the MCU to use the value in register 1 for tool length compensation.

M08 — Turns on the coolant.

N104 through N108 are the tool motion statements

N104

G81 —Turns on the canned drill cycle.

G99 — Instructs the MCU to return the spindle to the reference plane at the end of each cycle iteration.

X.5y1. — Y/Y coordinates of the first hole.

Z-.162 — The final feed depth for the Z axis.

R0. -Sets Z0 as the reference plane (feed engagement point)



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Program

Explanation



12.11

N105

G25 — Initiates the do loop. The loop counter is initialized to 1.

P106 — Tells the MCU to begin the loop in block N106.

Q106 —Tells the MCU that N106 is the end of the loop.

L5 — Instructs the MCU to perform the loop 5 times.

N106

G91 — Selects incremental positioning.

XL— Causes the spindle to move 1.000 inch along the X axis. Since the drill cycle is still turned on, a hole will be drilled at this location.

N108

G80 — Cancels the active drill cycle.

N108 through N109 are the tool cancel commands

N108

G00G91G30Z0. — Sends the Z axis to tool change position. M09 — Turns off the coolant.

N109

G30X0.Y0. — Sends the X and Y axes to tool change position. M19 — Orients the spindle for tool change gripper.

N110

M01 — Optional stop code.

N002 through N203 is the tool change sequence

N002

Program safety line. N201

- **T02** Places tool 2 in the tool change standby position.
- M06 Initiates an automatic tool change,



N202

G00X.5Y1. — Positions the spindle at the X/Y starting position of the drill cycle at rapid traverse.

S3500M03 — Sets the spindle speed to 3,500 rpm, and turns on the spindle in a clockwise direction.

M203

G43 — Turns on tool length compensation. Z0. — positions the spindle .100 above the part at rapid. **H02** — Instructs the MCU to use the value in register 2 for tool length compensation.

M08 — Turns on the coolant.

N204 through N208 are the tool motion statements

N204

- **G81** —Turns on the canned drill cycle.
- **G99** Instructs the MCU to return the spindle to the reference plane at the end of each cycle iteration.
- **X.5y1.** Y/Y coordinates of the first hole.
- **Z-.375** The final feed depth for the Z axis.
- **R0.** Sets Z0 as the reference plane (feed engagement point).

N205

- G25 Initiates the do loop.
- **P206**—Tells the MCU to begin the loop in block N106.
- **Q206** Tells the MCU that N106 is the end of the loop.
- L5 Instructs the MCU to perform the loop 5 times.

N206

G91 — Selects incremental positioning.

X1. — Causes the spindle to move 1.000 inch along the X axis. Since the drill cycle is still turned on, a hole will be drilled at this location, the do loop instructions.



N207

- **G80** Cancels the active drill cycle.
- M09 Turns off the coolant.
- N208 through N209 are the tool cancel commands

N208

- **G00G91G30Z0.** Sends the Z axis to tool change position.
- **M05** Turns off the spindle.

N209

G30X0.Y0. — Sends the X and Y axes to tool change position. M19 — Orients the spindle for tool change gripper.

N210

M30 — End of program code.



Subprograms

- A *subprogram* is a separate program called by another program
- The use of subprograms can significantly reduce the amount of programming required on some parts
- One way to use a subprogram is to place one or more do loops in the subprogram. This is known as nesting
- Subprograms can also be **nested** in other subprograms, or **nested within** do loops
- This gives the programmer a great deal of flexibility and a powerful programming tool



Subprograms



Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"

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- For example, on the part in Figure 4, note that the holes occur in the *same geometric and dimensional pattern* in four different locations
- A do loop could be programmed to drill the holes, but programming steps can be minimized by placing the pattern in a subprogram
- The drill can be sent to hole #1 and the subprogram called to drill the four holes A, B, C, and D. Hole #2 can then be positioned and the subprogram called again, and so on

Subprograms



Figure 5: Subprogram call mechanics

Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"



- The flowchart in Figure 5 illustrates how a subprogram works. The calling program is referred to as the *main*, or parent program. The subprogram is sometimes referred to as the subroutine or child program
- When the subprogram call statement is issued in the main NC program, the MCU switches to the subprogram. The subprogram then executes
- At the end of the subprogram is a command that causes the MCU to switch back to the main program. The MCU returns to the NC block in the main program immediately following the command that called the subprogram in the first place

Main	Progr	am
------	-------	----

O0001

N001 X/Y/Z

N002 -

N003 -

N004 M98P2000L1

- N005 -
- N006
- N007

N008 M30

Where:

M98 – Instructs the MCU to jump to a subprogram

P2000 – Tells the MCU that O2000 is the subprogram ID

L1 – Instructs the MCU to **execute** the subprogram one time



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Subprogram O2000 N001 X/Y/Z N002 -N003 -N004 M99

%	N205 P1000 M98 L1
O1106	N206 X4.5 Y1.5
(* ********)	N207 P1000 M98 L1
(* X0/Y0 - LOWER LEFT CORNER)	N208 X7.5 Y1.5
(* Z0100 ABOVE TOP OF PART)	N209 P1000 M98 L1
(* ********)	N210 X10.5 Y1.5
(* TOOL 1 - NO. 3 C-DRILL)	N211 P1000 M98 L1
(* ********)	N212 G80 M09
N001 G17 G90 G40 G80 G98	N213 G00 G91 G28 Z0. M05
N101 T01 M06	N214 G28 X0. Y0.
N102 G00 G90 X1.5 Y1.5 S3500 M03	N215 M30
N103 G43 G90 Z3. H01 M08	
N104 G81 G99 X1.5 Y1.5 Z162 R0. F10.5	
N105 P1000 M98 L1	01000
N106 X4.5 Y1.5	(* ********)
N107 P1000 M98 L1	(* START OF SUBPROGRAM 1000)
N108 X7.5 Y1.5	(* ********)
N109 P1000 M98 L1	N001 G91 X5 Y.5
N110 X10.5 Y1.5	N002 Y-1.
N111 P1000 M98 L1	N003 X1.
N112 G80 M09	N004 Y1.
N113 G00 G91 G28 Z0. M05	N004 G90
N114 G28 X0. Y0. M01	N006 M99
(* ********)	%
(* TOOL 1 - NO. 3 C-DRILL)	
(* ********)	
N002 G90 G40 G98 G80	
N201 T02 M06	
N202G00 X1.5 Y1.5 S3500 M03	
N203 G43 G90 Z3. H01 M08	
N204 G81 G99 X1.5 Y1.5 Z375 R0. F10.5	

Figure 6: Program to machine the part in Figure 4 (Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming")



O1106

Program id number

N001 through N103 is the tool change sequence

N001

- **T01** Put tool 1 in tool change standby position.
- M06 Initiate a tool change. Tool 1 will be placed in the spindle.

N102

- G00G90X1.5Y1.5 Move to hole #1 at rapid, using absolute positioning.
- S3500M03 Turns on the spindle clockwise at 3,500 rpm.

N103

- G43 Turns on tool length compensation.
- **Z3.** Positions the spindle to Z3.000
- H01 Instructs the MCU to use the values in offset register 1 for tool length compensation.
- MOB Turns on the flood coolant.

N104 through N112 are the tool motion blocks

N104

- **G81** —Turns on the canned drilling cycle.
- G99 Specifies a retract to the reference plane at the end of each drill cycle iteration.
- **X1.5Y1.5** X/Y coordinates of the first hole.
- **Z-.162** Final drilling depth.
- **R0.** The reference plane. This is the Z coordinate where the MCU will begin feeding the tool into the workpiece.
- F10.5 Specifies a drilling feedrate of 10.5 inches per minute

Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"







N105

This block is a jump to subprogram call.

P1000 — Specifies program O1000 as the target of the subroutine jump.

M98 — Instructs the MCU to jump to the target program (in this case O1000).

L1 — Tells the MCU to execute the subprogram 1 time.

N106

X4.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #2.

N108

X7.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #3.

N109

P100M98L1 — Jump to subprogram O1000 call.

N110

X10.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #4.

N111

P100M98L1 — Jump to subprogram O1000 call.

N112

G80 — Cancels the canned drilling cycle.

M09 — Turns off the flood coolant.

N113 through N114 is the tool cancel sequence

N113

G00G91G2820. — Sends the spindle to the Z axis home position in rapid traverse mode.

M05 — Turns off the spindle.

N114

G28X0.Y0. — Sends the spindle to the X/Y home position.

M01 — Optional program stop code. Provided for operator convenience.



N002 through N203 is the tool change sequence

N002

Safety block

N201

- **T02** Put tool 2 in tool change standby position.
- M06 Initiate a tool change. Tool 2 will be placed in the spindle.

N202

G00G90X1.5Y1.5 — Move to hole #1 at rapid, using absolute positioning.

S3500M03 — Turns on the spindle clockwise at 3,500 rpm.

N203

- G43 Turns on tool length compensation.
- Z3. Positions the spindle to Z3.000
- **HO2** Instructs the MCU to use the values in offset register 2 for tool length compensation.
- M08 Turns on the flood coolant

N204 through N212 are the tool motion blocks

N204

- **G81** —Turns on the canned drilling cycle.
- **G99** Specifies a retract to the reference plane at the end of each drill cycle iteration.
- **X1.5Y1.5** X/Y coordinates of the first hole.
- **Z-.375** Final drilling depth.
- **RO.** The reference plane. This is the Z coordinate where the MCU will begin feeding the tool into the workpiece.
- **F10.5** Specifies a drilling feedrate of 10.5 inches per minute.



N205
P100M98L1 — Jump to subprogram O1000 call.
N206
X4.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #2.
N208
X7.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #3.
N209 R100M08L1 Jump to subprogram Q1000 coll
$\mathbf{N210}$
X10.5Y1.5 — Positions the spindle over hole #4.
N211
P100M98L1 — Jump to subprogram O1000 call.
N212
G80 — Cancels the canned drilling cycle.
M09 — Turns off the flood coolant.
N213 through N214 is the tool cancel sequence
N213
G00G91G28Z0. — Sends the spindle to the Z axis home position in
rapid traverse mode.
NO5 — Turns off the spindle.
G28X0 X0 Sonds the spindle to the X/X home position
N214
M30 — End of program memory reset code



Subprogram Explanation

- Notice that a subprogram has its own program ID number, in this case O1000
- The sequence blocks also are numbered independently from the main program
- The only difference between the subprogram and an independent program is the return to calling program command (M99) at the end of the program



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Subprogram

Explanation

O1000

Program ID number.

N001

G91 — Selects incremental positioning mode. Incremental moves are used throughout the subprogram.

X-.5Y.5 — Moves the spindle to hole A. Since the drill cycle was turned on in the main program, a hole will be drilled at this location.

N0D2

Y-1. — Moves the spindle from hole A to hole B.

N003

X1. — Moves the spindle from hole B to hole C.

N004

Y1. — Moves the spindle from hole C to hole D.

N005

G90 — Selects absolute positioning mode. Since the main program uses absolute mode, operator confusion is minimized by placing the machine back into absolute mode before returning from the subprogram.

N006

M99 — Return to calling program code. The MCU Will return to the main program when this code is received. If this were an independent program rather than a subprogram, an M30 would have been used here instead of M99



Subroutines

Subroutines

- A subroutine is an independent program which is called within the program
- Used when there is **need for repeating** a sequence of commands
- Programming time saving
- Register orders once, recall anywhere in the program and repeat as many times as needed

• M98, M99 commands



Subroutines

Programming with FANUK MCU



(source: Σύγχρονες μέθοδοι κατεργασίας υλικών και προγραμματισμός με

Ηλεκτρονικό Υπολογιστή (Η/Υ) ,Δ. Μούρτζης ,κ.α.)



Subroutines example program



(source: Σύγχρονες μέθοδοι κατεργασίας υλικών και προγραμματισμός με Ηλεκτρονικό Υπολογιστή (Η/Υ) ,Δ. Μούρτζης ,κ.α.)

LMS

- In aluminum plate 200 x 200 x 50 mm to 16 planned drilling holes as shown
- The depth of penetration is 40 mm
- The available tool T1 is drill D10 with the following cutting conditions:
 - Feed-rate speed when drilling F = 60 mm / min
 - II. Spindle tool-holder rotation speed S= 800 rpm
 - III. Cooling operation on

Subroutines example program



Subroutine	P2222
------------	-------

P2222

N10 G91 X30 Y30	Hole 2
N20 X-30 Y30	Hole 3
N30 X-30 Y-30	Hole 4
N50 M99	Return to program

(source: Σύγχρονες μέθοδοι κατεργασίας υλικών και προγραμματισμός με

Ηλεκτρονικό Υπολογιστή (Η/Υ) ,Δ. Μούρτζης ,κ.α.)



Subroutines example program

%	Program launch
:0008	Program number
N10 G21	Dimension in mm
N20 G40 G80	Cancellation block
N30 M06 T01	Cutter change, T01
N40 M13 S700	Rotation CW – cooling on
N50 G90 G00 X-50 Y-80 Z5	Rapid approach of the hole (bottom-left)
N60 G83 G99 X-50 Y-80 Z-40 Q10 R2 F50	Machining cycle G83
N70 M98 P2222	Subroutine call P2222
N80 G90 X50 Y-80	Hole(bottom-right)
N90 M98 P2222	Subroutine call P2222
N100 G90 X50 Y20	Hole (upper-right)
N110 M98 P2222	Subroutine call P2222
N120 G90 X-50 Y20	Hole (upper-left)
N130 M98 P2222	Subroutine call P2222
N140 G90 G00 Z50	Rapid return
N150 M30	End of program



Subroutines for Cutter Diameter Compensation

- As pointed out in chapter 10, subprograms are often used with cutter diameter compensation. Figure 7 presents a program written for the part shown in Figure 8. The program utilizes a subprogram to mill the part periphery
- The first time the **subprogram** is called, **CRO register D11 is used**. If .520 is placed in the register, .010 stock per side of the part will be left for finishing
- The second time the subprogram is called, register D11 is used. Placing a value of .500 in D12 results in a finish pass. Remark statements are included in the program listing that explain the program execution in detail
- The machining sequence used in this program is identical to that used in Chapter 10. The difference is that the duplication of coordinate locations is eliminated by using the subprogram



Subroutines for Cutter Diameter Compensation

%	
O1107	
(* *********)	
(* X0/Y0 - LOWER LEFT CORNE	R)
(* Z0100 ABOVE TOP OF PAR	T)
(* THIS PROGRAM CALLS SUBF	ROGRAM 1007)
(* ********)	
N001 G00 G40 G70 G90	(SAFETY LINE)
N101 T01 M06	(TOOL CHANGE)
N102 G00X7. Y.875	(MOVE CUTTER TO CRO RAMP-ON POSITION)
N103 G45 Z0. H01 M08	(PICK UP LENGTH OFFSET/COOLANT ON)
N104 G01 Z89	(POSITION CUTTER TO DEPTH)
N105 G17 G42 D11	(TURN ON THE CRO - USE REGISTER 11)
N106 P1007 M98 L1	(JUMP TO SUBROUTINE TO MILL PART)
N107 G00 X7. Y.875	(POSITION THE CUTTER FOR CRO RAMP-ON)
N108 G01 Z89	(POSITION CUTTER TO DEPTH)
N109 G17 G42	(TURN ON THE CRO - USE REGISTER 12)
N110 P1007 M98 L1	(JUMP TO SUBROUTINE TO MILL PART)
N111 G00 G91 G28 Z0. M09	(RAPID Z TO HOME/COOLANT OFF)
N112 G28 X0. Y0. M05	(RAPID X/Y TO HOME/SPINDLE OFF)
N113 M30	(END OF PROGRAM)
01007	
(* ********)	
(* SUBPROGRAM CALLED BY P	ROGRAM 1107)
(* ********)	
N001 G01 X6.	(CRO ALREADY ON - RAMP-ON TO#1))
N002 Y4.	(FEED TO #2)
N003 X2.	(FEED TO #3)
N004 X0. Y2.	(FEED TO #4)
N005 Y0.	(FEED TO #5)
N006 X4.875	(FEED TO #6)
N007 G02 X6. Y1.125 I0. J1.125	(CUT ARC FROM #6 TO #1)
N008 G40 X7.	(CANCEL CRO AND RAMP-OFF)
N009 G00 Z0.	(RETRACT THE SPINDLE)
N010 M99	(RETURN TO CALLING PROGRAM)
%	

Figure 7: Program to machine the part in Figure 8

Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"



Nested Loops

Do loops may nest inside other do loop or subprograms

Similarly, subprograms may nest inside other subprograms

This concept will be demonstrated using the part illustrated in Figure 8 and the program in Figure 9. This program features two loops nested inside a subprogram



In writing a CNC program, a **reference sketch** such as this in Figure 8, is a valuable **aid** in developing a **machining strategy** and provides a way for the programmer to **check** his or her work



Nested Loops



Nested Loops

% O1109 (* ********) (* X0/Y0 - LOWER LEFT CORNER) (* Z0100 ABOVE TOP OF PART) (* ********) (* TOOL 1 - NO. 3 C-DRILL) (* ********) N001 G00 G90 G80 G40 G98 N101 T01 M06 N102 G00 X1. Y1. S1700 M03 N103 Z163 H01 M08 N104 G81 G98 X1. Y1. Z162 R0. F5.1 N105 P1000 M98 L1 N106 Y1. N107 P1000 M98 L1 N106 Y1. N107 P1000 M98 L1 N108 G00 G91 G28 Z0. M09 N109 G28 X0. Y0. M05 N110 M01 (* ********) (* TOOL 2 - 1/4 DRILL)	(SAFETY LINE) (TOOL CHANGE) (POSITION AT A-1) (TURN ON TOOL LENGTH OFFSET AND COOLANT) (TURN ON DRILL CYCLE - DRILL A-1) (JUMP TO SUBPROGRAM 1000) (POSITION TO AND DRILL C-1) (JUMP TO SUBPROGRAM 1000) (RAPID Z HOME/COOLANT OFF) (RAPID Z/Y HOME/SPINDLE OFF) (OPTIONAL STOP CODE)	O1000 (* ********) (* SUBPROGRAM 1000 CALLE (* PROGRAM NUMBER 1109) (* ********) N101 G25 P112 Q102 L5 N102 G91 X1. N103 Y1. N104 G25 P104 Q104 L5 N105 G91 X-1. N106 G90 N107 M99 %	D BY) (BEGIN DO LOOP - REPEAT 5 TIMES) (MOVE INCREMENTALLY 1.000 IN X) (POSITION TO C-1) (BEGIN A LOOP - REPEAT 5 TIMES) (MOVE INCREMENTALLY -1.000 IN X) (SWITCH TO ABSOLUTE POSITIONING) (RETURN TO CALLING PROGRAM)
N002 G00 G90 G80 G40 G98 N201 T01 M06 N202 G00 X1. Y1. S1700 M03 N203 Z163 H01 M08 N204 G81 G98 X1. Y1. Z162 R0. F5.1 N205 P1000 M98 L1 N206 Y1. N207 P1000 M98 L1 N208 G00 G91 G28 Z0. M09 N209 G28 X0. Y0. M05 N210 M30	(SAFETY LINE) (TOOL CHANGE) (POSITION AT A-1) (TURN ON TOOL LENGTH OFFSET AND COOLANT) (TURN ON DRILL CYCLE- DRILL A-1) (JUMP TO SUBPROGRAM 1000) (POSITION TO AND DRILL C-1) (JUMP TO SUBPROGRAM 1000) (RAPID Z HOME/COOLANT OFF) (RAPID X/Y HOME/SPINDLE OFF) (END OF PROGRAM - MEMORY RESET)		

Figure 9: Program to machine the part in Figure 8

Seams W., "Computer Numerical Control, Concepts & Programming"



Summary 1/2

The important **concepts** presented in this chapter are:

- A do loop instructs the MCU to repeat a series of instructions a specified number of times
- The **format** for a do loop is:

G25P...Q..-L.

> Where:.

G25 turns on the loop

P is the **beginning block** number of the loop.

Q is the **ending block** number of the loop.

L is the **number of times** to repeat the loop.



Summary 2/2

P....M98L

- A subprogram is a program called by another program in a parent-child
- The **format** for calling a subprogram is:

> Where:

- is the **program number** of the subprogram.

- M98 causes subprogram P to execute.
 - specifies the **number of times** subprogram P executes.
- Nested loops are placed inside other loops or inside subprograms
- The codes for subprograms and do loops vary from controller
- To program a particular machine, it will be necessary to consult the programming manual for the machine in question.



Vocabulary Introduced in this chapter

- Do loop
- Main program
- Nested loop
- Subprogram
- Subroutine



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