

# Oneliner-izer

## An Exercise in Constrained Coding

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# Writing one-liners

**Python Bee.**

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Write a function `f` that takes in a string `s` and returns `True` only if that string is composed of the characters `'A'` and `'a'`.

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            return False  
    return True
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More fun: solving these in one line.

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f = lambda s: False not in [char in 'Aa' for char in s]
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            return False  
    return True
```

More fun: solving these in one line.

```
f = lambda s: False not in [char in 'Aa' for char in s]  
f = lambda s: all([char in 'Aa' for char in s])
```

# Writing one-liners

## Python Bee (2).

Estimate  $\pi$  by sampling 100000 random points in the square  $[0,1] \times [0,1]$  and determining whether they lie in the unit circle centered at  $(0, 0)$ .



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Estimate  $\pi$  by sampling 100000 random points in the square  $[0,1] \times [0,1]$  and determining whether they lie in the unit circle centered at  $(0, 0)$ .

```
def pi():  
    ...
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```
def pi():  
    ...
```

...or...

```
pi = lambda: sum(1 for t in xrange(100000) if  
    math.sqrt(random.random()*2 + random.random()*2)  
    <= 1) * 4.0 / 100000
```

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Technically, yes.

```
x = MyClass(47)
result = x.method()
print result
[...]
```

→

```
exec "x = MyClass(47)\nresult = x.method()\n[...]"
```

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exec "x = MyClass(47)\nresult = x.method()\n[...]"
```

```
x = MyClass(47); result = x.method(); print result [...]
```

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Technically, yes.

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x = MyClass(47)
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```
exec "x = MyClass(47)\nresult = x.method()\n[...]"
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```
x = MyClass(47); result = x.method(); print result [...]
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But that's no fun!

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More fun: computing with Python expressions. Some tools:



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## List comprehension.

```
>>> lst = [-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> [i * 10 for i in lst if i > 0]
[10, 20, 30, 40]
```

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More fun: computing with Python expressions. Some tools:

## List comprehension.

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>>> lst = [-2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4]
>>> [i * 10 for i in lst if i > 0]
[10, 20, 30, 40]
```

## Lambda expression.

```
>>> f = lambda x: x * 10
>>> f(10)
4
```

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Yes, this is terrible.

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- *Oneliner-izer* is a compiler that implements these.

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## Takeaways:

- This challenge is solvable.
- Lambda calculus! Obscure Python features!
- *Oneliner-izer* is a compiler that implements these.
- Not for use as a software engineering paradigm.

# Overview

- 1 The Challenge
- 2 Simple Code Blocks
- 3 Control Flow
- 4 Beyond
- 5 Building the Compiler

# Simple Code Blocks

Convert this into a single line?

```
x = 1
```

```
y = x + x
```

```
z = y + y
```

```
print z + z
```

# Simple Code Blocks

Convert this into a single line?

```
x = 1
y = x + x
z = y + y
print z + z
```

**Won't work:** (exponential blowup)

```
print (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1)
```

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```

**Answer.**

```
print
                                     (z + z)
```



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**Won't work:** (exponential blowup)

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```

**Answer.**

```
print
                                     (lambda z: (z + z))(y + y)
```

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```

**Answer.**

```
print
    (lambda z: (z + z))(y + y)
```

**Alternate method.** `[z + z for z in [y + y]][0]`

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print (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1)
```

**Answer.**

```
print      (lambda y:
              (lambda z: (z + z))(y + y)
            )(x + x)
```

**Alternate method.** `[z + z for z in [y + y]][0]`

# Simple Code Blocks

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y = x + x
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print z + z
```

**Won't work:** (exponential blowup)

```
print (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1) + (1 + 1)
```

**Answer.**

```
print (lambda x: (lambda y:
                  (lambda z: (z + z))(y + y))
      )(x + x))(1)
```

**Alternate method.** `[z + z for z in [y + y]][0]`

# What about functions?

Convert this into a single line?

```
def f(x):  
    return x * 10  
print f(3)
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# What about functions?

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def f(x):  
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print f(3)
```

**Answer.**

```
print (lambda f: f(3))(lambda x: x * 10)
```

Note that this works as-is with `*args` and `**kwargs`!

```
lambda x, y, *args, **kwargs: ...
```



# What about operations that don't assign to a variable?

Suppose `do_something()` has side effects.

Convert this into a single line?

```
do_something()
```

```
print 42
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print (lambda _: 42)(do_something())
```

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Or:

```
print (do_something(), 42)[1]
```

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```
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```
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```
print (lambda _: 42)(do_something())
```

Or:

```
print (do_something(), 42)[1]
```

Now we don't have to have one `print`: we can define our own `__print()` function and use it just like `do_something()`.

# A note on print

```
print 1  
return 2
```

**Python 3.** `print` is already a function.  
`(lambda _: 2)(print(1))` works just fine.

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**Python 2.** (`lambda _: 2`)(`print 1`) is a syntax error. How can we get a `__print()` function?

**Won't work:** In Python 2, we could use `from __future__ import print_function`. However, that's not a real import statement, it's a *compiler directive*.



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**Python 3.** `print` is already a function.  
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**Won't work:** In Python 2, we could use `from __future__ import print_function`. However, that's not a real import statement, it's a *compiler directive*.

**Instead:**

```
__print = __builtins__.__dict__['print']
```



# What about classes?

```
class Person(object):  
    def __init__(self):  
        . . .
```

# What about classes?

```
class Person(object):  
    def __init__(self):  
        ...
```

→

```
Person = type('Person', (object,),  
              {'__init__': lambda self: ...})
```

# Putting it all together

```
x = 2 + 2
def f(x):
    return x * 5
print x
y = f(x)
```

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def f(x):
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print x
y = f(x)
```

```
(lambda y: None)(f(x))
```

# Putting it all together

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x = 2 + 2
def f(x):
    return x * 5
print x
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```

```
(lambda _:
    (lambda y: None)(f(x))
)(__print(x))
```

# Putting it all together

```
x = 2 + 2
def f(x):
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(lambda f:
  (lambda _:
    (lambda y: None)(f(x))
  )(__print(x))
)(lambda x: x * 5)
```



# Putting it all together

```
x = 2 + 2
def f(x):
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print x
y = f(x)

(lambda x:
    (lambda f:
        (lambda _:
            (lambda y: None)(f(x))
        )(__print(x))
    )(lambda x: x * 5)
)(2 + 2)
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# Putting it all together

```
x = 2 + 2
def f(x):
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y = f(x)

(lambda x:
    (lambda f:
        (lambda _:
            (lambda y: None)(f(x))
        )(__print(x))
    )(lambda x: x * 5)
)(2 + 2)
```

Preserves evaluation order.

# if/else Statements

Convert this into a single line?

```
if boolean:
    x = 5
else:
    x = 10
print x * 100
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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
(`_ if _ else _`), plus  
continuation passing.

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if boolean:
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```
(code_block_1 if boolean
 else code_block_2)
```

# if/else Statements

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if boolean:
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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
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continuation passing.

```
(code_block_1 if boolean
 else code_block_2)
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Code blocks:

```
if boolean:
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# if/else Statements

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Code blocks:

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if boolean:
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Problem: code duplication.

# if/else Statements

Convert this into a single line?

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if boolean:
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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
(`_ if _ else _`), plus  
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To de-duplicate, all code after  
the if/else becomes a  
*continuation*:



# if/else Statements

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if boolean:
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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
(`_ if _ else _`), plus  
continuation passing.

To de-duplicate, all code after  
the if/else becomes a  
*continuation*:

```
def continuation(x):
    print x * 100
if boolean:
    x = 5
    return continuation(x)
else:
    x = 10
    return continuation(x)
```

# if/else Statements

Convert this into a single line?

```
if boolean:
    x = 5
else:
    x = 10
print x * 100
```

Final result:

**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
(`_ if _ else _`), plus  
continuation passing.

# if/else Statements

Convert this into a single line?

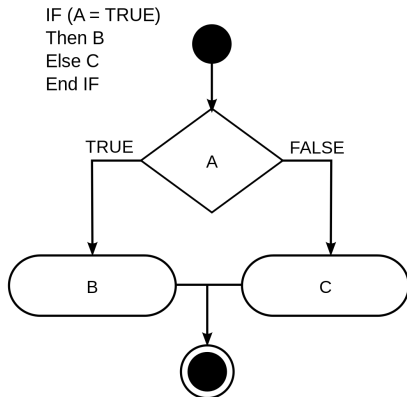
```
if boolean:
    x = 5
else:
    x = 10
print x * 100
```

**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
(`_ if _ else _`), plus  
continuation passing.

Final result:

```
(lambda continuation:
    (lambda x:
        continuation(x)
    )(5)
if boolean else
    (lambda x:
        continuation(x)
    )(10)
)(lambda x: __print(x * 100))
```

# if/else Statements



Final result:

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(lambda continuation:
  (lambda x:
    continuation(x)
  )(5)
if boolean else
  (lambda x:
    continuation(x)
  )(10)
)(lambda x: __print(x * 100))
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# while Loops

Convert this into a single line?

```
x = 5
while x < 20:
    x = x + 4
print x
```

# while Loops

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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
and continuation passing...  
again!

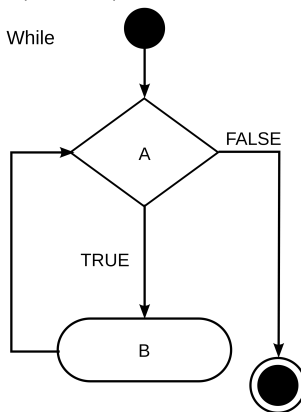
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**Answer.** Conditional expressions  
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again!

While (A = TRUE) Do  
B  
End While



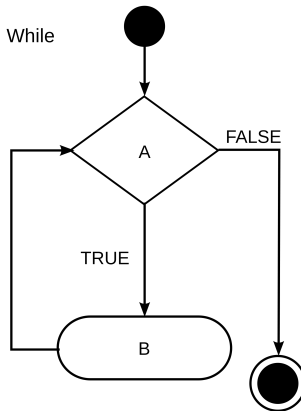
# while Loops

```
x = 5
while x < 20:
    x = x + 4
print x
```

→

```
x = 5
def while_loop(x):
    if x < 20:
        x = x + 4
        while_loop(x)
    else:
        print x
while_loop(x)
```

While (A = TRUE) Do  
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End While





# while Loops

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x = 5
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Problem: `while_loop` is recursive!  
Not an anonymous function!

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Solution: **Y combinator**.

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while_loop(x)
```

Problem: `while_loop` is recursive!  
Not an anonymous function!

Solution: **Y combinator**.

```
Y =
(lambda f: (lambda x: x(x))
(lambda y: f(lambda: y(y)()))))
```

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Not an anonymous function!

Solution: **Y combinator**.

Y =  
`(lambda f: (lambda x: x(x))`  
`(lambda y: f(lambda: y(y))))`

```
x = 5
while x < 20:
    x = x + 4
print x
```

→

```
(lambda x: (lambda while_loop: while_loop(x))
(Y(lambda while_loop: (lambda x: (lambda x:
while_loop(x))(x+4) if x<20 else __print(x)))))(5)
```

# while Loops

```
x = 5
while x < 20:
    x = x + 4
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→
```

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Not an anonymous function!

Solution: **Y combinator**.

```
Y =
(lambda f: (lambda x: x(x))
(lambda y: f(lambda: y(y)()))))
```

```
(lambda x: (lambda while_loop: while_loop(x))
(Y(lambda while_loop: (lambda x: (lambda x:
while_loop(x))(x+4) if x<20 else __print(x)))))(5)
```

Worked example here:

[Wikipedia:Fixed-point\\_combinator#The\\_factorial\\_function](#)

# Storing state

**Old way:**

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

# Storing state

## Old way:

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

## Problem:

```
continuation = (lambda x, y, z, kitchen_sink: ...)
```

# Storing state

## Old way:

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

Problem:

```
continuation = (lambda x, y, z, kitchen_sink: ...)
```

## New way:

```
[return_value for some_dict['x'] in [42]][0]
```



# Storing state

## Old way:

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

Problem:

```
continuation = (lambda x, y, z, kitchen_sink: ...)
```

## New way:

```
[return_value for some_dict['x'] in [42]][0]
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More concise continuations:

```
continuation = (lambda some_dict: ...)
```

# Storing state

## Old way:

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

Problem:

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continuation = (lambda x, y, z, kitchen_sink: ...)
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## New way:

```
[return_value for some_dict['x'] in [42]][0]
```

More concise continuations:

```
continuation = (lambda some_dict: ...)
```

Initialize some\_dict with locals().

# Storing state

## Old way:

```
(lambda x: return_value)(42)
```

Problem:

```
continuation = (lambda x, y, z, kitchen_sink: ...)
```

## New way:

```
[return_value for some_dict['x'] in [42]][0]
```

More concise continuations:

```
continuation = (lambda some_dict: ...)
```

Initialize some\_dict with locals().

Bonus: now we can import x from one-lined programs!

# for Loops

Convert this into a single line?

```
total = 0
for item in iterable:
    total += item
print total
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## Reminder.

The items of `iterable` must be consumed one-by-one in order. We can't always index into it with `iterable[i]`.

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The items of `iterable` must be consumed one-by-one in order. We can't always index into it with `iterable[i]`.

```
>>> iterable = {10, 20, 30}
>>> for item in iterable:
...     print item
...
10
20
30
```

# for Loops

Convert this into a single line?

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for item in iterable:
    total += item
    print total
```

## Reminder.

The items of iterable must be consumed one-by-one in order. We can't always index into it with `iterable[i]`.

```
>>> iterable = {10, 20, 30}
>>> for item in iterable:
...     print item
...
10
20
30

>>> iterable[2]
TypeError: 'set' object
does not support indexing
```

# for Loops

Convert this into a single line?

```
total = 0
for item in iterable:
    total += item
print total
```

**Answer.**



# for Loops

Convert this into a single line?

```
total = 0
for item in iterable:
    total += item
    print total
```

## Answer.

Convert to a while loop that consumes the iterable using `next`.

```
total = 0
items = iter(iterable)
sentinel = []
while True:
    item = next(items, sentinel)
    if item is sentinel:
        break
    total += item
    print total
```

# Imports

```
import random as rnd  
print rnd.choice([1, 2, 3, 10])
```

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print rnd.choice([1, 2, 3, 10])
```

**Answer.** This is equivalent to:

```
rnd = __import__('random')
print rnd.choice([1, 2, 3, 10])
```

Fortunately, `__import__` itself doesn't need to be imported.

# Raising Errors

■ `raise Bad()`

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`([] for [] in []).throw(Bad())`

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`carry_on()`

# Raising Errors

■ `raise Bad()`

→

```
([] for [] in []).throw(Bad())
```

■ `assert good`  
`carry_on()`

→

```
carry_on() if good else  
    ([] for [] in []).throw(AssertionError())
```

# try/except

Problem:

```
try:  
    foo()  
except Bad as ev:  
    bar(ev)
```



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```
try:  
    foo()  
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    bar(ev)
```

Solution: abuse the context manager protocol!

# try/except

Solution: abuse the context manager protocol!

```
class Handler:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        if et is not None and issubclass(et, Bad):
            bar(ev); return True
        return False
with Handler():
    foo()
```

# try/except

```
class Body:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        foo()

class Handler:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        if et is not None and issubclass(et, Bad):
            bar(ev); return True
        return False

with Handler(), Body():
    pass
```

# try/except

```
class Body:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        foo()

class Handler:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        if et is not None and issubclass(et, Bad):
            bar(ev); return True
        return False

with contextlib.nested(Handler(), Body()):
    pass
```

# try/except

```
class Body:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        foo() # Why __exit__? Python issue 5251.
class Handler:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        if et is not None and issubclass(et, Bad):
            bar(ev); return True
        return False
with contextlib.nested(Handler(), Body()):
    pass
```

# try/except

```
class Body:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        foo() # Why __exit__? Python issue 5251.
class Handler:
    def __enter__(self): pass
    def __exit__(self, et, ev, tb):
        if et is not None and isinstance(et, Bad):
            bar(ev); return True
        return False
ctx = contextlib.nested(Handler(), Body())
ctx.__enter__()
ctx.__exit__(None, None, None)
```

# try/except

```
Body = type('Body', (),
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb: foo()
)
Handler = type('Handler', (),
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb:
        et is not None and issubclass(et, Bad) and
        (bar(ev), True)[1]
)
ctx = contextlib.nested(Handler(), Body())
ctx.__enter__()
ctx.__exit__(None, None, None)
```

# try/except

```
(lambda ctx:
  (ctx.__enter__(), ctx.__exit__(None, None, None))
)(contextlib.nested(
  type('Handler', (), {
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb:
      et is not None and isinstance(et, Bad) and
      (bar(ev), True)[1]
  })(), type('Body', (), {
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb: foo()
  })()))
```



# try/except

```
(lambda ctx:
  (ctx.__enter__(), ctx.__exit__(None, None, None))
)(contextlib.nested(
  type('Handler', (), {
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb:
      et is not None and isinstance(et, Bad) and
      (bar(ev), True)[1]
  })(), type('Body', (), {
    '__enter__': lambda self: None,
    '__exit__': lambda self, et, ev, tb: foo()
  })()))
```

Also implemented: else and finally.

# What's Left

- `from module import *`
- `yield` and generators
- `with`

# Building the Compiler

- `ast` - for parsing Python files into syntax trees
- `symtable` - for elucidating the scope of variables
- `argparse` - for parsing command-line arguments
- `unittest` - test suite

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- `ast` - for parsing Python files into syntax trees
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<https://github.com/csvoss/onelinerizer>

# Some caveats

Constant upper limit to Python parser.

```
$ python onelinerized.py  
s_push: parser stack overflow  
MemoryError
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Long loops: Maximum recursion depth exceeded.

# Some caveats

Constant upper limit to Python parser.

```
$ python onelinerized.py  
s_push: parser stack overflow  
MemoryError
```

```
$ pypy onelinerized.py
```

Long loops: Maximum recursion depth exceeded.

```
import sys  
sys.setrecursionlimit(new_limit)
```



## PyCon 2016

## Oneliner-izer

# Contributors

Many thanks to:

- **andersk** for contributing many features and some slides
- **asottile** and **shulinye** for contributing code

# Links

## Try it

This script will rewrite your Python code as a single line.

```
(lambda __print, __g: [((__print(y), None)[1] for __g['y'] in [(__g[5])][0] for __g['f'], f.__name__ in {(__lambda x: (lambda __l: [(__l['x'] * 4) for __l['x'] in [(x)][0])({}), 'f')]}[0])(__import__['__builtin__'].__dict__['__print'], globals())
```

```
1 ## YOUR CODE HERE
2 def f(x):
3     return x * 4
4 y = f(5)
5 print y
```

*(Spoiler warning! You may wish to look at the puzzles below, first.)*

- Demo: <http://onelinepy.herokuapp.com/>
- Code: <https://github.com/csvoss/onelinerizer>

## Further Reading

- Lambda calculus, Church numerals, combinatory logic
- *To Mock a Mockingbird* for logic and combinator puzzles