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- Guiding principle: defaults should be fully understandable without inspecting function body

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- Idea: defaults should behave as if provided by a wrapper function
  - cannot access internal function scope
  - cannot interfere with internal function state

- Evaluate defaults in separate scope:
  - can see 'this', 'arguments' and function name (where applicable)
  - · and other parameters (more on this in a minute)
  - but not variables from function body
  - not even later (via eval)

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- function  $f(x = (y = undefined, 1), y = 2) { ... } f(undefined, 3)$

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- Safer alternative: separate nested scope for each parameter. Cost?

### IN A NUTSHELL

• Defaults evaluate "as if" provided by wrapper function:

```
function f(\{a: a = 9\}, x = 1, y = x + 2) \{ ... \}
behaves roughly like
function f() {
 const \{a: a = 9\} = arguments[0]
 const x = arguments[1] !== undefined ? arguments[1] : 1
 const <math>y = arguments[2] !== undefined ? arguments[2] : x + 2
 return <math>((a, x, y) => \{ ... \})(a, x, y) // lexical 'this' and 'arguments'
}
```

· Glossing over 'length' and some other details here

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- Alternative to copying: nest local environment into parameter environment + hacks for 'var'
- Either way, extra environment only observable when a default contains either direct eval or a closure over one of the parameters
- Hence easy to optimise away in most cases