





Higher Order Functions in Python and F#

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Remark

Techniques from F#

About speaker

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Minimum Requirement

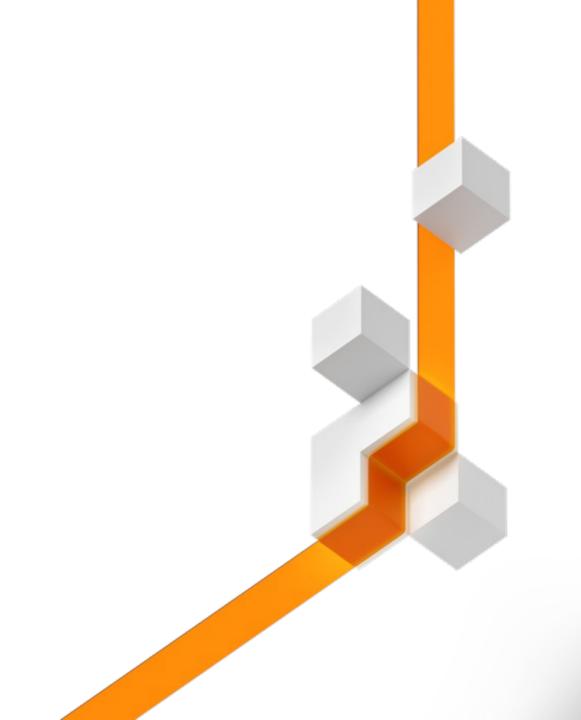
Function

Function is a machine that takes input(s), and returns an output





3 Concepts



3 concepts

- · Functions as inputs
- · Functions as output
- Partial Application

Functions as inputs

```
def f(x,y,z):
return x + y + z
```

def f(x,y,z):

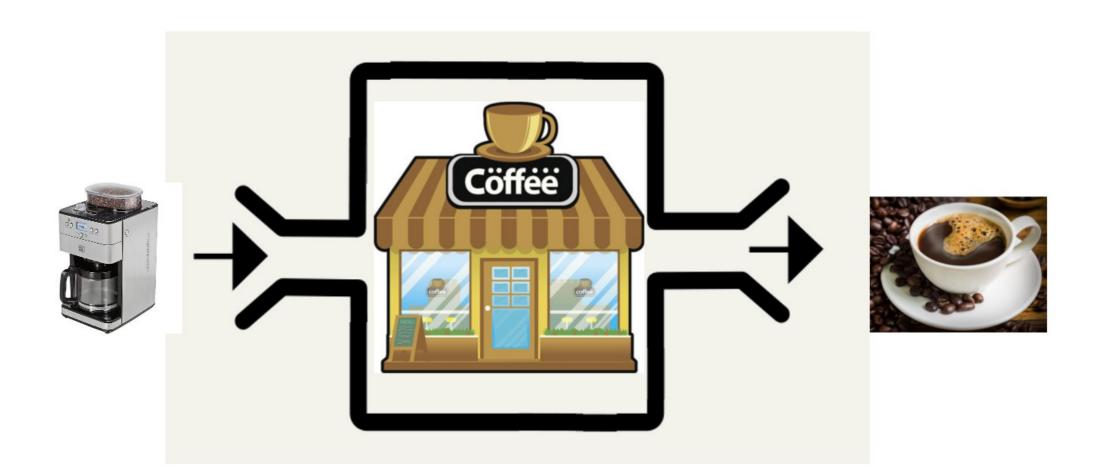
Most of the time, x, y, z are simple data types

e.g. string, int, float, date, List, Set, Dictionary, etc.

def f(x,y,z):

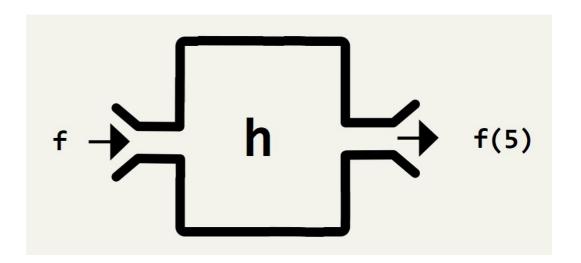
Most of the time, x, y, z are simple data types

But they can actually be functions as well!



```
def h(f):
    return f(5)
```

```
def h(f):
    return f(5)
```



h is a bigger function that:

- Accepts a smaller function f
- Returns a value f(5)

```
def h(f):
    return f(5)

def g(x):
    return x + 1
```

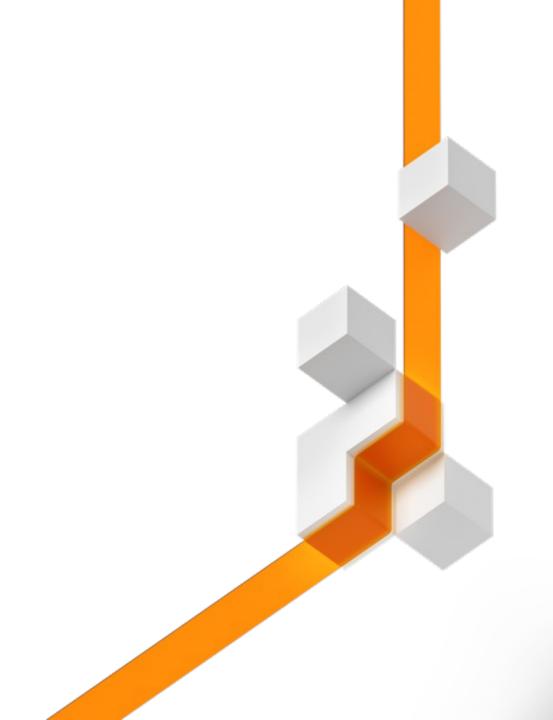
```
def h(f):
    return f(5)
def g(x):
    return x + 1
Then h(g) = 6
```

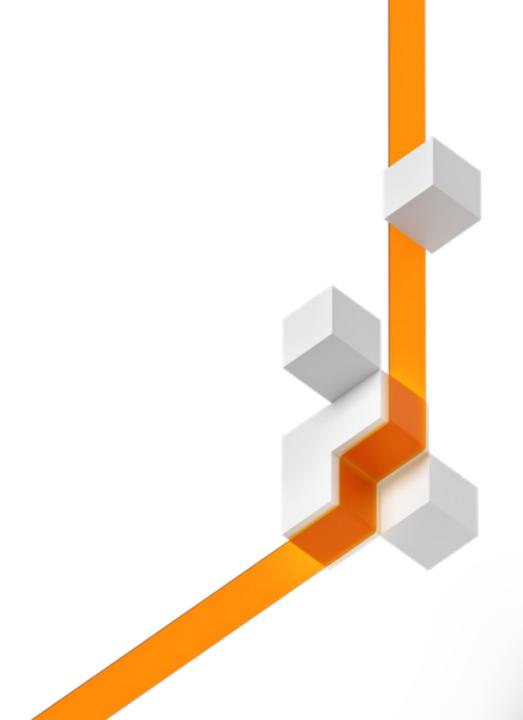
```
def h(f):
    return f(5)

def k(x):
    return x * 100
```

```
def h(f):
    return f(5)
def k(x):
    return x * 100
Then h(k) = 500
```

How is this useful?





Newton's method helps you find the (approximate) solution of a function.

It is available in "scipy" library.

•
$$f(x) = x^2 - 3$$

•
$$f(x) = 0$$
 when $x = \sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$

```
from scipy import optimize
def f(x):
    return x * x - 3
solution = optimize.newton(f,5)
print(solution)
# 1.7320508075688772
```

```
from scipy import optimize
def f(x):
    return x * x - 3
solution = optimize.newton(f,5)
print(solution)
# 1.7320508075688772
```

Smaller function "f" accepted by a bigger function!

Designing Insurance Product

```
How much should I charge for insurance?

def price():
   ....
```

```
e.g. Depends on age

def price(age):
```

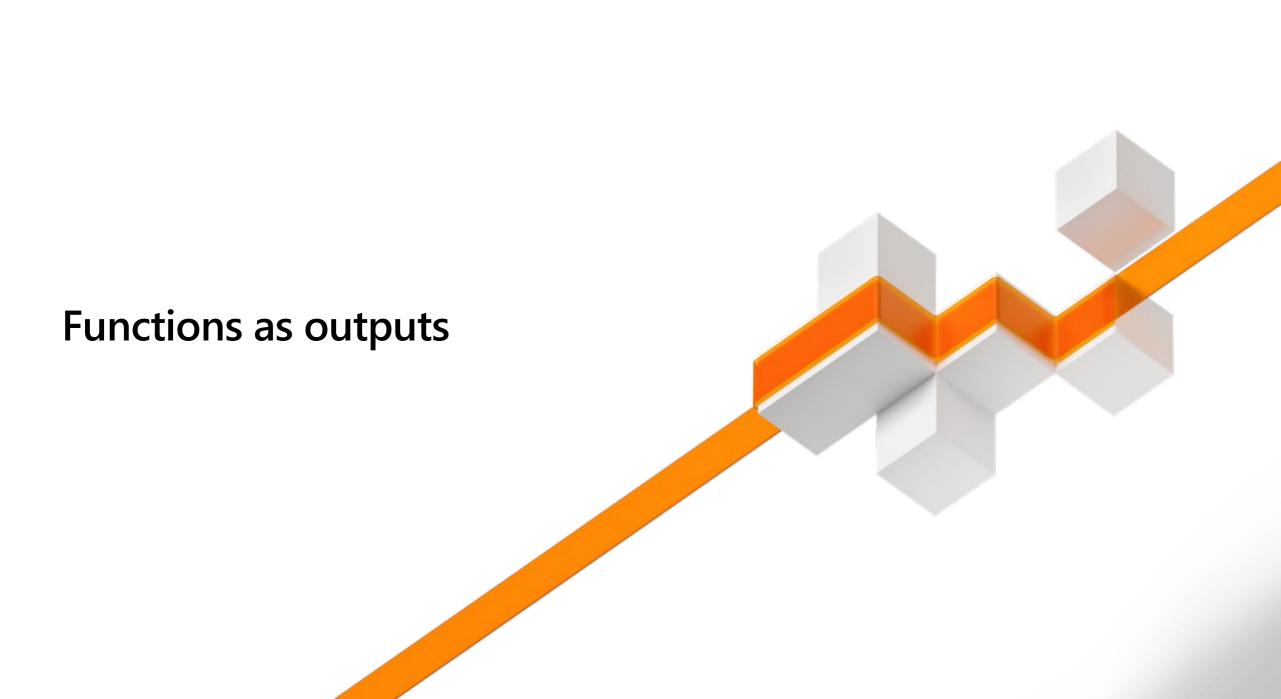
age: int

prob: float

```
e.g. Depends on probability of injury
def price(age, prob):
age: int
```

```
What if prob depends on time?
def price(age, prob):
age: int
prob: ???
```

```
Input a function instead!
def price(age, probFunc):
age: int
probFunc: datetime -> float
```



```
def f(x,y,z):
return X + y + z
```

def f(x,y,z):
 return

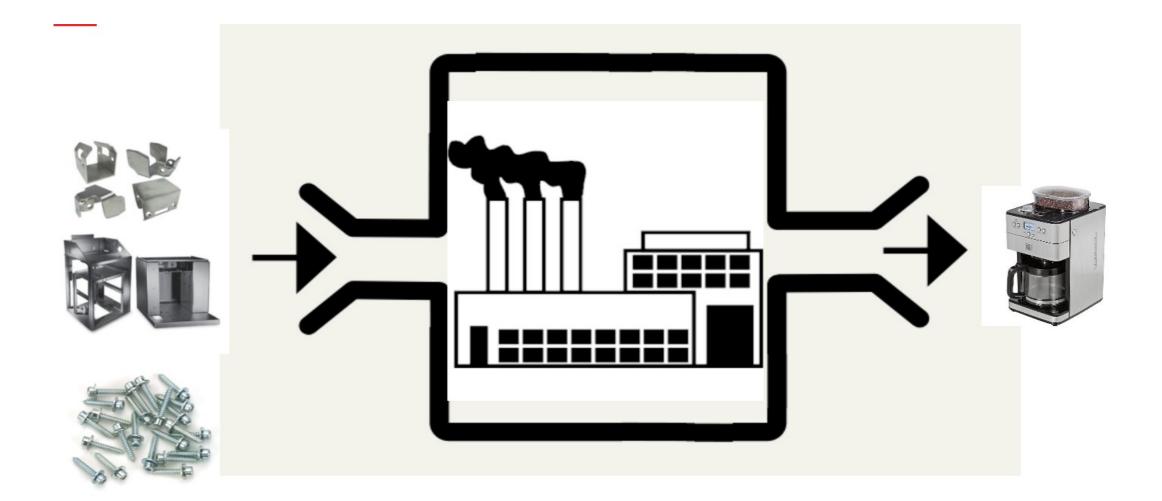
Most of the time, we also return simple data types

e.g. string, int, float, date, List, Set, Dictionary, etc.

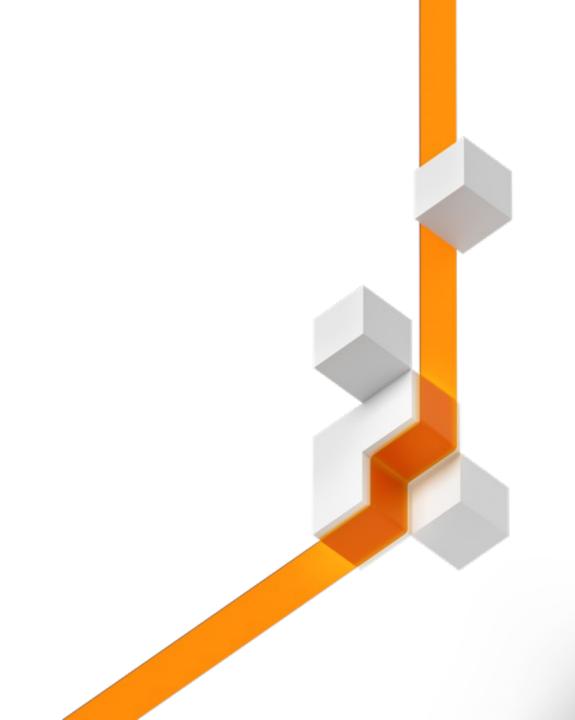
def f(x,y,z):
 return

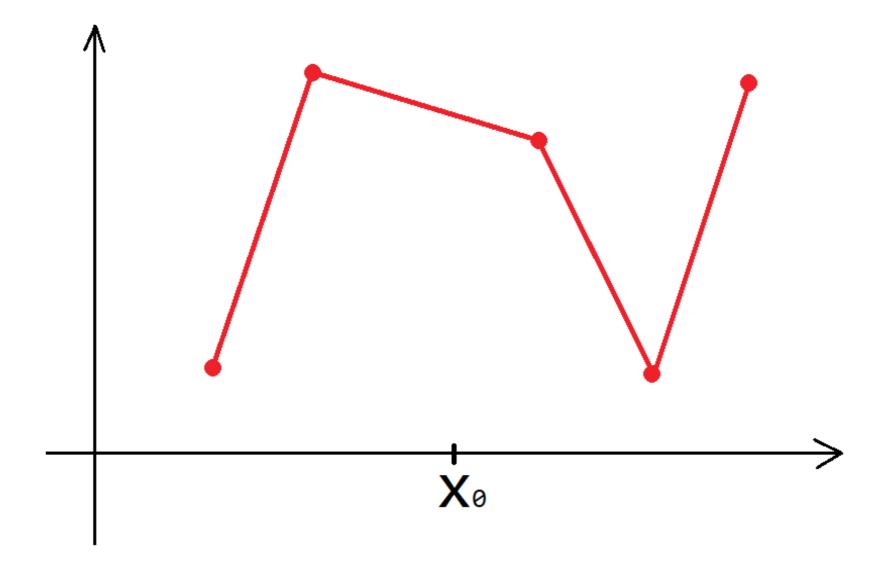
Most of the time, we also return simple data types

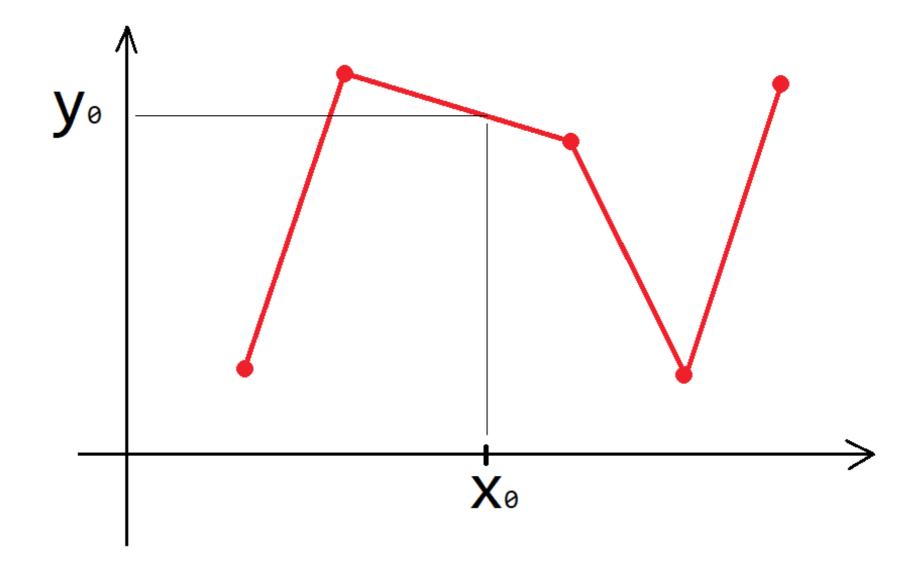
Again, you can also return a function!

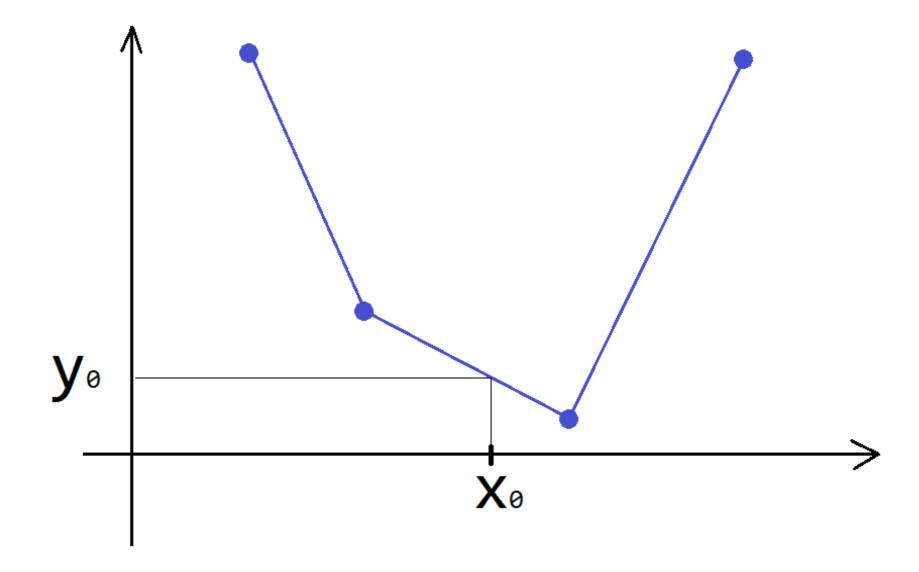


Interpolation









Interpolate

Interpolate function depends on:

- Original Dataset
- Value being queried x₀

```
def interpolate(dataset, x0):
```

```
dataset = [(-1,4),(1,7),(5,3)]
```

```
class Interpolate:
    def __init__(self,dataset):
        .....

def get_value(self,x0):
        .....
```

```
class Interpolate:
    def __init__(self,dataset):
    def get value(self,x0):
dataset = [(-1,4),(1,7),(5,3)]
inter obj = Interpolate(dataset)
result = inter obj.get value(2)
```

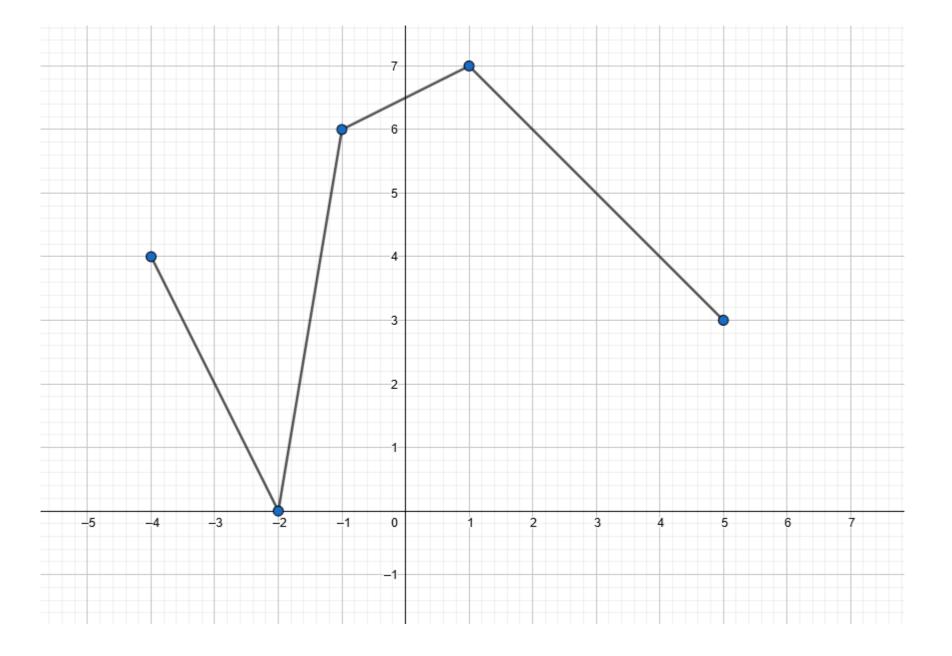
"get_value" is a smaller function that is returned by a bigger function "interpolate"!

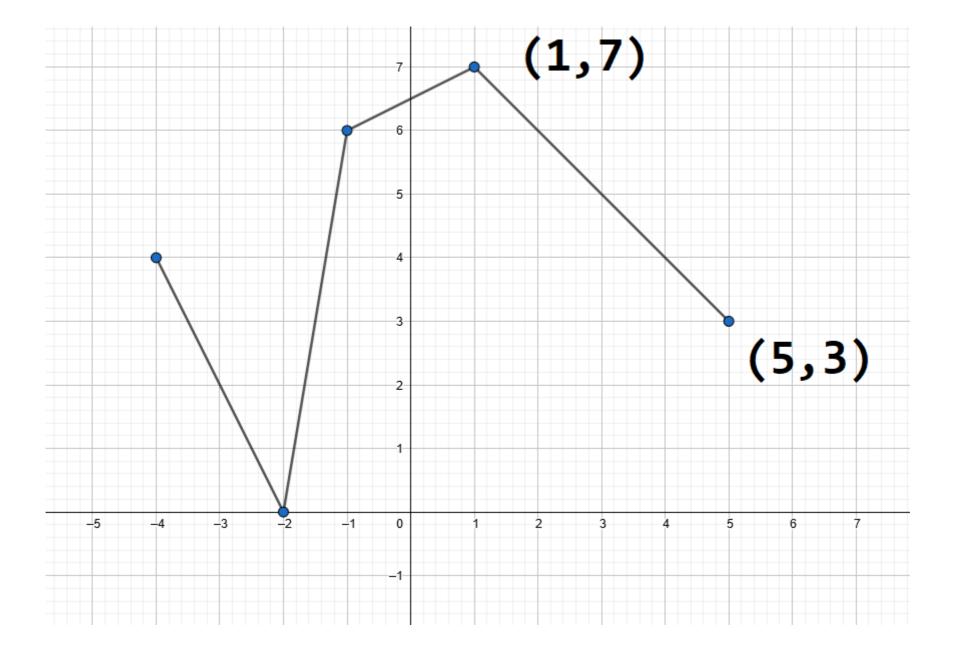
```
def interpolate(dataset):
    def get value(x0):
    return get value
dataset = [(-1,4),(1,7),(5,3)]
inner_func = interpolate(dataset)
result = inner_func(2)
```

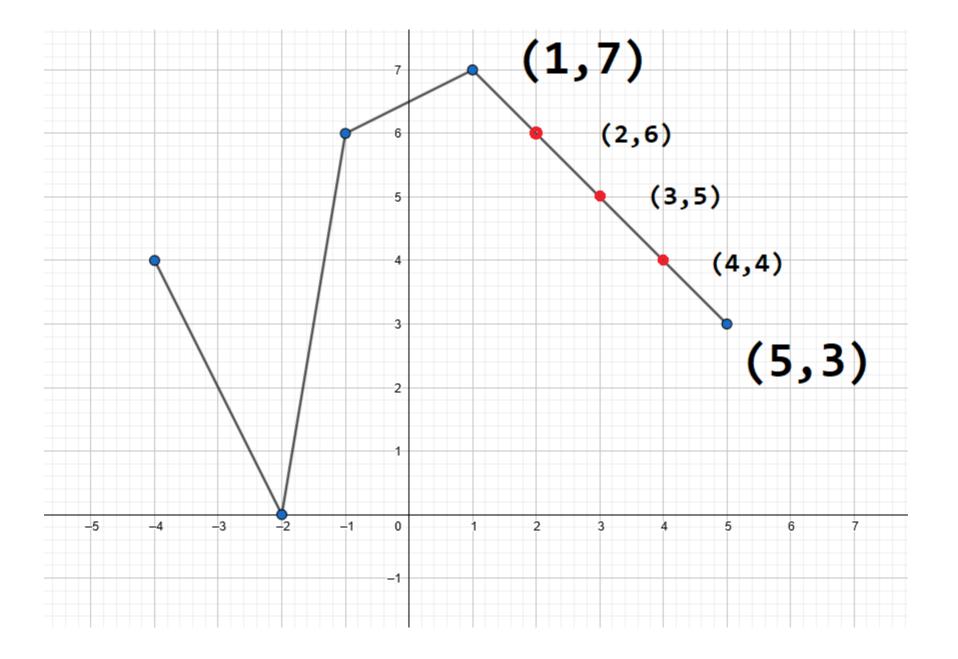
Directly use inner_func! No need to find the method hidden inside an object.

```
def interpolate(dataset):
    def get value(x0):
    return get_value
dataset = [(-1,4),(1,7),(5,3)]
inner func = interpolate(dataset)
result = inner func(2)
```

Interpolation Demo









Analogy

•If a function/ machine

- Needs 3 inputs
- But only 2 inputs provided

Still needs additional 1 inputs.

Analogy

If a function/ machine

- Needs 3 inputs
- But only 2 inputs provided

Becomes a brand new function/machine that needs 1 inputs.

Example

```
def f(x,y,z):
return x + y + z
```

Example

result = 6

```
def f(x,y,z):
    return x + y + z

result = f(1,2,3)
```

Missing Variable

```
def f(x,y,z):
    return x + y + z
result = f(1,2)
# TypeError: f() missing 1 required positional argument:
```

```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
    x + y + z
```

result = 6

```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: 
 <math>x + y + z

result = f(1)(2)(3)
```

```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
        X + Y + Z
result = f(1)(2)
# <function <lambda>.<locals>.<lambda>.<locals>.<locals>.<
at 0x013737C8>
Valid code!
```

```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: 
 <math>x + y + z

f : X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow result

f(x) \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow result

f(x)(y) \rightarrow Z \rightarrow result
```

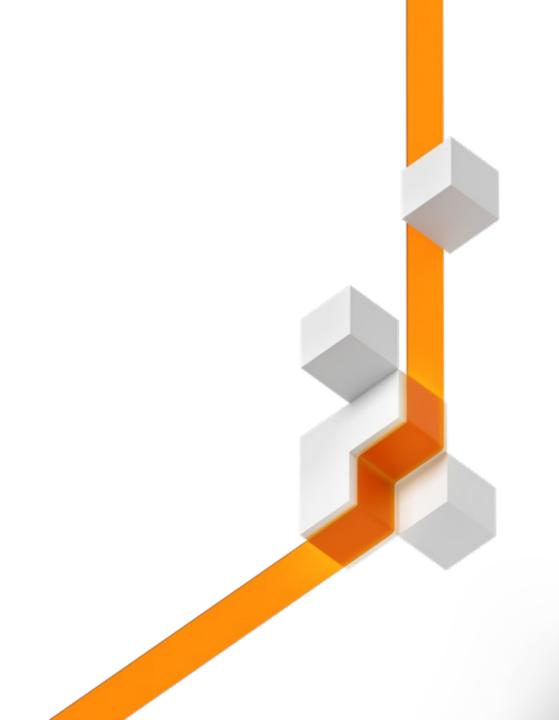
```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
          X + Y + Z
f : X -> Y -> Z -> result
f(x) \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z \rightarrow result
f(x)(y) \longrightarrow Z \longrightarrow result
f(x)(y)(z) -> result
```

return inner_1

```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
        x + y + z
def f(x):
    def inner_1(y):
        def inner_2(z):
        return inner 2
    return inner 1
```

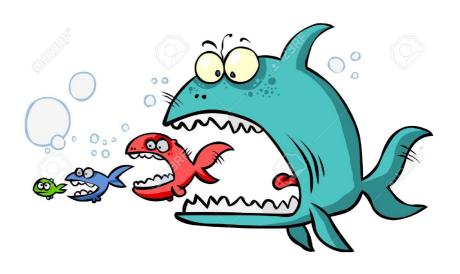
```
f = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
        X + Y + Z
def f(x):
    def inner_1(y):
        def inner 2(z):
            return x + y + z
        return inner 2
    return inner 1
```

SKI Combinators



Lambda Calculus

```
def B(x,y,z):
    return x(y(z))
def D(w,x,y,z):
    return w(x,y(z))
def O(x,y):
    return y(x(y))
```

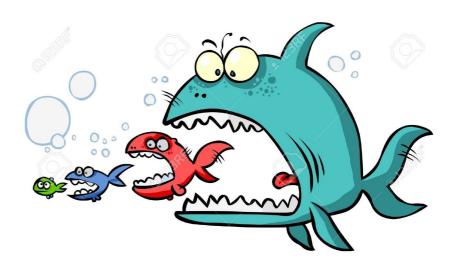


Lambda Calculus

```
def B(x,y,z):
    return x(y(z))
```

```
def D(w,x,y,z):
return w(x,y(z))
```

def
$$O(x,y)$$
:
return $y(x(y))$



Are these valid expressions?

What are the dependencies between w,x,y,z?

SKI

```
def S(x,y,z):
    return x(z,y(z))
def K(x,y):
    return x
def I(x):
    return x
```

SKI

```
S = lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: \
    x(z, y(z))
                        **
K = lambda x: lambda y:
    X
I = lambda x:
    X
```

**Written in easier form

SKI

You can express any lambda expression using only S, K, I.

Given a number:

- 1. Take the first digit
- 2. Multiply by the rest of the digits
- 3. Repeat

```
927583 -> 9 x 27583 -> 248247
```

```
927583 -> 9 x 27583 -> 248247
```

```
927583 -> 9 x 27583 -> 248247
248247 -> 2 x 48247 -> 96494
```

```
927583 -> 9 x 27583 -> 248247

248247 -> 2 x 48247 -> 96494

96494 -> 9 x 6494 -> 58446
```

```
927583 -> 9 x 27583 -> 248247
248247 -> 2 x 48247 -> 96494
96494 -> 9 x 6494 -> 58446
58446 -> 5 x 8446 -> 42230
```

$$T(x,y) = y(x)$$

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
```

$$T(x,y) = y(x)$$
Goal: $T = S(K(S(I)))(K)$
 $T(x) = S(K(S(I)))(K)(x)$

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = S(K(S(I)))(K)(x)
     = K(S(I))(x)[K(x)]
Because S(x,y,z) = x(z)(y(z))
```

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = S(K(S(I)))(K)(x)
     = K(S(I))(x)[K(x)]
     = S(I)[K(x)]
```

Because K(x,y) = x

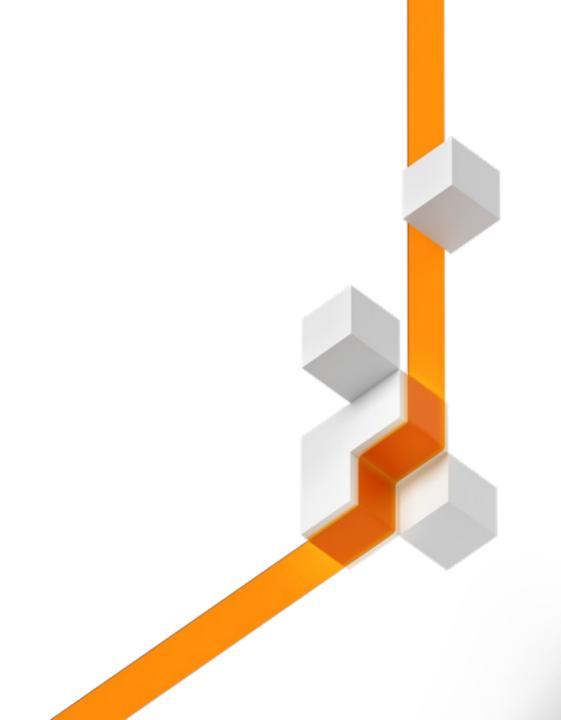
```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = ... = S(I)[K(x)]
T(x)(y) = S(I)[K(x)](y)
```

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = \dots = S(I)[K(x)]
T(x)(y) = S(I)[K(x)](y)
        = I(y)[K(x)(y)]
Because S(x,y,z) = x(z)(y(z))
```

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = \dots = S(I)[K(x)]
T(x)(y) = S(I)[K(x)](y)
        = \mathbf{I}(y)[K(x)(y)]
        = y[K(x)(y)]
Because I(x) = x
```

```
T(x,y) = y(x)
Goal: T = S(K(S(I)))(K)
T(x) = \dots = S(I)[K(x)]
T(x)(y) = S(I)[K(x)](y)
        = I(y)[K(x)(y)]
        = y[K(x)(y)] = y[x]
Because K(x,y) = x
```

Another example



Can do you this?

```
def g(y):
    return y(y)
```

Can do you this?

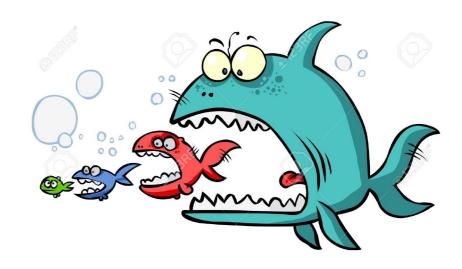
```
def g(y):
    return y(y)
def I(x):
    return x
result = g(I)
print(result)
```

Can do you this?

```
def g(y):
    return y(y)
def I(x):
    return x
result = g(I)
print(result)
# <function I at 0x033209C0>
```

Take away

- Functions accepting/returning functions can be a powerful tool
- Implementation at the language level is messy
- It encourages you to think in terms of dependencies.



Summary



3 concepts:

Functions as input
Functions as output
Partial Application

Q&A