

# List Comprehension, Memory Management, and Lambda Expression

---



# Solve this...

```
[ ] # Two artless approaches

# Option 1

numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
squared = []

for x in numbers:
    squared.append(x ** 2)

print(squared)

# Option 2

squared_2 = []

for x in numbers:
    squared_2.append(x * x)

print(squared_2)
```

Create a **list** of 10 numbers and compute their square value:  
1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10

▶ # With List Comprehension

```
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
squares = [x ** 2 for x in numbers]

print(squares)

# alternatively

squares = [x**2 for x in range(1, 11)]
print(squares)
```

## List Comprehensions

- Offer a **concise way** to create new lists from existing iterables
- Work with **any iterable**, including lists, strings, and tuples
- Syntax includes:
  - A **New List**
  - An **expression**
  - A **for clause**
  - Optionally, additional **for or if clauses**

## Why Use Them?

- Provide a **compact alternative** to standard for loops
- Help you **write cleaner, shorter code**
- Ideal for simple transformations or filtering
- Often faster than loops

# List Comprehension

Python List comprehension provides a much shorter syntax for creating a new list based on the values of an existing list.

```
newList = [ expression for clause ]
newList_with_conditional = [ expression for clause if conditional ]
clause = element in oldList
```

This mimics set builder notation (if you've ever heard of that)  
squared =  $\{x^2 \mid 1 \leq x \leq 10\}$   
is the same as  
squared = [x \*\* 2 for x in numbers]

# With List Comprehension

```
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10]
squares = [x ** 2 for x in numbers]

print(squares)

# alternatively

squares = [x**2 for x in range(1, 11)]
print(squares)
```

Let's explore more sophisticated  
constructions in Google Colab

Conditional  
Statements

Additional  
Syntax

Dealing  
with Tuples

Nested  
Loops

Time  
Analysis

# List Comprehension

**Why do we care about writing code via List Comprehension if at the end we got the same answer? right?**



**In general, list comprehensions are faster than for-loops.**

Let's move  
to another  
subject...

How is data-storage  
managed while  
working on Python?

As Data Scientist,  
we care about  
writing efficient  
code that runs fast.

writing efficient  
code means writing  
a *memory-efficient*  
code

But also...

# Memory Management for Python

- CPython
  - Reference implementation of Python
  - All new language features start here
  - Other implementations exist for certain use cases
- Private Heap:
  - All Python objects/data reside in a private heap
  - Managed internally by the Python Memory Manager
- Memory Allocation Layers:
  - Raw allocator interacts with OS to reserve heap memory
  - Object-specific allocators manage memory for types like int, str, dict, etc.
- Garbage Collection:
  - Frees memory no longer in use
  - Object is deallocated when ref count = 0
- Per-Object Memory Handling:
  - Each object has its own allocator & deallocator
- Global Interpreter Lock (GIL):
  - Only one thread can execute Python bytecode at a time when accessing shared data

# Memory Management for Python (a company analogy)

- CPython (Company Headquarters):
  - Reference implementation of Python
  - All new language features start here
  - Other implementations exist for certain use cases
- Private Heap:
  - All Python objects/data reside in a private heap (a company's private warehouse)
  - Managed internally by the Python Memory Manager (architect overseeing project)
- Memory Allocation Layers:
  - Raw allocator interacts with OS to reserve heap memory (bricks for warehouse)
  - Object-specific allocators manage memory for types like int, str, dict, etc. (rooms in warehouse)
- Garbage Collection:
  - Frees memory no longer in use (cleanup crew)
  - Object is deallocated when ref count = 0 (tool/material sign-out sheet)
- Per-Object Memory Handling:
  - Each object has its own allocator & deallocator (type-specific storage bins in each room)
- Global Interpreter Lock (GIL):
  - Only one thread can execute Python bytecode at a time when accessing shared data (single checkout line, safe but slow)

# Memory Management for Python



```
# The identity of 4 objects
import math
a = 10
b = 10
c = 11.49274
d = math.pi

print('a:', id(a))
print('b:', id(b))
print('c:', id(c))
print('d:', id(d))
```

```
→ a: 10758024
    b: 10758024
    c: 136767239146928
    d: 136767667016624
```

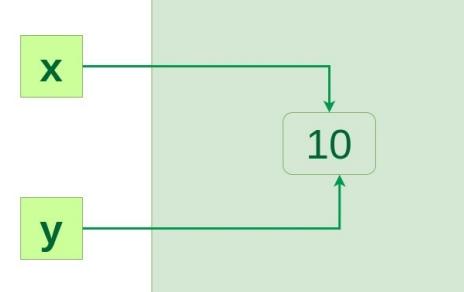
$\text{id}(\text{object})$  = memory address (identity) of an object

```
x = 10
```

```
y = x
```

```
if id(x) == id(y):  
    print("x and y refer to the same object")  
else:  
    print("x and y do not refer to the same object")
```

```
x and y refer to the same object
```



OG

```
# Modifying the value of 'x'
```

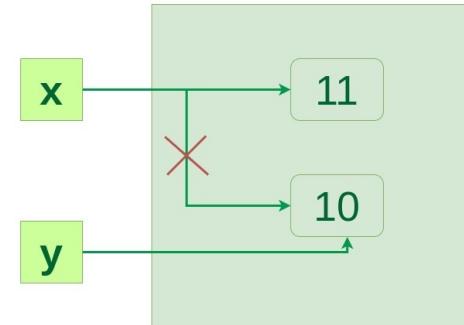
```
x = 10
```

```
y = x
```

```
x += 1
```

```
if id(x) == id(y):  
    print("x and y refer to the same object")  
else:  
    print("x and y do not refer to the same object")
```

```
⇒ x and y do not refer to the same object
```



OG

```
# Integers  
  
x = 10  
y = x  
print('x:', id(x))  
print('y:', id(y))  
x += 1  
print('x:', id(x))
```

```
→ x: 10758024  
y: 10758024  
x: 10758056
```

```
# Strings  
print('Strings: ')  
s1 = 'ABC'  
s2 = 'ABC'  
s3 = s1  
print('s1:', id(s1))  
print('s2:', id(s2))  
print('s3:', id(s3))
```

```
→ Strings:  
s1: 10155328  
s2: 10155328  
s3: 10155328
```

```
# Tuples  
print('Tuples: ')  
tu1 = ['A', 'B']  
tu2 = ['A', 'B']  
tu3 = tu1  
print('tu1', id(tu1))  
print('tu2', id(tu2))  
print('tu3', id(tu3))  
tu4 = tu3  
tu4.append('C')  
print('tu4', id(tu4))  
tu4[0] = 'D'  
print('tu4', id(tu4))
```

```
→ Tuples:  
tu1 136767239330112  
tu2 136767239330048  
tu3 136767239330112  
tu4 136767239330112  
tu4 136767239330112
```

# Lambda Functions

---

- A **lambda function** is a small, anonymous function in Python.
- Created using the `lambda` keyword.
- `lambda` expression syntax: `lambda parameters: expression`
- Returns the result of the expression automatically (no return needed).
- **Promotes abstraction**, key to programming— you focus on *what* the function does, not *how* it works internally.

# Lambda Functions

---

## Advantages

- **Concise:** Define simple functions in a single line.
- **Anonymous:** No need to name them if used once.
- **Flexible:** Pass directly into higher-order functions.
- **Readability:** Useful when function logic is short and obvious.

# Lambda Functions

The following terms may be used interchangeably depending on the programming language type and culture:

- Anonymous functions
- Lambda functions
- Lambda expressions
- Lambda abstractions
- Lambda form
- Function literals

# Functional Style vs Lambda Expression

```
# Functional Style
def quadratic(x):
    return(x**2 + x + 1)

quad1 = quadratic(3)
print(quad1)

# Lambda Function where quad2 is the expression
quad2 = lambda x: x**2 + x + 1
print(quad2(3))

# Lambda Function where quad3 is the output
quad3 = (lambda x: x**2 + x + 1)(3)
print(quad3)
```

Keyword: lambda

Parameters(s): x

Expression:  $x^{**2} + x + 1$

## How to Use Underscore in Notebooks

```
[23] # How to use _ in notebooks to store previous expression
```

```
2 + 5
```

```
→ 7
```

Use an underscore if you want to take this and manipulate further

```
[24] _*9
```

```
→ 63
```

```
[28] (lambda x: x**2 + x + 1)(3)
```

```
→ 13
```

```
[25] lambda x: x**2 + x + 1
```

```
→ <function __main__.<lambda>(x)>
```

```
[26] _(3)
```

```
→ 13
```

Syntax to evaluate directly:

(lambda function)(input)

## Convert a String using a lambda expression

```
] str1 = 'You miss 100% of the shots you don't take. – "Wayne Gretzky" – Michael Scott'

upper = lambda string: string.upper()
print(upper(str1))

title = lambda string: string.title()
print(title(str1))

split = lambda string: string.split(sep=" ")
print(split(str1))
```

YOU MISS 100% OF THE SHOTS YOU DON'T TAKE. – "WAYNE GRETZKY" – MICHAEL SCOTT

You Miss 100% Of The Shots You Don'T Take. – "Wayne Gretzky" – Michael Scott

['You', 'miss', '100%', 'of', 'the', 'shots', 'you', 'don\'t', 'take.', '-', '"Wayne', 'Gretzky"', '-', 'Michael', 'Scott']

# Returning a Lambda in a Function

```
▶ def myfunc(n):
    return lambda a : a * n

mydoubler = myfunc(2)
mytrippler = myfunc(3)

print(mydoubler(11))
print(mytrippler(11))

# What are the printed results?
```

## ▼ Multi-parameter Lambda Expressions

✓ [45] # The function-based approach  
def add\_two( x, y ):  
 return( x + y )  
  
add\_two( 2, 3 )

✓ [44] # The lambda approaches  
add\_two = (lambda x, y: x + y)(2, 3)  
print(add\_two)  
  
add\_two = lambda x, y: x + y  
print(add\_two(2, 3))

# Higher Order Functions

- A **higher-order function** is a function that **takes other functions as arguments or returns a function** as a result.

## Lambda expressions with higher-order functions

```
[9] # For high_ord_func, we make one of the parameters x and the other func  
# x will be a number and func will be another lambda expression  
high_ord_func = lambda x, func: x + func(x)  
  
[0] # Call the high_ord_func with x = 2 and func = another lambda  
high_ord_func(2, lambda x: x * x)  
  
# What will the result be?
```

## If Statements in Lambda Expression

```
limit_alcohol = lambda age: 'Yes, be careful...' if age >= 21 else 'No, please wait...'

print( limit_alcohol(19) )

print( limit_alcohol(26) )

No, please wait...
Yes, be careful...
```

# Some Syntax Limitations

```
# Instead of  
(lambda x: a = 3 + x)(4)  
  
# Try  
a = (lambda x: 3 + x)(4)
```

```
# Instead of  
(lambda y: return y == 3)(3)  
  
# Try  
(lambda y: y == 3)(3)
```

## Practice

```
▶ # arguments can be entered positionally or as keywords
ans = (lambda x, y, z: x + y + z)(1, 2, 3)

ans = (lambda x, y, z=3: x + y + z)(y=1, x=2)

ans = (lambda x, y, z=3: x + y + z)(1, 2, 4)

# collects all arguments
ans = (lambda *args: sum(args))(1,2,3)

# forced keyword args
ans = (lambda **kwargs: sum(kwargs.values()))(x=1, y=2, z=3)

# forced keyword args for y and z
ans = (lambda x, *, y=1, z=2: x + y + z)(1, y=2, z=3)

ans = (lambda x, *, y=1, z=2: x + y + z)(4)

ans = (lambda x, *, y=1, z=2: x + y + z)(4, y=3)

ans = (lambda x, *, y=1, z=2: x + y + z)(x=4, z=3)
```

## ✓ Modify the sorting execution/behaviour

```
[78] # List of IDs  
ids = ['id1', 'id2', 'id100', 'id30', 'id3', 'id22']
```

```
[82] # Lexicographic Sort  
sorted(ids)
```

```
[84] # Extracting the number from each id  
  
(lambda x: int(x[2:]))(ids[3])
```

```
[83] # Sorting based on the integer value  
  
sorted(ids, key = lambda x: int(x[2:]))
```

## Some Examples

Find the second largest number in each list from a multi-list

```
] multiList = [ [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 15, 7, 64], [13, 6, 9, 12, 7] ]
```

```
multiList = [ [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 15, 7, 64], [13, 6, 9, 12, 7] ]
```

```
# Version 1: Two Lambda Functions + List Comprehension
```

```
# Sort each sublist with list comprehension (slower)
```

```
# Sorts all at once
```

```
sortList = lambda x: [sorted(i) for i in x]
```

```
# Get the second largest element
```

```
secondLargest = lambda x, f : [y[-2] for y in f(x)]
```

```
secondLargest(multiList, sortList)
```

```
multiList = [ [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 15, 7, 64], [13, 6, 9, 12, 7] ]  
  
# Version 2: Two Lambda Functions + List Comprehension + Generator Expression  
  
# Sort each sublist with generator expression (faster)  
# Sorts 1 at a time, on demand  
sortList = lambda x: (sorted(i) for i in x)  
  
# Get the second largest element  
secondLargest = lambda x, f : [y[-2] for y in f(x)]  
secondLargest(multiList, sortList)
```

```
multiList = [ [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 15, 7, 64], [13, 6, 9, 12, 7] ]
```

```
# Version 3: One Lambda Function + List Comprehension
```

```
# Sort each list and extracting
```

```
sortList = [sorted(lis) for lis in multiList]
```

```
# Get the second largest number
```

```
secondLargest = lambda x: [y[-2] for y in x]
```

```
secondLargest(sortList)
```

```
multiList = [ [3, 2, 1, 4], [1, 15, 7, 64], [13, 6, 9, 12, 7] ]  
  
# Version 4: List Comprehension  
  
# Sort each list using only list comprehension  
[sorted(lis)[-2] for lis in multiList]
```