

# Expanding a Multiple Parameter List

In the following lesson, we will expand a multiple parameter list to see how a function with a multiple parameter list is executed.

We'll cover the following ^

- General Form
- An Example

## General Form #

The general form of a function with multiple parameter lists is as follows:

```
def f(args_1) ... (args_n) = Exp
```

In the illustration above,  $n > 1$ .

The above function is equivalent to the following:

```
def f(args_1) ... (args_{n-1}) = {def h(args_n) = Exp; h}
```

The function `f` is taking the first  $n-1$  lists of parameters and creating a new function `h` which takes the  $n$ th list of parameters. `h` then maps the  $n$ th list of parameters to the function body `Exp` with `h` being the function that gets returned.

The above, can also be written using anonymous functions as follows.

```
def f(args_1) ... (args_{n-1}) = (args_n => Exp)
```

The above function can be further expanded:

```
def f(args_1) ... (args_{n-2}) = (args_{n-1} => (args_n => Exp))
```

If we do this  $n$  times, we would get the following:

```
def f = (args_1 => (args_2 => ... (args_n => Exp) ...))
```

## An Example #

We will expand the `curriedSum` function created in a previous lesson to better understand the general sequence of expansion explained above.

Just as a reminder, here is the `curriedSum` function:

```
def curriedSum(x: Int)(y: Int) = x + y
```



```
def curriedSum(x: Int)(y: Int) = x + y
```

Diagram illustrating the mapping of the function definition to the general form:

- `curriedSum` maps to `f`
- `x: Int` maps to `(args_1)`
- `(y: Int)` maps to `(args_2)`
- `= x + y` maps to `exp`

Let's start expanding!

```
def curriedSum(x: Int) = (y: Int) => x + y
```

In the first expansion `CurriedSum` is now a function which takes a single parameter of type `Int` and returns a function.

```
def curriedSum = (x: Int => ((y: Int) => x + y))
```

In conclusion, `curriedSum` is a combination of two nested function calls. As mentioned in a previous lesson, the first function call takes a single parameter of type `Int` and returns a function value which will be used by the second function (the function returned by the first function is the second function). The second function, in turn, takes a parameter `y` of type `Int` and returns the sum of `x` and `y`.

Let's try to implement both functions. The first function will be known as `first` and the second function will be known as `second`.

For our example, `x = 3` and `y = 2`.

```
def first(x: Int) = (y: Int) => x+y

def second = first(3)

val result = second(2)

print(result)
```



`second` is defined by calling `first` and passing the value of `x` to the first function. We can then call `second` by passing the value of `y` to the second function which will in turn return in the final sum, i.e. 5.

In the next lesson, you will be asked to make your own function using the currying syntax.