

# Javascript Closures

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\*pseudo-code was used for a simpler explanation



A vertical rectangle is divided into three horizontal sections. The top section is labeled 'Heap Memory', the bottom section is labeled 'Stack Memory', and the middle section is pointed to by a line from the text 'Available memory (can be used as stack or heap memory as needed)'.

Heap Memory

Available memory (can be  
used as stack or heap  
memory as needed)

Stack Memory

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 1024 | var base = 100      |
| 1028 | var action = make() |
| 1032 | var outside = 1000  |

Since a new variable is created “var action = make”, this allows for make() to be Stored in heap memory

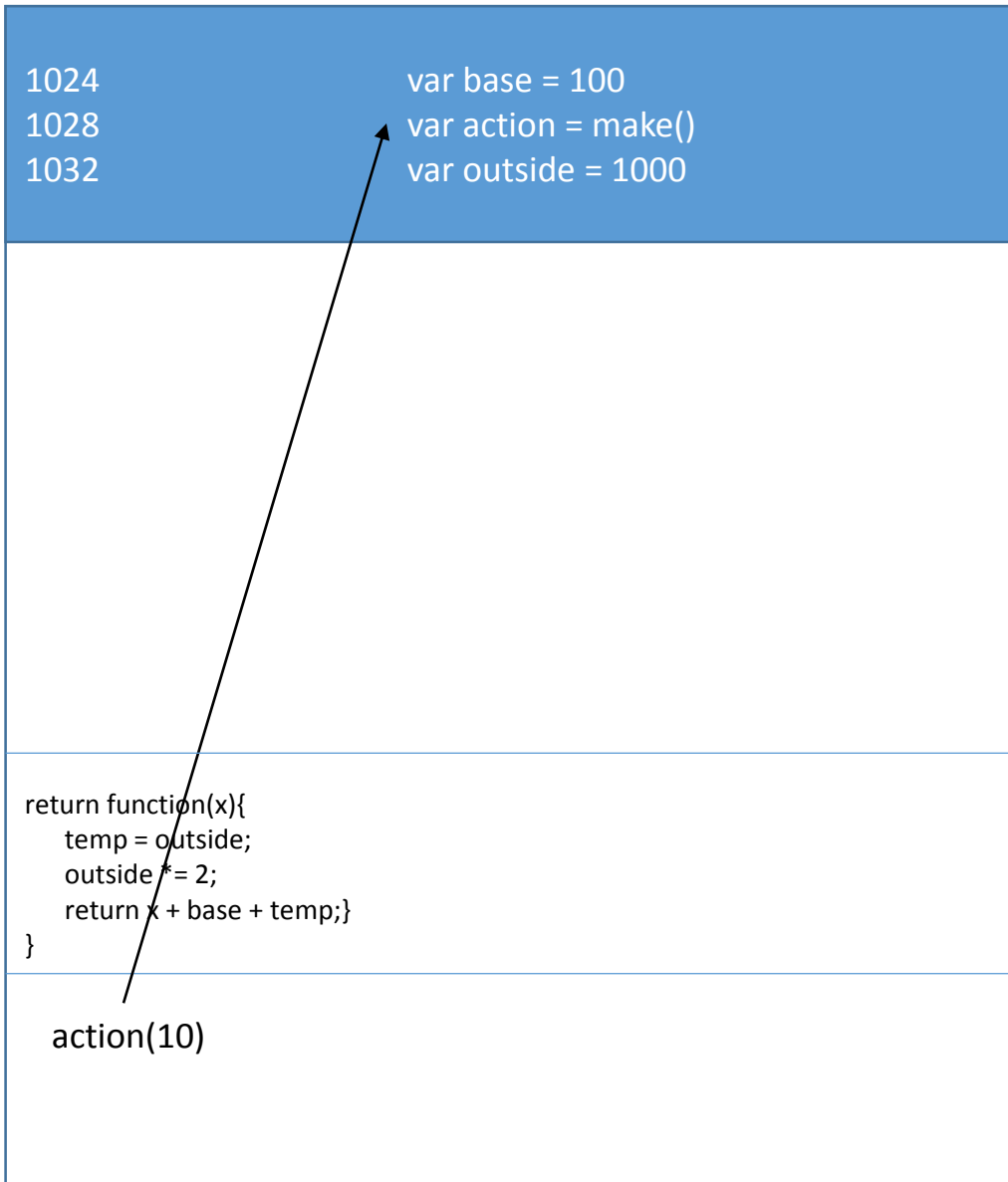
```
var base = 100; //line 1
function make(){
  var outside = 1000;
  return function(x){
    temp = outside;
    outside *= 2;
    return x + base + temp;}
}
```

```
var action = make();
```

```
console.log(action(8));
console.log(action(8));
```

action(8)

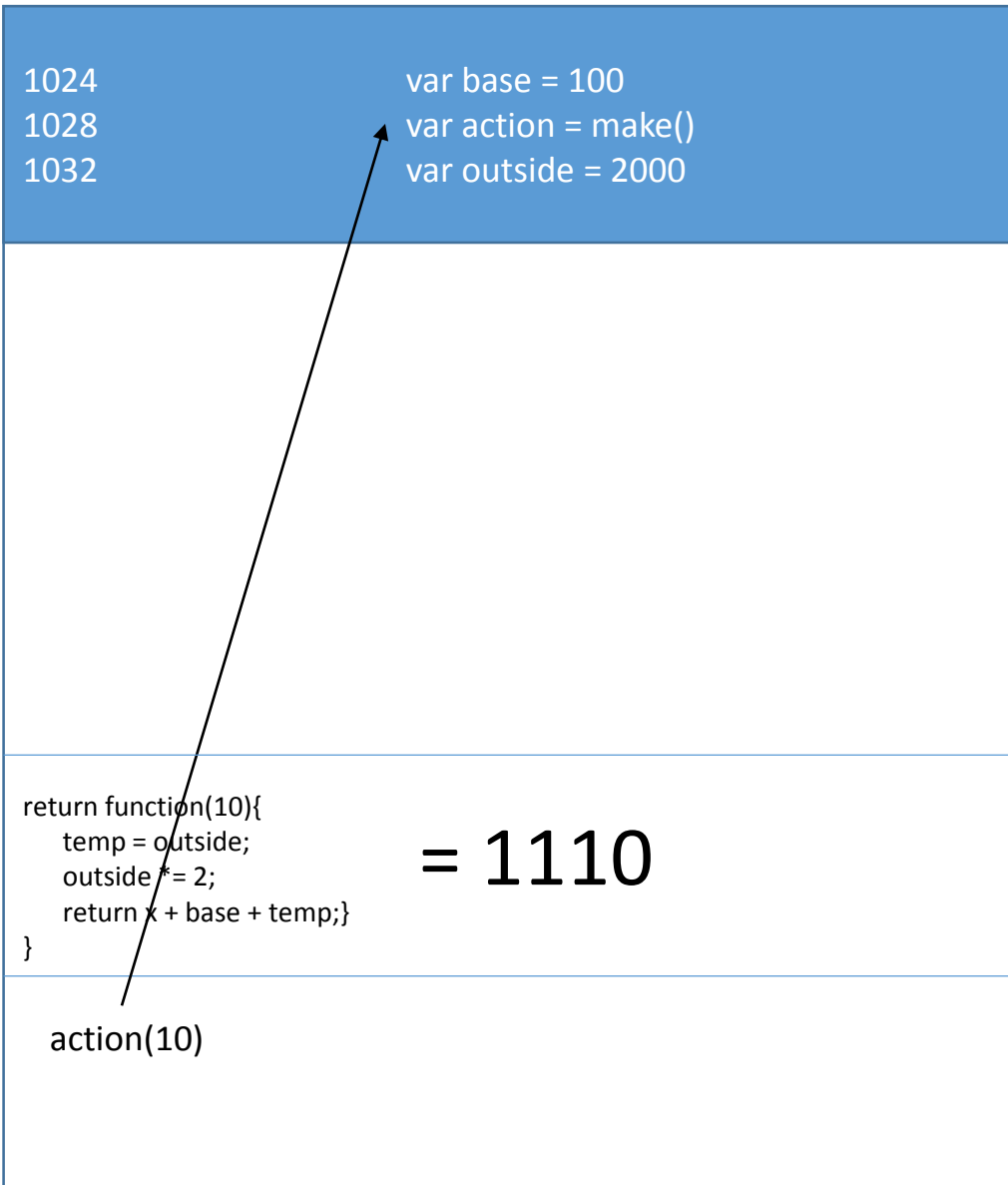
action(8) is called, so it is put on the call stack



## When the self-invoking function:

```
return function(x){
    temp = outside;
    outside *= 2;
    return x + base + temp;
}
```

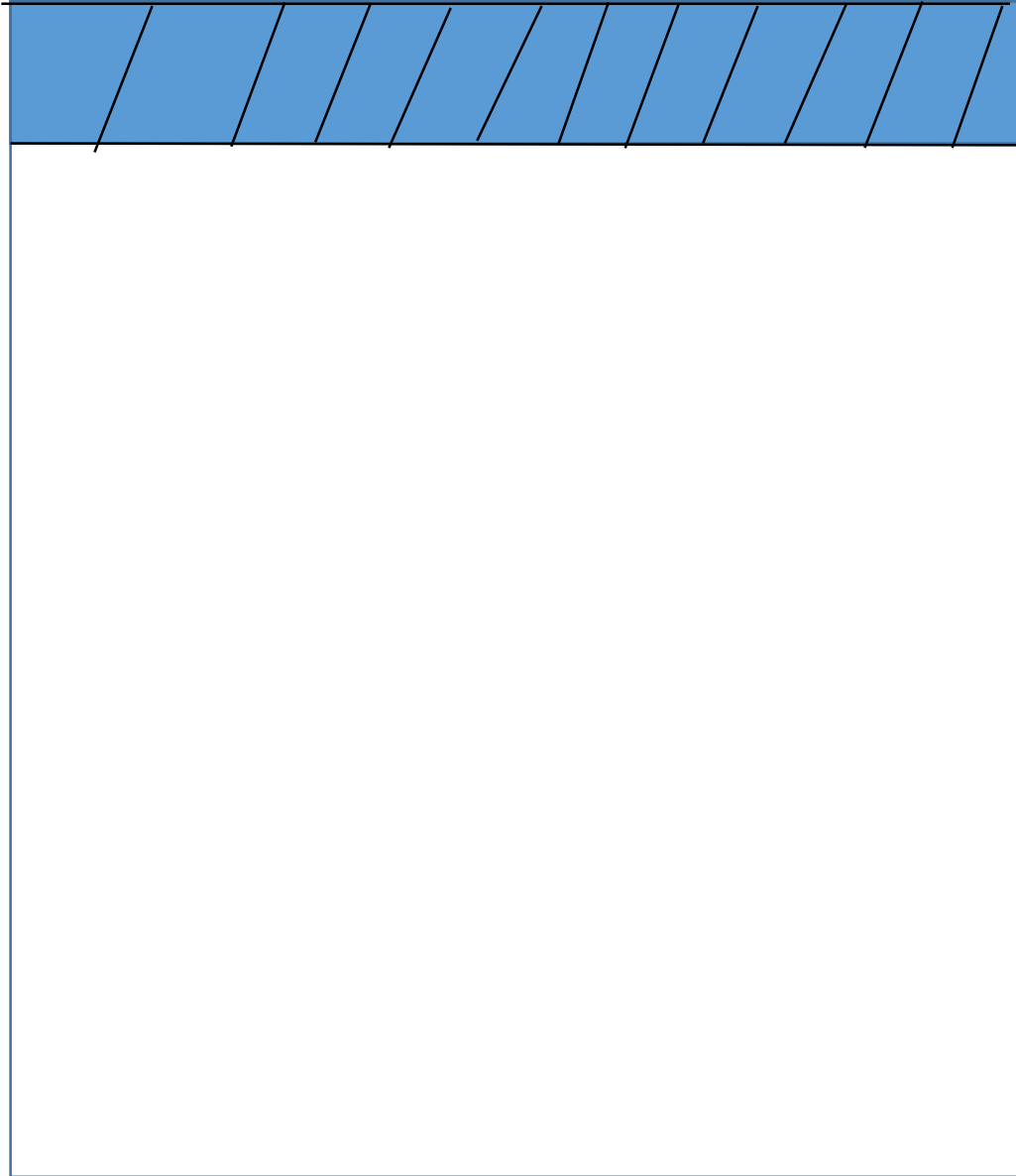
Is reached, it is put on the stack and has the ability to access and edit the variables outside its scope since `make()` is stored in heap memory.



function(10) returns 1110, but doubles the value of var outside in the meantime, so the second call of this function would return 2110

|      |                     |
|------|---------------------|
| 1024 | var base = 100      |
| 1028 | var action = make() |
| 1032 | var outside = 2000  |

Function(x) and action(x) are popped off the stack since they are done executing.



Since there are no references to the variables on the heap anymore, they are also freed by the garbage collector.

## R3.3)

- Describe what modifications to the stack and heap model provided, if any, are necessary to convey how recursion works with javascript functions. That is, can you illustrate your recursion using the model provided or does it fall short and require modifications or new features?
- In order to be able to access variables outside a function's scope from within that function, I had to modify the stack/heap to store variables and the function make() in the heap. This way, any other function within make() is able to edit and access the variables defined outside its local scope . This wouldn't be possible if the parent function was stored in the stack, because then we would have to wait until the child function finished executing in order to reach the parent's variables – which is a dilemma because the child function needs to reach the parent's variables to finish executing.