

# Introduction

- $x = 1$
- What is  $x + 2$ ?
- What is  $1 + 2$ ?

A group of approximately eight clownfish, characterized by their orange bodies and white vertical stripes, are swimming in a clear blue aquatic environment. The fish are arranged in a loose school, with some swimming towards the left and others towards the right. The text "Fish or Fish?" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Fish or Fish?

# The Old Proverbs Say

- ‘Give a man a **fish** and he will eat for a day.  
Teach a man **how to fish** and you feed him for a lifetime.’
- Chinese:
  - 授人以**鱼**不如授人以**渔**

An object

A method

```
def func():  
    return 'fish'
```

$x = \text{func}()$

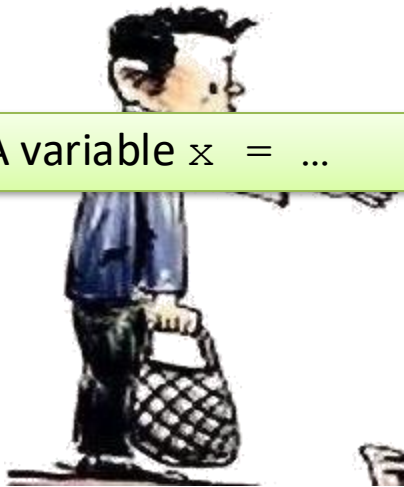


Mr. X



$x = \text{func}()$

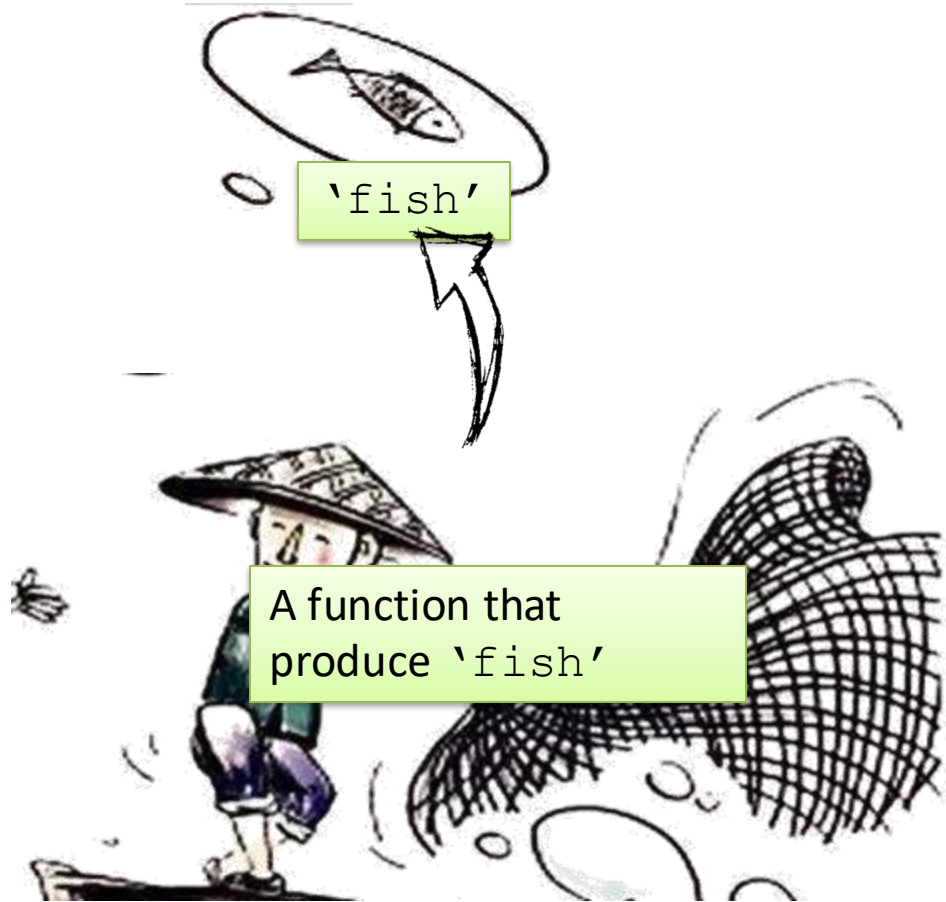
A variable  $x = \dots$



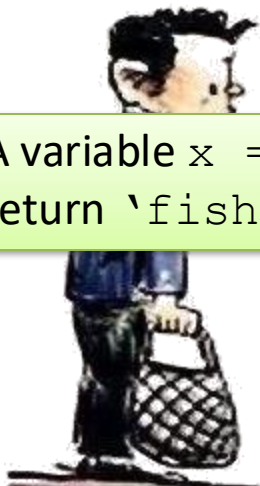
Mr. X

'fish'

A function that  
produce 'fish'



A variable  $x$  = A function  
return 'fish'



Mr. X



# Higher Order Functions



# Remember how we define a function?

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))

def square(x):
    return x*x
```

- But we can actually write something like this:

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):

    def square(x):
        return x*x

    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```

# Remember how we define a function?

- Almost the same except
  - Outside the function distance, you cannot use the function square
  - Just like local variables

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):

    def square(x):
        return x*x

    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```

# Remember how we define a function?

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))

def square(x): <----- Global
    return x*x               Function
```

- But we can actually write like this:

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):
    def square(x): <----- Local
        return x*x               Function

    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```

# Treat a Function like a Variable



# “Callability”

- Normal variables are NOT callable

```
>>> x = 1
>>> x()
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#3>", line 1, in <module>
    x()
TypeError: 'int' object is not callable
```

- A function is callable

```
>>> def f():
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> f()
Hello
```

# Assignments

- Normal variables can store values

```
>>> x = 1
>>> y = x
>>> x = 2
```

- Can a variable store **a function**?!

```
>>> def f():
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> x = f
>>> x()
Hello
```

- Can!!!!!!

# Assignments

- The **function** `f` is stored in the **variable** `x`
  - So `x` is a function, same as `f`

```
>>> def f():  
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> x = f  
>>> x()  
Hello
```

# See the difference

```
>>> def f2():  
        return 999
```

With '()'

```
>>> x = f2()  
>>> print(x)  
999  
>>> type(x)  
<class 'int'>
```

Without '()'

```
>>> y = f2  
>>> print(y)  
<function f2 at 0x0000007ACE8C5A60>  
>>> type(y)  
<class 'function'>
```

values

types



# Functions can be stored in variables

```
>>> from math import cos, sin, tan
>>> f_1 = cos
>>> f_1(0)
1.0
>>> print(f_1)
<built-in function cos>
>>> def f():
    print("Hello")
```

Equivalent  
to cos(0)

The type is  
"function"

```
>>> print(f)
<function f at 0x000000F9F93F4950>
```

- Can even store functions into a list, tuple, etc.

```
>>> my_collection = [cos, sin, tan, f, len]
>>> my_collection[4]([1,2,3])
3
```

Equivalent to  
len([1,2,3])

# Function Composition

- In math, we can do something like  $\log(\sin(x))$

```
>>> def f():  
    print("Hello")
```

```
>>> def do_twice(x):  
    x()  
    x()
```

Equivalent to

```
>>> def do_twice(x):  
    f()  
    f()
```

```
>>> do_twice(f)  
Hello  
Hello
```

# Mix and Match

```
>>> def add1to(x):  
    return x + 1
```

```
>>> def square(x):  
    return x * x
```

```
>>> def do_3_times(f, n):  
    return f(f(f(n)))
```

```
>>> do_3_times(add1to, 2)  
5
```

```
>>> do_3_times(square, 2)  
256
```

A function

A variable  
(can be a  
function  
too!)

Equivalent to

```
>>> def do_3_times(f, n):  
    add1to(add1to(add1to(2)))
```





Mr. X



Give a man  
a fish

Teach a  
man how to  
fish

Teach a man how  
to teach others  
how to fish



A variable  $x$  =  
an object

A variable  $x$  =  
a function  
that returns  
an **object**

A variable  $x$  = a  
function that returns  
a **function** that  
returns an object





# lambda

## Integers

```
x = 5
```

- **x** is the *name* of the variable that contains an *integer* 5
- 5 is an *integer* object
- The object 5 can be used without the name **x**
- e.g.  

```
print(5+1)
```

## Functions

```
def square(x):  
    return x**2
```

- “**square**” is the *name* of the *function* that can square an input
- The *function* to square is an independent object
- The *function* can be used without the name **square**
- e.g.  

```
print((lambda x:x**2)(2))
```

# The Big Evil Boss “lambda”

```
>>> def add1(x):  
    return x+1
```

```
>>> add1(9)  
10
```

```
>>> func = lambda x: x + 1  
>>> func(9)  
10
```

Equivalent!!!



- difference:
  - lambda does not need a ‘return’

# The “Powerful” Lambda

- Apparently nothing new

```
>>> def add1(x):  
    return x+1
```

```
>>> add1(9)  
10
```

```
>>> func = lambda x: x + 1  
>>> func(9)  
10
```

- But useful if you want to return a function as a result in a function

# The “Powerful” Lambda

- Apparently nothing new

```
>>> def add1(x):  
    return x+1
```

```
>>> add1(9)  
10
```

```
>>> func = lambda x: x + 1  
>>> func(9)  
10
```

```
>>> def aFunctionAddN(n):  
    return lambda x: x + n
```

```
>>> f1 = aFunctionAddN(10)  
>>> f1(1)
```

```
11
```

```
>>> f1(2)
```

```
12
```

```
>>> f2 = aFunctionAddN(99)
```

```
>>> f2(1)
```

```
100
```

```
>>> f2(f1(3))
```

```
112
```

# Why do we want that?!

- Because we can create/output an object!
- e.g. for integers

```
def times_two(x):  
    return x*2
```

- Same for function

```
def make_a_function(x):  
    return ***some function***
```

# Create Functions to Power a Number

```
def make_power_func(n):  
    return lambda x:x**n
```

```
square = make_power_func(2)  
cube = make_power_func(3)  
square_root = make_power_func(0.5)
```

```
>>> print(square(3))
```

```
9
```

```
>>> print(cube(2))
```

```
8
```

```
>>> print(square_root(16))
```

```
4.0
```

# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

- We know that, given a function  $f$ , the derivative of  $f$  is

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

- But, if we have very small number  $dx$

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

- We know that, given a function  $f$ , the derivative of  $f$  is

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

- $\frac{d \sin x}{dx} = \cos x$
- $\frac{d (x^3 + 3x - 1)}{dx} = 3x^2 + 3$



# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

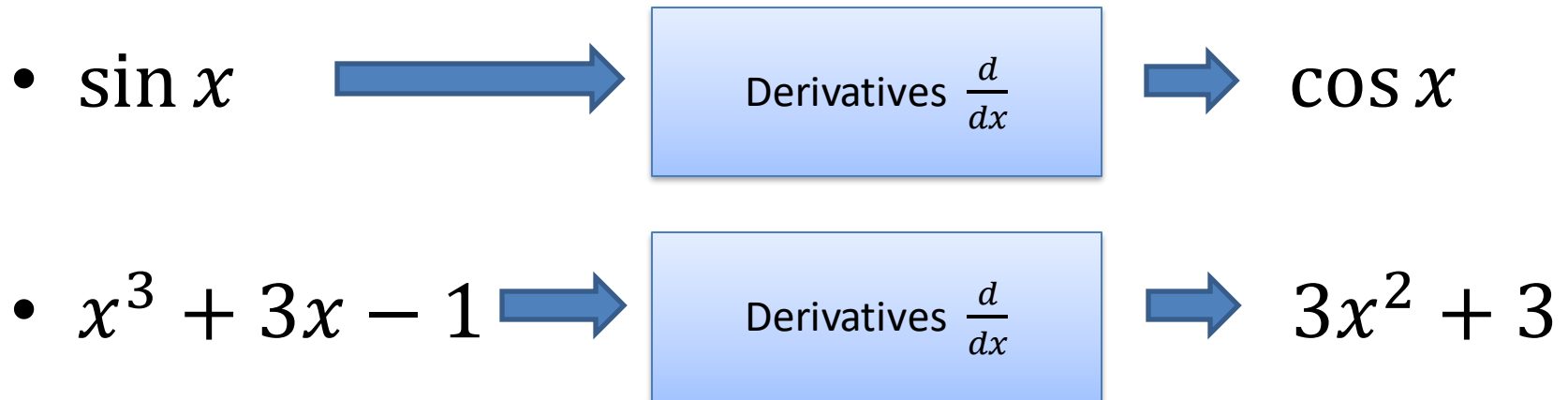
- We know that, given a function  $f$ , the derivative of  $f$  is

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

- $\frac{d \sin x}{dx} \rightarrow \text{Derivatives} \rightarrow \cos x$
- $\frac{d (x^3 + 3x - 1)}{dx} \rightarrow \text{Derivatives} \rightarrow 3x^2 + 3$

# The Derivative is a function!

- Its input is a function
  - And output another function



# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative


```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935
```

```
>>> func = deriv(sin)
```

```
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```

Take in a function,  
returning another  
function



- But, if we have very small number  $dx$

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

```
>>> def f(x):  
    return x**3+3*x-1
```

```
>>> deriv(f)(9)  
246.00001324870388
```

```
>>> x = 9
```

```
>>> 3*x**2 +3  
246
```

- But, if we have very small number  $dx$

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935
```

```
>>> func = deriv(sin)
```

```
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```


```
>>> def f(x):  
    return x**3+3*x-1
```

```
>>> deriv(f)(9)  
246.00001324870388
```

```
>>> x = 9
```

```
>>> 3*x**2 + 3  
246
```

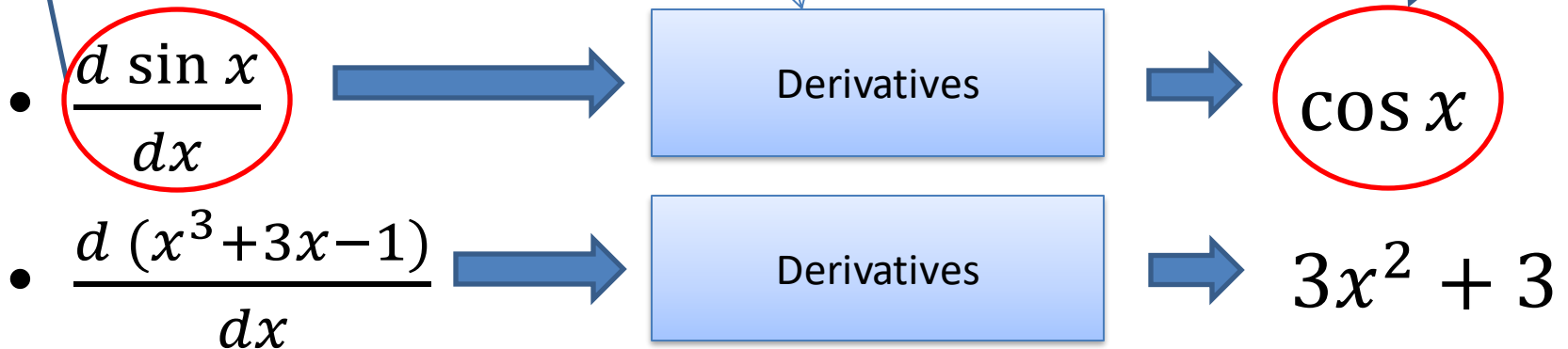
Take in a function,  
returning another  
function



# Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935  
>>> func = deriv(sin)  
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```



# Application Example of `deriv()`

# Example: Newton's method

- To compute root of function  $g(x)$ , i.e. find  $x$  such that  $g(x) = 0$
1. Anyhow assume the answer  $x = \text{something}$
  2. If  $g(x) \approx 0$  then stop: answer is  $x$ , return  $x$
  3. Otherwise
    - $x = x - g(x)/\text{deriv}(x)$
  4. Go to step 2



# Example: Newton's method

```
def newtonM(g) :  
    x = 999 #doesn't matter  
    err = 0.00000000001  
    while (abs(g(x)) > err) :  
        x = x - g(x)/deriv(g)(x)  
    return x
```

1. Anyhow assume the answer  $x = \text{something}$
2. If  $g(x) \approx 0$  then stop: answer is  $x$ , return  $x$
3. Otherwise
  - $x = x - g(x)/\text{deriv}(x)$
4. Go to step 2

# Example: Newton's method

- To compute the root of function  $g(x)$ , i.e. find  $x$  such that  $g(x) = 0$

```
def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx  
  
def newtonM(g):  
    x = 999 #doesn't matter  
    err = 0.000000000001  
    while (abs(g(x)) > err):  
        x = x - g(x) / deriv(g)(x)  
    return x
```

# Example: Newton's method

- Example: Square root of a number A
  - It's equivalent to solve the equation:  $x^2 - A = 0$

```
>>> def my_own_sqrt(A):  
        return newtonM(lambda x:x*x-A)
```

```
>>> x = my_own_sqrt(10)  
>>> x * x  
9.9999999999999998
```

# Example: Newton's method

- Example: Compute  $\log_{10}(A)$ 
  - Solve the equation:  $10^x - A = 0$

```
>>> def my_own_log10(N):  
        return newtonM(lambda x: 10**x - N)
```

```
>>> my_own_log10(100)  
2.00000000000000013  
>>> x = my_own_log10(234)  
>>> 10 ** x  
234.000000000000892
```

```
>>> def my_own_log10(N):  
        return newtonM(lambda x: 10**x - N)  
  
>>> my_own_log10(100)  
2.00000000000000013  
>>> x = my_own_log10(234)  
>>> 10 ** x  
234.000000000000892
```

You can solve any equation!

.... that Newton Method can solve.