Javascript closures-

"Functions in JavaScript are lexically rather than dynamically scoped. This means that they run in the scope in which they are defined, not the scopee from which they are executed. When a function is defined, the current scope chain is saved and becomes part of the internal state of the function."

var that = this;

var f = function(){

that.somethingOnThat();

// `this` means the scope f, `that` means whatever 'this' was when defined outside of the function

}

So the clear advantage is that you can bring any object (functions, objects, etc) along with the scope chain as far as is necessary. This is can also be considered a risk, because your apps can easily consume lots of memory if you are not careful.

With a function closure you can store data in a separate scope, and share it only where necessary.

Closures are used extensively in Node.js; they are workhorses in Node.js’ asynchronous, non-blocking architecture. Closures are also frequently used in jQuery and just about every piece of JavaScript code you read.

Closure is a stack frame which is allocated when a function starts its execution, and not freed after the function returns (as if a 'stack frame' were allocated on the heap rather than the stack!).

In C and most other common languages, after a function returns, all the local variables are no longer accessible because the stack-frame is destroyed.

In JavaScript, if you declare a function within another function, then the local variables can remain accessible after returning from the function you called.

This example shows that the local variables are not copied — they are kept by reference. It is kind of like keeping a stack-frame in memory when the outer function exits!

function say667() {

// Local variable that ends up within closure

var num = 42;

var say = function() { console.log(num); }

num++;

return say;

}

var sayNumber = say667();

sayNumber(); // logs 43

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