

# Python Anonymous/Lambda Function

## What are lambda functions in Python?

- In Python, anonymous function is a function that is defined without a name.
- While normal functions are defined using the def keyword, in Python anonymous functions are defined using the lambda keyword.
- Hence, anonymous functions are also called lambda functions.

## How to use lambda Functions in Python?

### Syntax:

```
lambda arguments: expression
```

***Lambda functions can have any number of arguments but only one expression. The expression is evaluated and returned. Lambda functions can be used wherever function objects are required.***

### Example:

```
In [3]: # It is an example of lambda function that doubles the input value.  
        # Program to show the use of lambda functions  
  
        double = lambda x:x * 2  
  
        print(double(20))
```

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- In the above program, `lambda x: x ** 2` is the lambda function. Here `x` is the argument and `x**2` is the expression that gets evaluated and returned.
- This function has no name. It returns a function object which is assigned to the identifier `double`. We can now call it as a normal function.

### ***The statement***

```
double = lambda x: x * 2
```

### ***is nearly the same as***

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

## **Use of Lambda Function in python**

- We use lambda functions when we require a nameless function for a short period of time.
- In Python, we generally use it as an argument to a higher-order function (a function that takes in other functions as arguments). Lambda functions are used along with built-in functions like `filter()`, `map()` etc.

### **Example use with filter()**

- The `filter()` function in Python takes in a function and a list as arguments.
- The function is called with all the items in the list and a new list is returned which contains items for which the function evaluates to `True`.

***Here is an example use of filter() function to filter out only even numbers from a list.***

```
In [6]: # Program to filter out only the even items from a list

my_list = [1, 5, 4, 6, 8, 11, 3, 12]

new_list = list(filter(lambda x: (x%2 == 0) , my_list))

# Output: [4, 6, 8, 12]
print(new_list)

[4, 6, 8, 12]
```

### **Example use with map()**

- The map() function in Python takes in a function and a list.
- The function is called with all the items in the list and a new list is returned which contains items returned by that function for each item.

***Here is an example use of map() function to double all the items in a list.***

```
In [7]: # Program to double each item in a list using map()

my_list = [1, 5, 4, 6, 8, 11, 3, 12]

new_list = list(map(lambda x: x * 2 , my_list))

# Output: [2, 10, 8, 12, 16, 22, 6, 24]
print(new_list)

[2, 10, 8, 12, 16, 22, 6, 24]
```

## Python Program To Display Powers of 2 Using Anonymous Function

```
In [2]: # Python Program to display the powers of 2 using anonymous function

# Change this value for a different result
terms = 10

# Uncomment to take number of terms from user
#terms = int(input("How many terms? "))

# use anonymous function
result = list(map(lambda x: 2 ** x, range(terms)))

# display the result

print("The total terms is:",terms)
for i in range(terms):
    print("2 raised to power",i,"is",result[i])

The total terms is: 10
2 raised to power 0 is 1
2 raised to power 1 is 2
2 raised to power 2 is 4
2 raised to power 3 is 8
2 raised to power 4 is 16
2 raised to power 5 is 32
2 raised to power 6 is 64
2 raised to power 7 is 128
2 raised to power 8 is 256
2 raised to power 9 is 512
```

In [ ]: