

Episode 18: Higher-Order Functions ft. Functional Programming

? What is a Higher-Order Function (HOF)?


A **Higher-Order Function** is a function that either:

- Takes another function as an argument, **or**
- Returns a function as its result.



 **Example:**

```
function x() {  
  console.log("Hi");  
}  
  
function y(callback) {  
  callback(); // Executes the function passed  
}  
  
y(x); // Output: Hi
```

☒ Here, **y** is a **Higher-Order Function**, and **x** is a **Callback Function**.

 Problem Statement:

We have an array of radii, and we want to calculate:

1.  Area of each circle
 2.  Circumference of each circle
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 **First (Naive) Approach:**

```
const radius = [1, 2, 3, 4];  
  
const calculateArea = function(radius) {  
  const output = [];  
  for (let i = 0; i < radius.length; i++) {  
    output.push(Math.PI * radius[i] * radius[i]);  
  }  
  return output;  
};  
  
console.log(calculateArea(radius));
```

☑ This works fine!

✗ But violates the **DRY Principle** (Don't Repeat Yourself) if we now want to calculate **circumference**.

🔧 Second Repetitive Approach:

```
const radius = [1, 2, 3, 4];

const calculateCircumference = function(radius) {
  const output = [];
  for (let i = 0; i < radius.length; i++) {
    output.push(2 * Math.PI * radius[i]);
  }
  return output;
};

console.log(calculateCircumference(radius));
```

✗ Still redundant – similar logic being reused with small changes.

☑ Refactored Functional Approach:

```
const radiusArr = [1, 2, 3, 4];

// Logic to calculate area
const area = function(radius) {
  return Math.PI * radius * radius;
};

// Logic to calculate circumference
const circumference = function(radius) {
  return 2 * Math.PI * radius;
};

// Higher-Order Function to apply any operation
const calculate = function(radiusArr, operation) {
  const output = [];
  for (let i = 0; i < radiusArr.length; i++) {
    output.push(operation(radiusArr[i]));
  }
  return output;
};

console.log(calculate(radiusArr, area));           // 🖱 Calculates area
console.log(calculate(radiusArr, circumference)); // 🖱 Calculates circumference
```

- 💡 Here, `calculate` is a **Higher-Order Function** that allows us to abstract out operations.
- 🧠 This is the **essence of Functional Programming** — reusability and clean abstraction.

🔧 Bonus: Polyfill of `Array.prototype.map()` 🔧

The `calculate` function above is a **custom implementation** of the native `.map()` method!

```
console.log(radiusArr.map(area)); // ☒ Native map
console.log(calculate(radiusArr, area)); // ☒ Our version (Polyfill)
```

🔗 Let's Build Our Own `.map()` Function (Polyfill Style):

```
Array.prototype.calculate = function(operation) {
  const output = [];
  for (let i = 0; i < this.length; i++) {
    output.push(operation(this[i]));
  }
  return output;
};

console.log(radiusArr.calculate(area)); // 🖐️ Works just like map()
```

💡 Takeaway:

- **Higher-Order Functions** are powerful tools for abstraction and code reuse.
 - JavaScript embraces **Functional Programming** through features like **callbacks**, **HOFs**, and **methods like `.map()`, `.filter()`, `.reduce()`**.
 - Always look to **refactor repetitive logic** into reusable HOFs for cleaner, maintainable code.
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