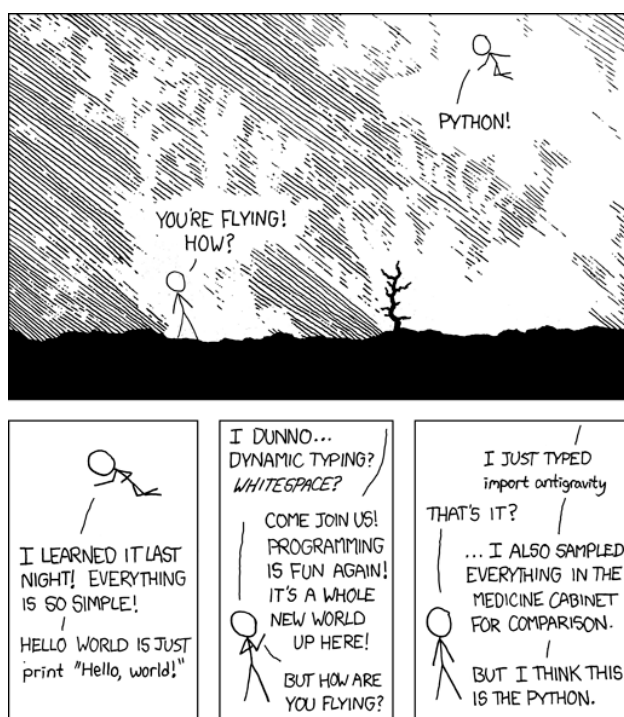


Python Programming - Functions -

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<https://xkcd.com/353/>

Function Definition

- A function definition is introduced by the keyword **def**
- Syntax and examples :

```
def function_name (formal parameters) :  
    """ function's documentation string  
    """  
    Indented function's body
```

```
def fibo (n) :  
    """ Print the first n Fibonacci numbers. """  
    a, b = 0, 1  
    i = 0  
    while i <= n:  
        print(b, end=' ')  
        a, b = b, a+b  
        i += 1
```

```
def is_prime (n) :  
    """ Test if an positive integer is a  
    prime number or not .  
  
    Arguments :  
        n (int) : a positive integer  
  
    Returns :  
        bool : True if n is prime, False otherwise  
    """  
    if n == 1: return False  
    for i in range (2, n//2 + 1):  
        if n%i == 0 : return False  
    return True
```

```
>>> is_prime #print(is_prime)  
<function is_prime at 0x10c113f28>  
>>> type(is_prime)  
<class 'function'>
```

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Function Call

- function_name(actual parameters)
 - Arguments are passed using call by value
 - The value is an object reference, not the value of the object
 - ➔ call by object reference
- The execution of a function allocates memory to be used for **local variables**
- A function without a **return** statement returns the value **None**

```
>>> fibo(10)  
1 1 2 3 5 8 13 21 34 55 89  
>>> is_prime(101)  
True  
>>> is_prime(102)  
False  
>>> primes(10)  
2  
3  
5  
...
```

```
def primes(n) :  
    """ Print the first n prime numbers.  
  
    Arguments :  
        n (int) : a positive integer  
    """  
    p = 2; count = 0  
    while count < n:  
        if is_prime(p):  
            count += 1  
            print(p)  
            p += 1
```

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Default Argument Values

- Define a function that takes variable number of arguments
 - A function with arguments that have default values during definition.
 - ➔ the function can be called with fewer arguments than its definition.
- Example from built-in functions :
 - check help for `int` and `print`

Default Argument Values

- Example :

```
def triangle (c, n) :  
    """ Display a triangle using char c."""  
    for i in range(n):  
        s = ' ' * (n-1-i) + c * (2*i + 1)  
        print(s)
```

```
>>> triangle('*', 3)  
*  
***  
*****  
>>> triangle('*')  
TypeError: triangle() missing 1 required  
positional argument: 'n'
```

```
def triangle (c, n=5) :  
    """ Display a triangle using char c."""  
    for i in range(n):  
        s = ' ' * (n-1-i) + c * (2*i + 1)  
        print(s)
```

```
>>> triangle('*', 3)  
*  
***  
*****  
>>> triangle('*')  
*  
***  
*****  
*****  
*****  
>>> triangle('+', n=3)  
+  
+++  
+++++
```

Arbitrary Argument Lists

- Define a function that can be called with an arbitrary number of arguments

- `def function_name (*args)`

- Example :

```
def somme (*numbers) :  
    """ sum up a serie of numbers."""  
    s = 0  
    for n in numbers:  
        s += n  
    return s
```

```
>>> somme(10, 20)  
30  
>>> somme()  
0  
>>> somme(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10)  
55
```

Anonymous Functions

- Anonymous functions can be defined using `lambda` keyword

- `lambda` is a keyword, never use it as an identifier ☹

- Syntax :

- `lambda arguments : expression`

- Exemples:

- `lambda x : x*x`

- `lambda a, b : (a + b)/2`

```
>>> f = lambda x : x*x  
>>> type(f)  
<class 'function'>  
>>> f(5)  
25  
>>> g = lambda a, b : (a+b)/2  
>>> g(1, 2)  
1.5
```

Recursive Functions

- Recursion is a programming paradigm
- A recursive function is a function that calls itself

```
def factorial (n) :  
    f = 1  
    for i in range(2, n+1):  
        f *= i  
    return f
```

```
def factorial (n) :  
    if n==0 or n==1: return 1  
    else return n* factorial(n-1)
```

```
def fibo (n) :  
    a, b = 0, 1  
    for i in range(1, n+1):  
        a, b = b, a+b  
    return b
```

```
def fibo (n) :  
    if n==0 or n==1: return 1  
    else return fibo(n-1) + fibo(n-2)
```

```
def fibo (n, u0, u1) :  
    if n==0 : return u0  
    if n==1 : return u1  
    return fibo(n-1, u1, u0+u1)
```

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Quick Exercise

- Implement the dichotomy (bisection) method to find zeros of a given real function
- Implement Newton's method to find zeros of a given real function

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