Today

- More about functions
  - Parameters
  - Return values
  - Call stacks
  - Recursion
  - Variable Scope

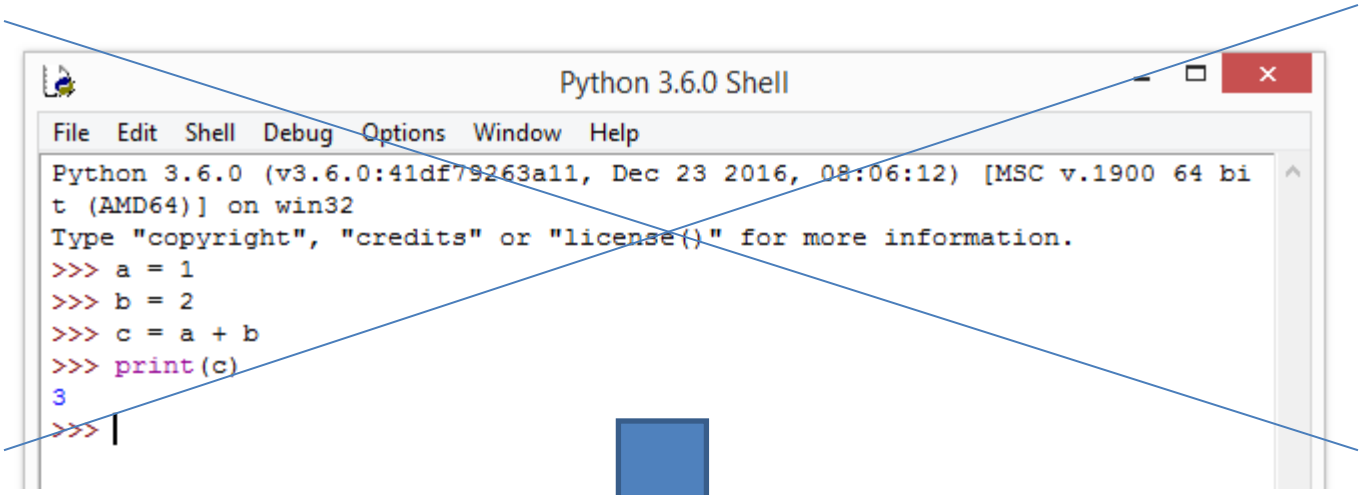
Observation from Tlabs

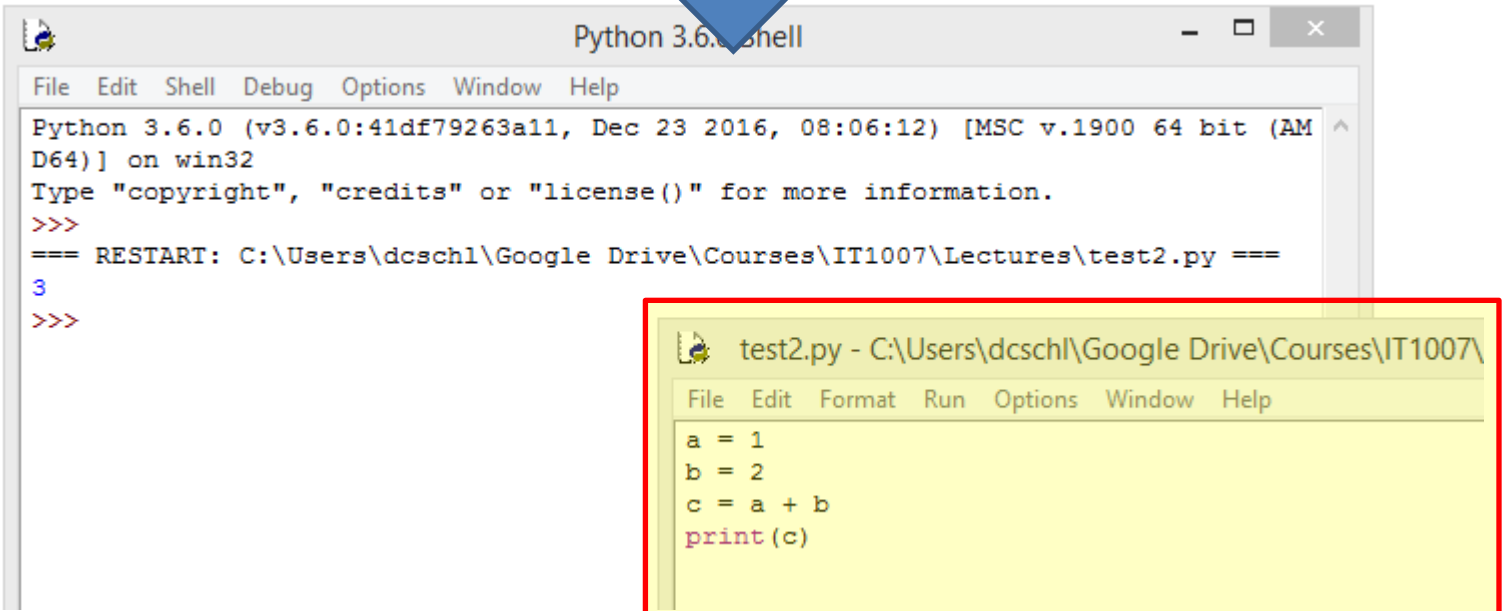
- Attendance is VERY high
  - And good interactions
  - A lot of questions asked/answered
- Faced REAL programming problem
  - Learn REAL things
- One third of us can finish Part A in the two hours
  - There are a few can even finish Part B

Observation from Tlabs

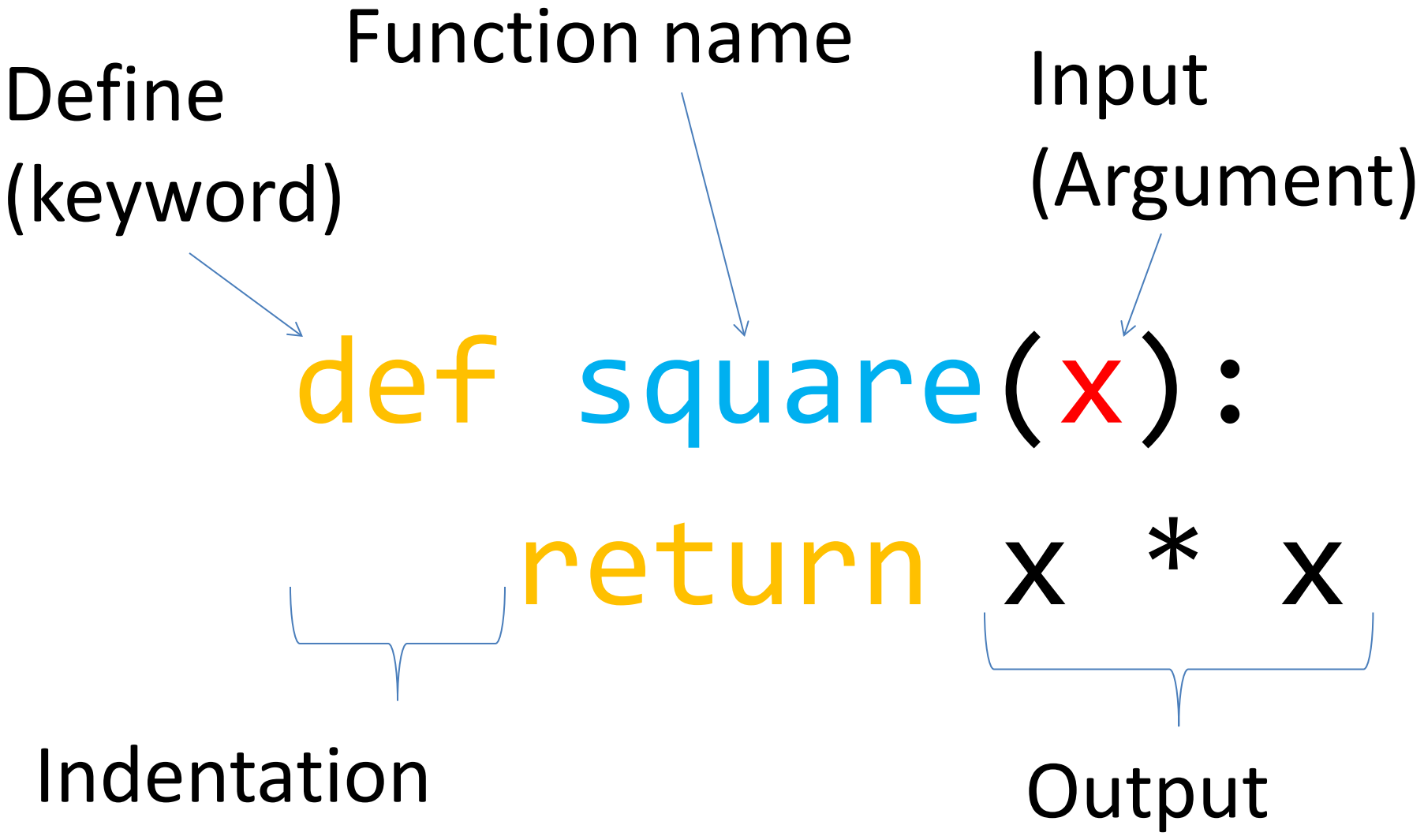
- Some confused with C syntax
  - I saw someone wrote
    - `for (i = 0; i < n; i ++)`
- Some are still used to the console coding

Let's Move Out of the Console





Recap: Simple Functions



Parameters of Functions

= input

= arguments

Input Parameters

```
def add2things(a,b)
    return a + b
```

Must be the same number of items

```
>>> add2things(1,2)
3
>>> add2things(1)
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#94>", line 1, in <module>
    add2things(1)
TypeError: add2things() missing 1 required positional argument: 'b'
>>> add2things()
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#95>", line 1, in <module>
    add2things()
TypeError: add2things() missing 2 required positional arguments: 'a' and
>>> add2things(1,2,3)
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<pyshell#96>", line 1, in <module>
    add2things(1,2,3)
TypeError: add2things() takes 2 positional arguments but 3 were given
>>>
```

Parameter Types

- In Python, parameters have no declared types. We can pass any kind of variable to the function….

```
>>> add2things(3.14, 2.71)
5.85
>>> add2things('Hello ', 'world!')
'Hello world!'
>>> add2things(True, True)
2
>>>
```

…. as far as the function works

Pass by Values

```
x = 0

def changeValue(n):
    n = 999
    print(n)

changeValue(x)
print(x)
```

- The `print` () in "`changeValue`" will print 999
- But how about the last `print(x)`?
  - Will x becomes 999?
- (So actually this function will NOT change the value of x)

Pass by Values

```
x = 0

def changeValue(n):
    n = 999
    print(n)

changeValue(x)
print(x)
```

- n is another copy of x
- You can deem it as

```
def changeValue(x):
    n = x
    n = 999
    print(n)
```

Return Values

Vs “`print()`”

Print vs Return

```
def foo_print3():
    print(3)

def foo_return3():
    return 3
```

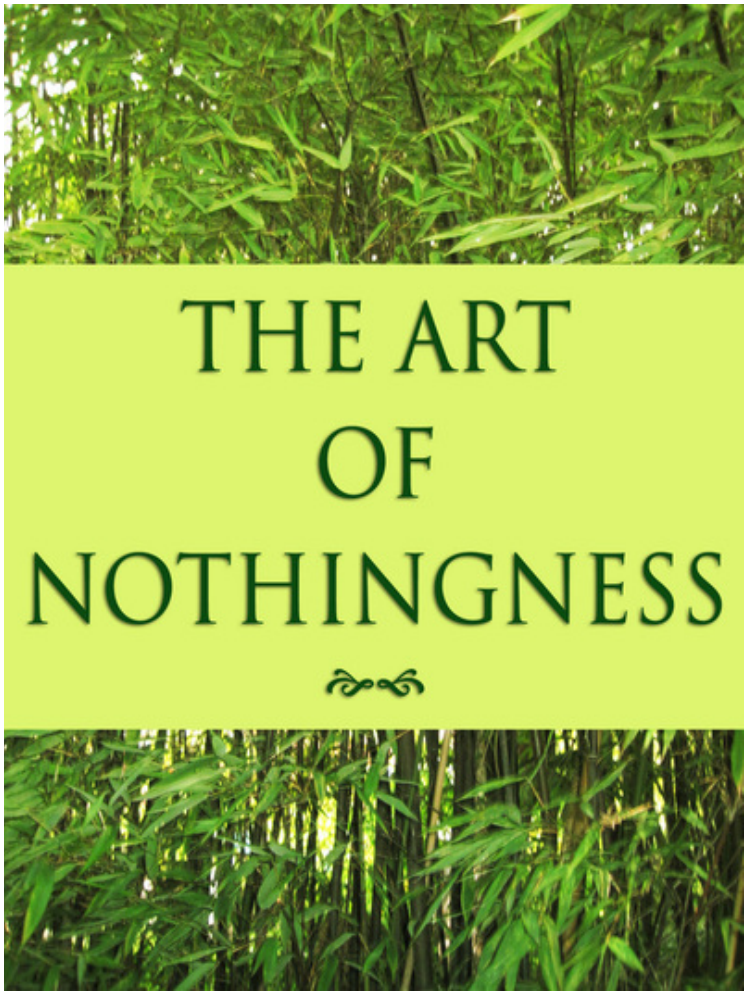
```
>>> foo_print3()
3
>>> foo_return3()
3
>>>
```

Wait…

```
>>> x = foo_print3()
3
>>> y = foo_return3()
>>>
```

Nothing?

```
>>> type(x)
<class 'NoneType'>
>>> type(y)
<class 'int'>
>>>
```



Print vs Return

```
def foo_print3():
    print(3)

def foo_return3():
    return 3
```

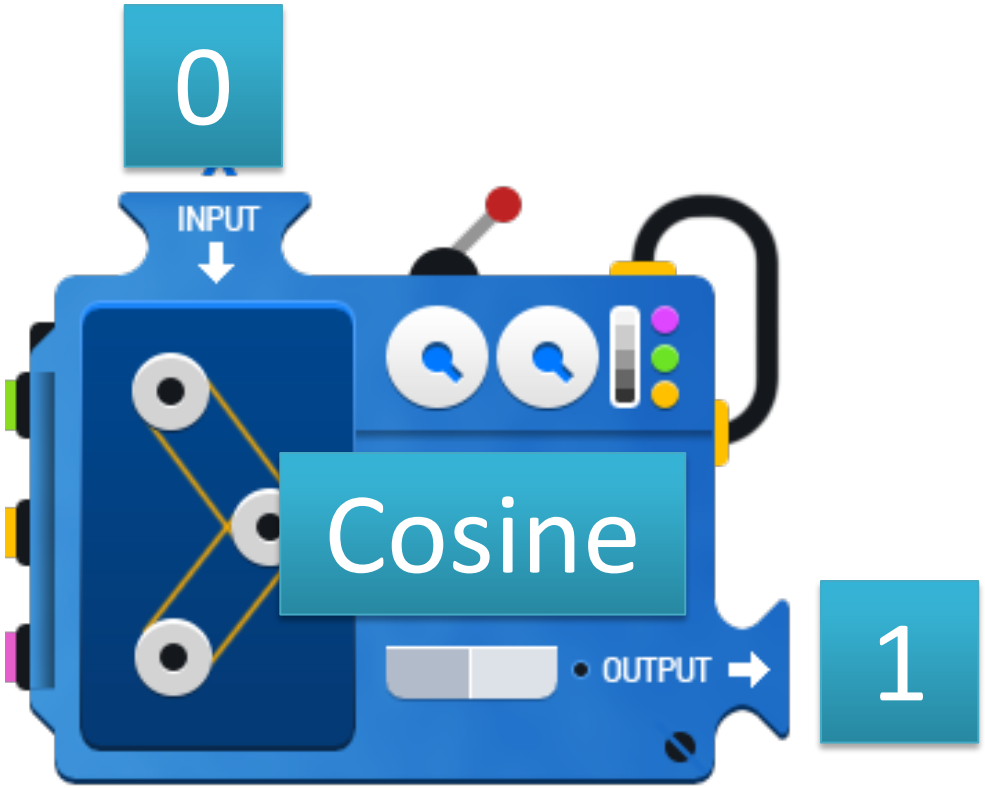
By the print function

```
>>> foo_print3()
3
>>> foo_return3()
3
>>>
```

IDLE's echo

Function

- "Cosine" is a function
  - Input 0
  - Output 1
  - x = cos(0)
  - x = 1

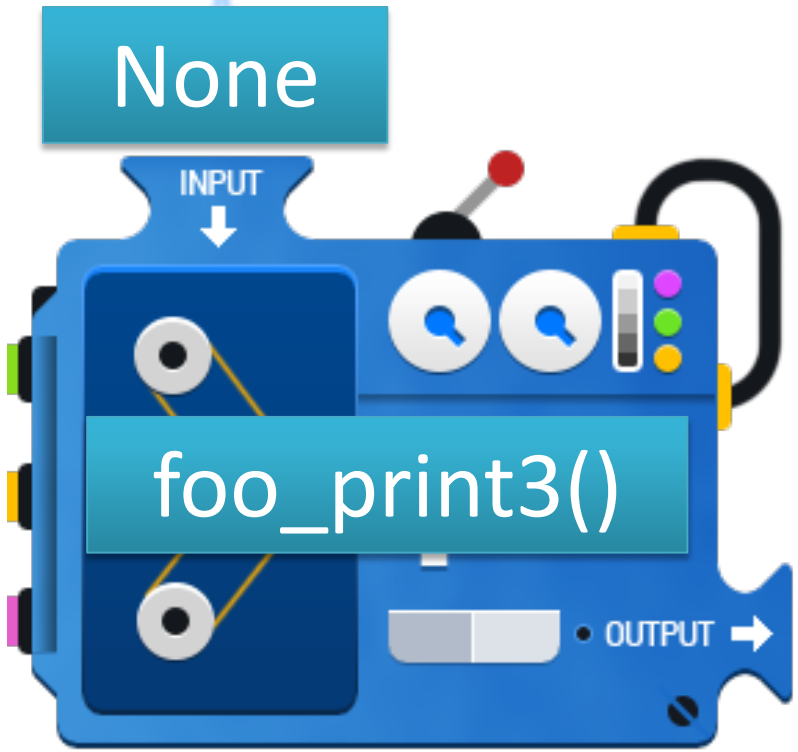


Function

- "`foo_print3()`" is a function
  - Input 0
  - No output

```
y = foo_print3()
```

None



In general, we called all these "functions"

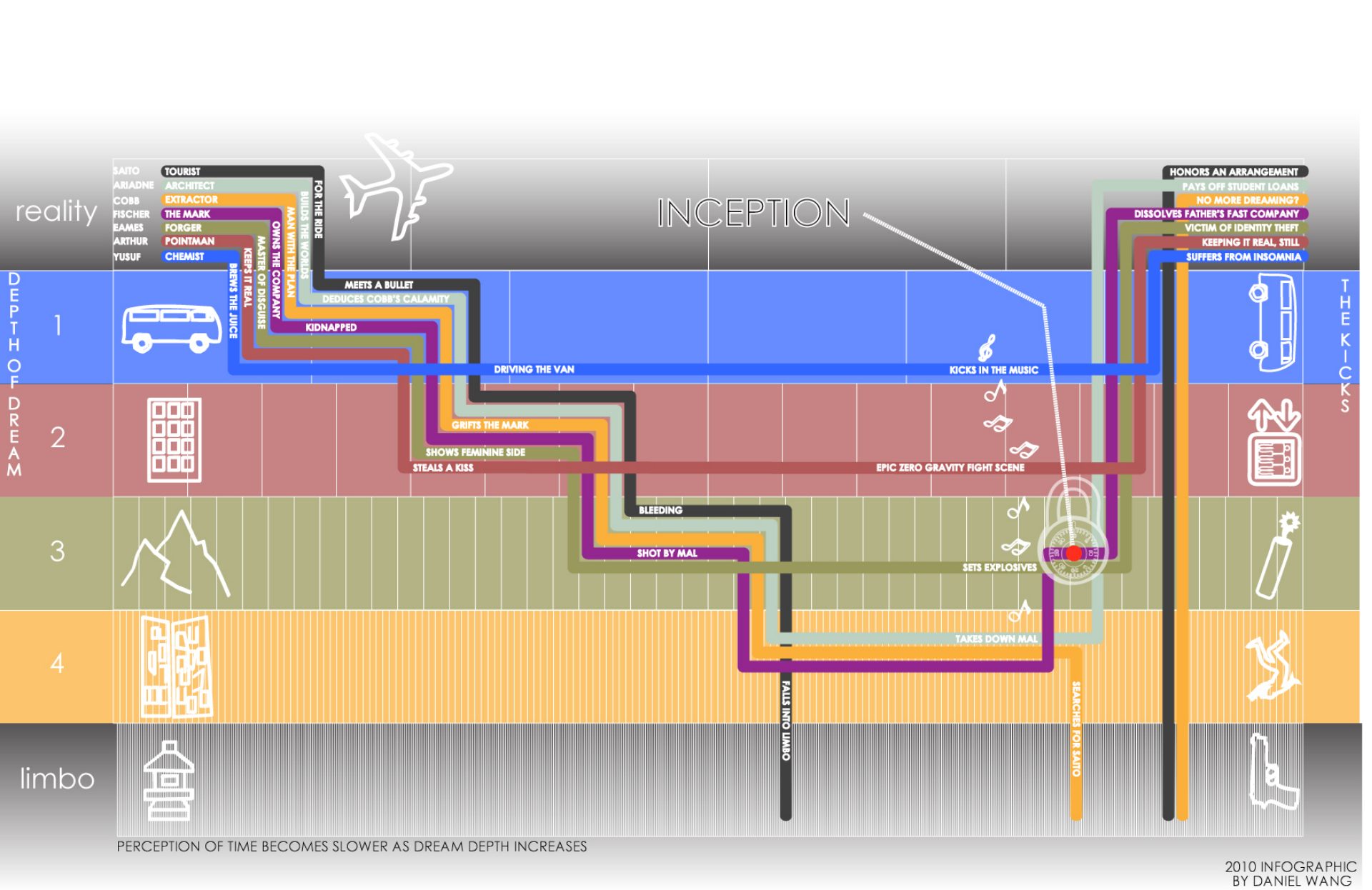
But for a function that "returns" nothing. Sometime we call it a "procedure"

Return Values

- All functions returns “something”
- `foo_return3()` return the integer 3
- `foo_print3()`
  - Do not have any return statement
  - So it returns “None”

Question: Can we assume that a function always return something of the same TYPE?

The Call Stack

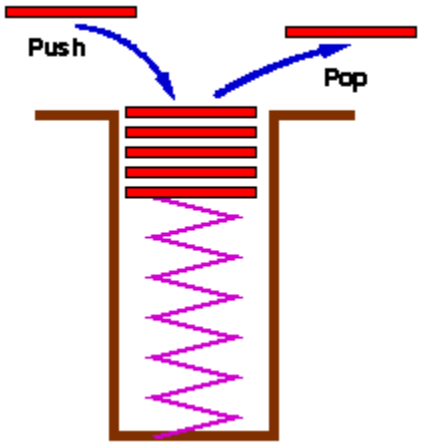


PERCEPTION OF TIME BECOMES SLOWER AS DREAM DEPTH INCREASES

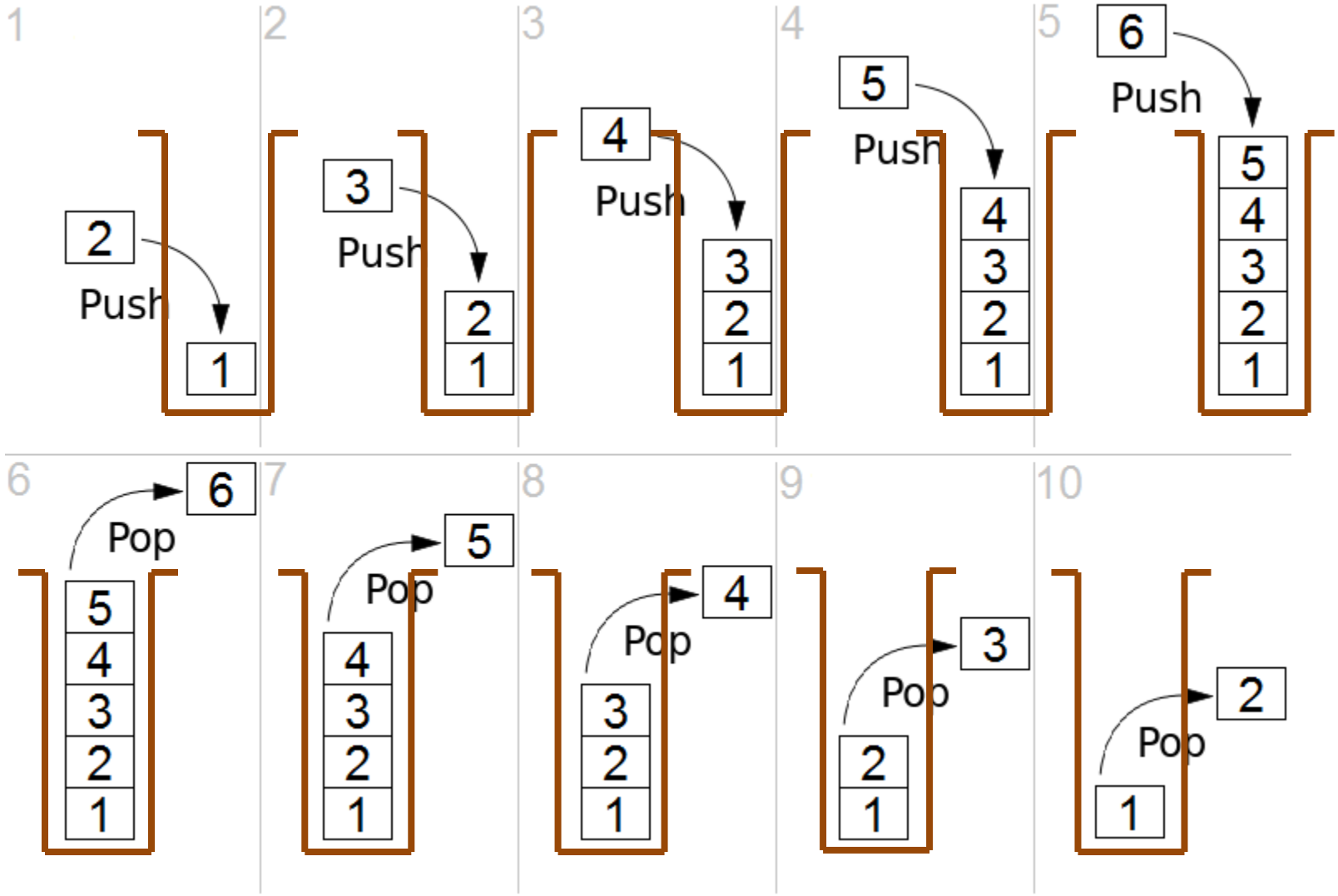
2010 INFOGRAPHIC
BY DANIEL WANG

Stack

- First in last out order



First in Last Out



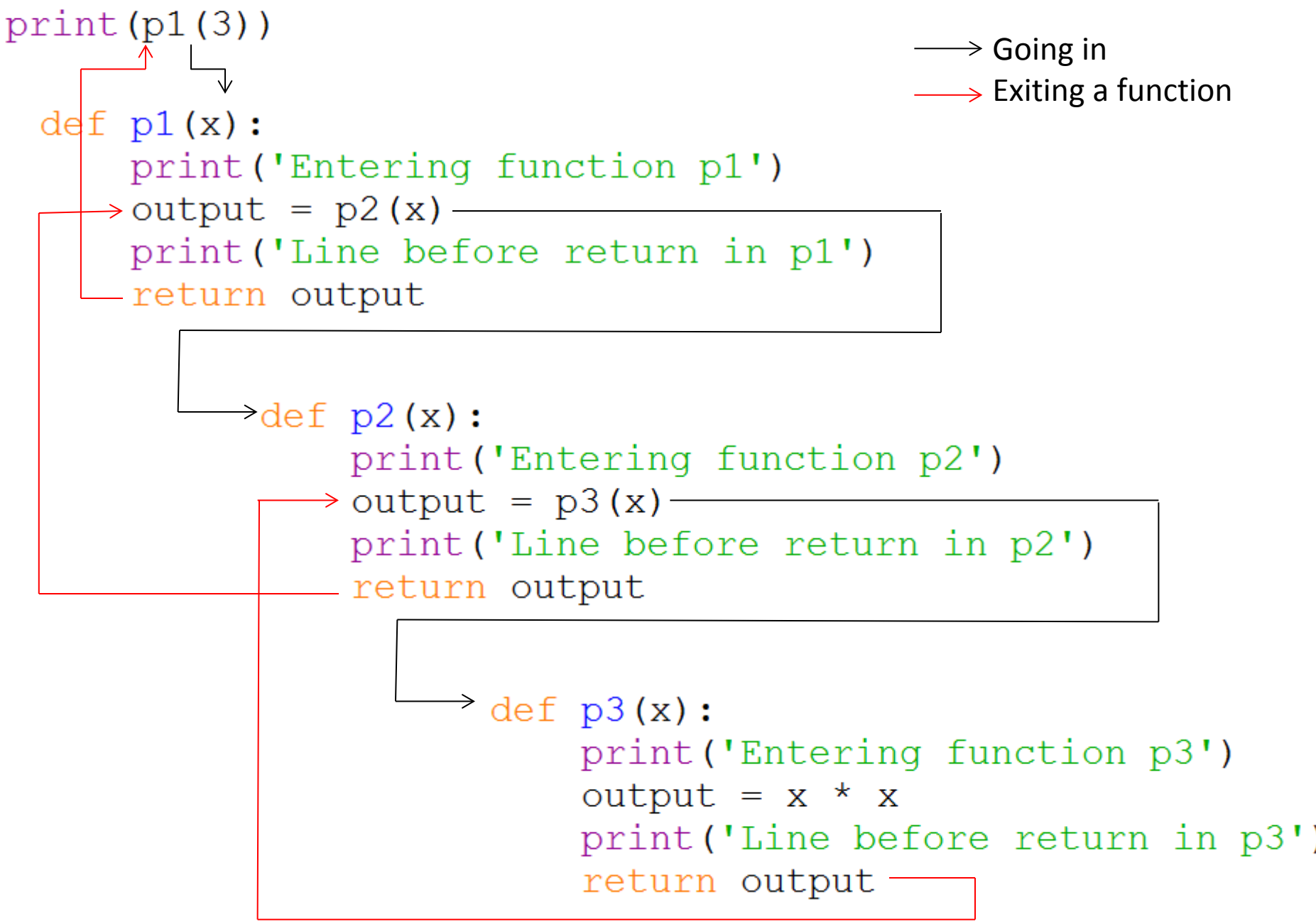
The Stack (or the Call Stack)

```
def p1(x):
    print('Entering function p1')
    output = p2(x)
    print('Line before return in p1')
    return output


def p2(x):
    print('Entering function p2')
    output = p3(x)
    print('Line before return in p2')
    return output

def p3(x):
    print('Entering function p3')
    output = x * x
    print('Line before return in p3')
    return output


print(p1(3))
```

The Stack (or the Call Stack)

```
>>> p1(3)
Entering function p1
Entering function p2
Entering function p3
Line before return in p3
Line before return in p2
Line before return in p1
9
```

FILO!


print(p1(3))
Going in
Exiting a function
def p1(x):
print('Entering function p1')
output = p2(x)
print('Line before return in p1')
return output
def p2(x):
print('Entering function p2')
output = p3(x)
print('Line before return in p2')
return output
def p3(x):
print('Entering function p3')
output = x * x
print('Line before return in p3')
return output

Debug Control

Go | Step | Over | Out | Quit

☑ Stack ☐ Source

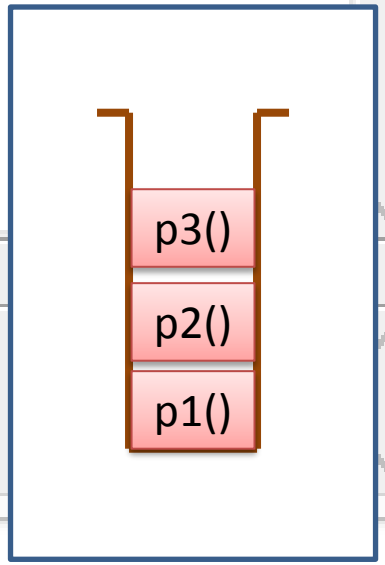
☑ Locals ☐ Globals

W03a Call Stack.py:16: p3()

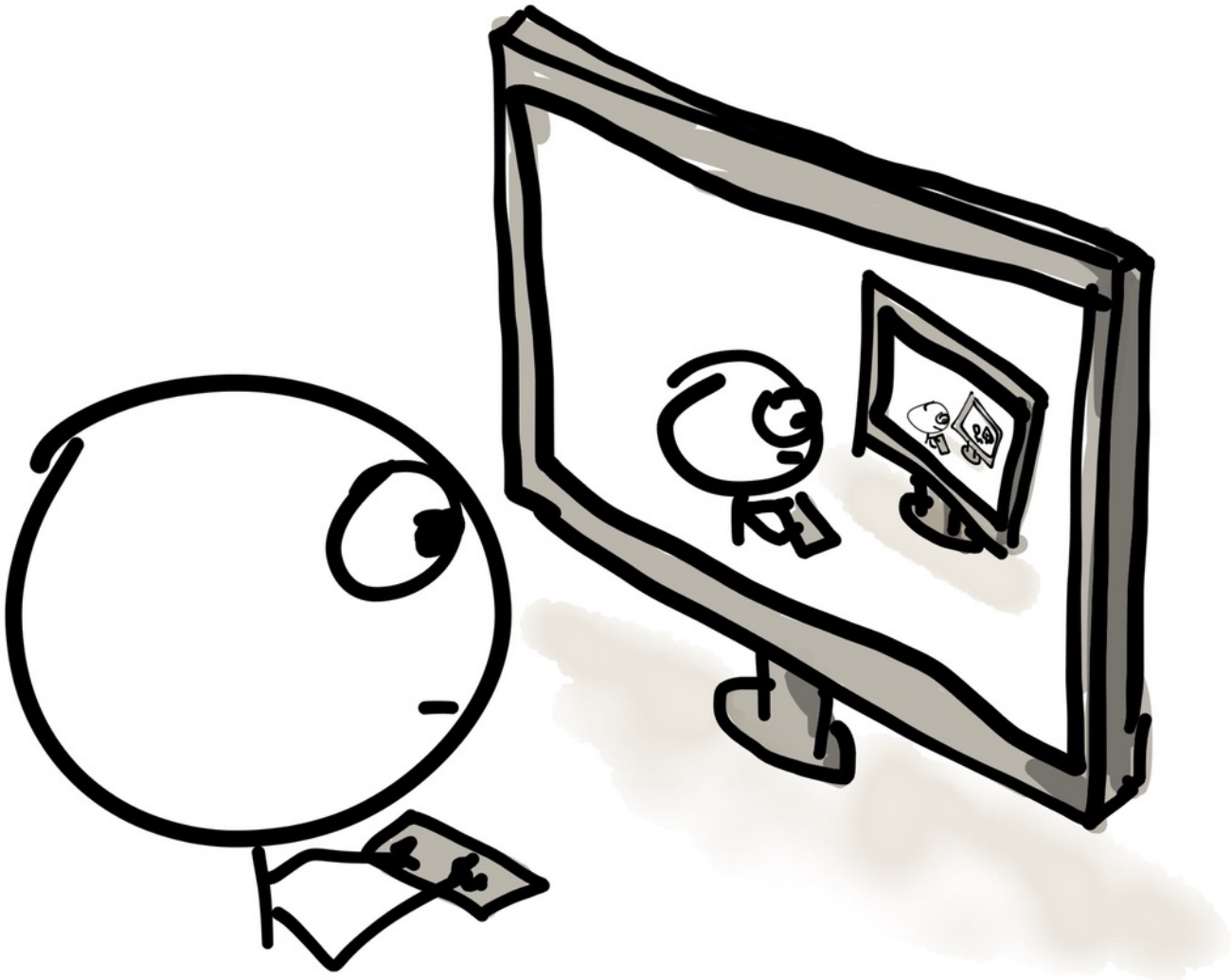
'bdb'.run(), line 431: exec(cmd, globals, locals)
'__main__'.<module>(), line 1: p1(3)
'__main__'.p1(), line 3: output = p2(x)
'__main__'.p2(), line 10: output = p3(x)
> '__main__'.p3(), line 16: output = x * x

Locals

x 3

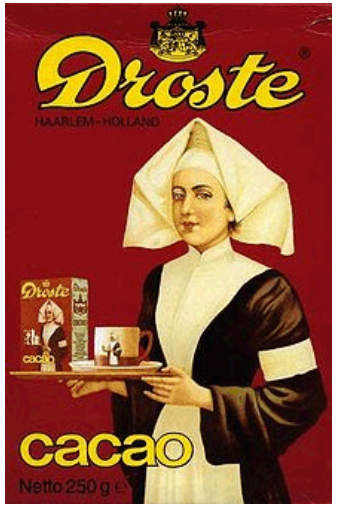


Recursion

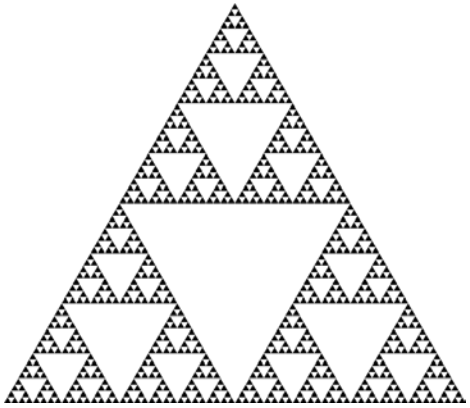


A Central Idea of CS

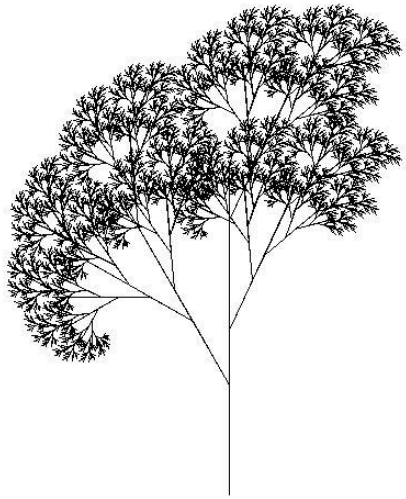
Some examples of recursion (inside and outside CS):



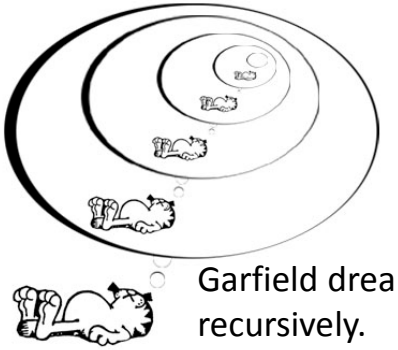
Droste effect



Sierpinksi triangle



Recursive tree



Garfield dreaming recursively.

[Mandelbrot Fractal Endless Zoom]

Recursion

- A function that calls itself
- And extremely powerful technique
- Solve a big problem by solving a smaller version of itself
  - Mini-me

Factorial

- The factorial n! is defined by

$$n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \cdots \times n$$

- Write a function for factorial?

```
def factorial(n):
    ans = 1
    i = 1
    while i <= n:
        ans = ans * i
        i = i + 1
    print(ans)
```

```
>>> factorial(3)
6
>>> factorial(6)
720
>>>
```

Factorial

$$n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \cdots \times n$$

$$n! = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } n = 0 \\ (n-1)! \times n & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Factorial

```
def factorial(n):
        ans = 1
        i = 1
        while i <= n:
                ans = ans * i
                i = i + 1
        print(ans)
```

```
def factorialR(n):
    if n == 1:
        return 1
    else:
        return n * factorialR(n-1)
```

Recursion

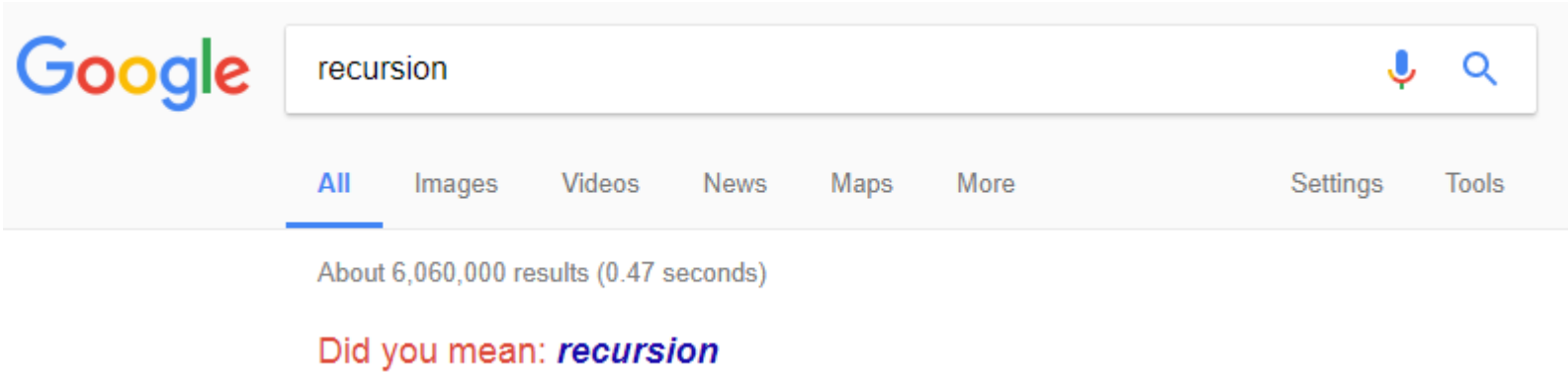
- Rules of recursion

Must have a **terminal** condition

```
def factorialR(n):
    if n == 1:
        return 1
    else:
        return n * factorialR(n-1)
```

Must **reduce** the **size** of the problem for every layer

Google about Recursion



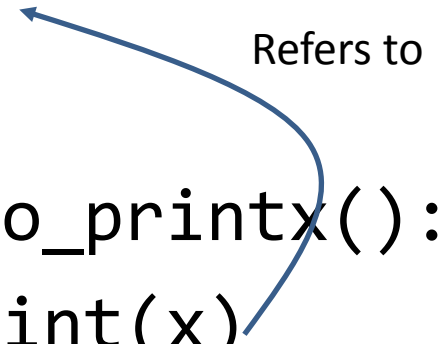
- Try to search these in Google:
  - Do a barrel roll
  - Askew
  - Anagram
  - Google in 1998
  - Zerg rush
- More in Google Easter Eggs

Variable Scope

- What is the difference between the area you receive your **cellular** data signal and your **home wifi** signal?

Global Variable

```
x = 0

def foo_printx():
    print(x)

foo_printx()
print(x)
```



- This code will print

  0

  0

Global vs Local Variables

```
x = 0

def foo_printx():
    x = 999
    print(x)

foo_printx()
print(x)
```

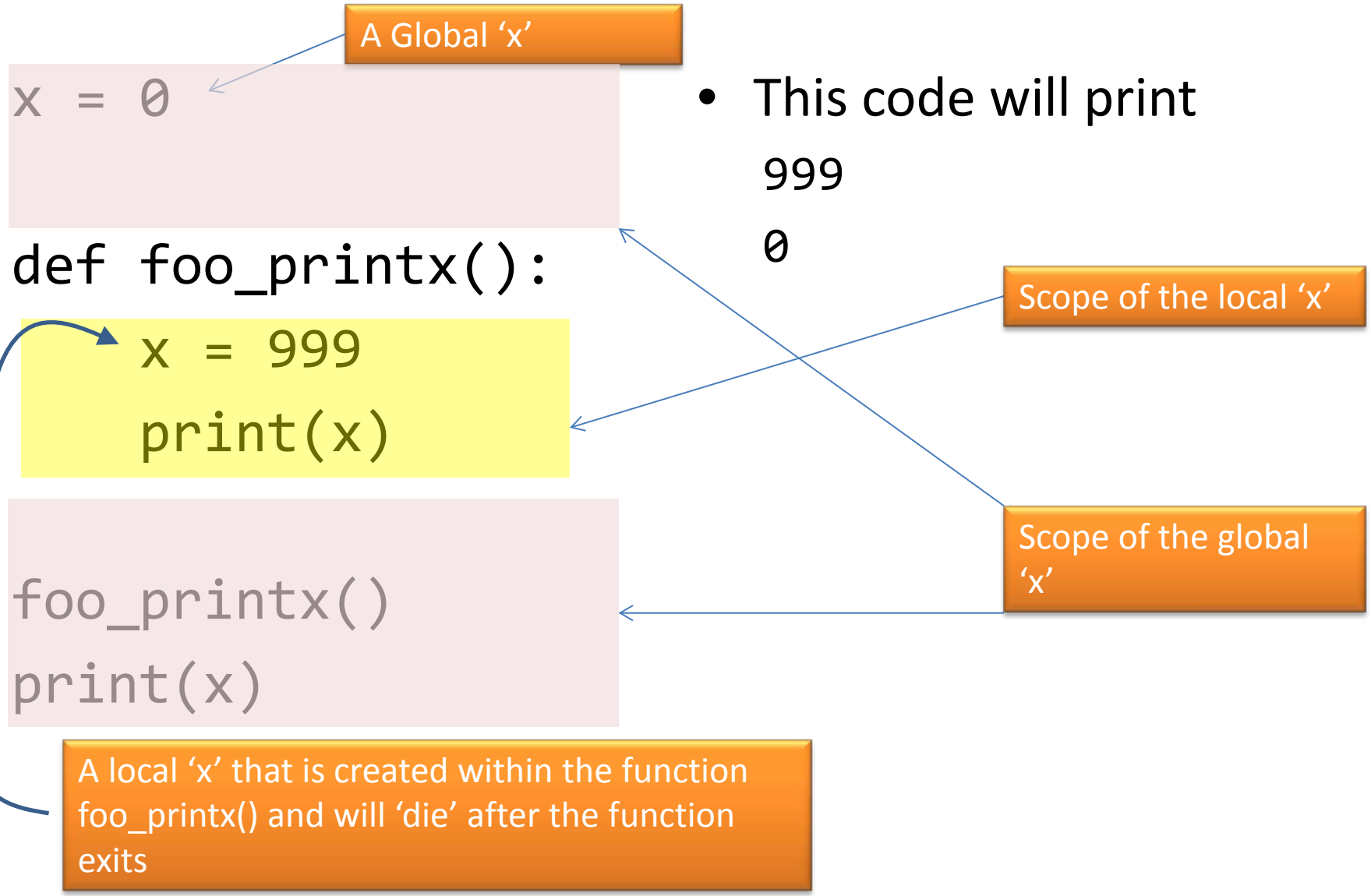
Because, a new 'x' is born here!

- This code will print

```
999
0
```

- The first '999' makes sense
- But why the second one is '0'?

Global vs Local Variables



- This code will print

  999

  0

Global vs Local Variables

- A variable which is defined in the main body of a file is called a ***global*** variable. It will be **visible throughout the file**, and also inside any file which imports that file. EXCEPT…
- A variable which is defined inside a function is ***local*** to that function. It is accessible **from the point at which it is defined until the end of the function**, and exists for as long as the function is executing.
- The parameter names in the function definition behave like local variables, but they contain the values that we pass into the function when we call it.

Crossing Boundary

- What if we really want to modify a global variable from inside a function?
- Use the “global” keyword
- (No local variable x is created)

```
x = 0

def foo_printx():
    global x
    x = 999
    print(x)

foo_printx()
print(x)
```

Output:
999
999

How about… this?

```
x = 0

def foo_printx():
    print(x)
    x = 999
    print(x)

foo_printx()
```

- Local or global?
- Error!
- Because the line "x=999" creates a local version of 'x'
- Then the first print(x) will reference a **local** x that is not assigned with a value
- The line that causes an error

Parameters are LOCAL variables

Scope of x in p1

Scope of x in p2

Scope of x in p3

```
def p1(x):
    print('Entering function p1')
    output = p2(x)
    print('Line before return in p1')
    return output

def p2(x):
    print('Entering function p2')
    output = p3(x)
    print('Line before return in p2')
    return output

def p3(x):
    print('Entering function p3')
    output = x * x
    print('Line before return in p3')
    return output

print(p1(3))
```

Does not refer to

Practices (Convention)

- Global variables are VERY **bad** practices, especially if modification is allowed
- 99% of time, global variables are used as CONSTANTS
  - Variables that every function could access
  - But not expected to be modified

Convention:
Usually in all CAPs

```
POUNDS_IN_ONE_KG = 2.20462

def kg2pound(w):
    return w * POUNDS_IN_ONE_KG

def pound2kg(w):
    return w / POUNDS_IN_ONE_KG
```

Today

- More about functions
  - Parameters
  - Return values
  - Call stacks
  - Recursion
  - Variable Scope

Admin

- This Friday is a holiday, no Tlab
- Remember to submit your Part A within the day of the Tlab
- Remember to submit your Part B before
  - 3 Sept Sunday 11:59pm