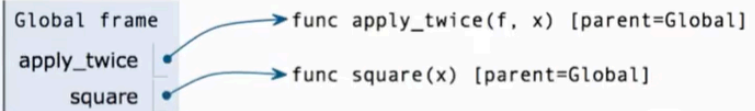


today we investigate how the mechanics of higher order functions can be expressed and tracked using environment diagrams  
the aim? is to understand how higher order functions really work.

## Names can be Bound to Functional Arguments

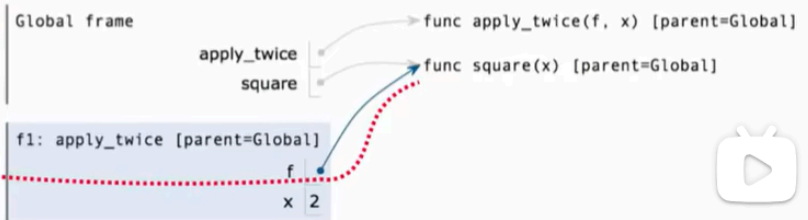
```
1 def apply_twice(f, x):
2     return f(f(x))
3
4 def square(x):
5     return x * x
6
7 result = apply_twice(square, 2)
```



Applying a user-defined function:

- Create a new frame
- Bind formal parameters (f & x) to arguments
- Execute the body: return f(f(x))

```
1 def apply_twice(f, x):
2     return f(f(x))
3
4 def square(x):
5     return x * x
6
7 result = apply_twice(square, 2)
```



### Interactive Diagram

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pythontutor.com/composingprograms.html#mode=display

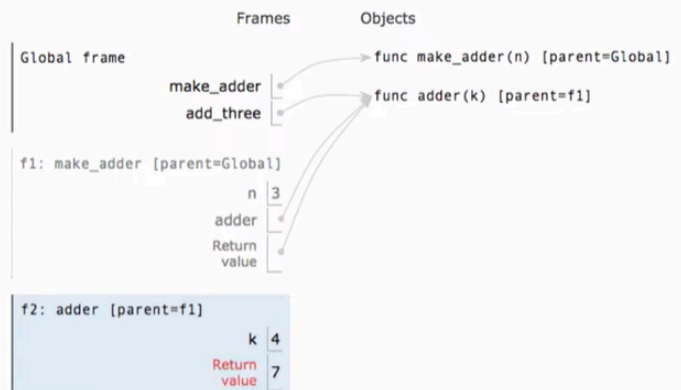
Start a shared session

```
1 def make_adder(n):
2     def adder(k):
3         return k + n
4     return adder
5
6 add_three = make_adder(3)
7 result = add_three(4)
```

Edit code

<< First < Back Step 10 of 10 Forward > Last >>

→ line that has just executed  
→ next line to execute



Generate permanent link

Click the button above to create a permanent link to your visualization. To report a bug, paste the link along with a brief error description in an email addressed to philip@pgbovine.net

This version of Online Python Tutor supports Python 3.3 with limited module imports and no file I/O. The following modules may be imported: sys, os, random, math, operator, random, re, string

Have a question? Maybe the FAQ or other documentation can help. Or check out its code at GitHub.

and that's how we get the No.7

in python, the current frame you created a function would be the parent frame of the function.

like here, the body of the make adder is the place where adder was created, so f1 becomes its parent frame.

besides the parameters and names, we also bind down the parent environment into the new frame(created by calling the function). knowing this helps the computer where to find the names and variables if it couldn't find the things it need in the current frame.

**Nested def**

```
1 def make_adder(n):
2     def adder(k):
3         return k + n
4     return adder
5
6 add_three = make_adder(3)
7 add_three(4)
```

Global frame

- func make\_adder(n) [parent=Global]
- make\_adder
- add\_three
- f1: make\_adder [parent=G]
- n 3
- adder
- Return value
- f2: adder [parent=f1]
- k 4
- Return value 7

- Every user-defined function has a parent frame (often global)
- The parent of a function is the frame in which it was defined
- Every local frame has a parent frame (often global)
- The parent of a frame is the parent of the function called

**and the parent of a frame is the parent of the function**

Interactive Diagram

## How to Draw an Environment Diagram

When a function is defined:

Create a function value: func <name>(<formal parameters>) [parent=<parent>]

Its parent is the current frame.

f1: make\_adder      func adder(k) [parent=f1]

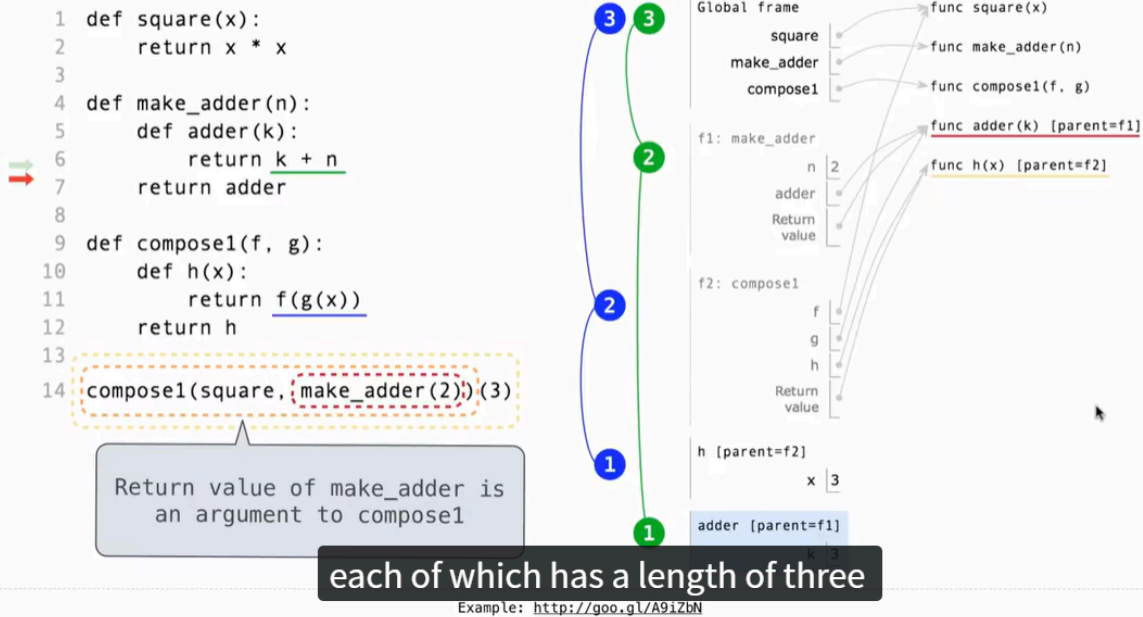
Bind <name> to the function value in the current frame

When a function is called:

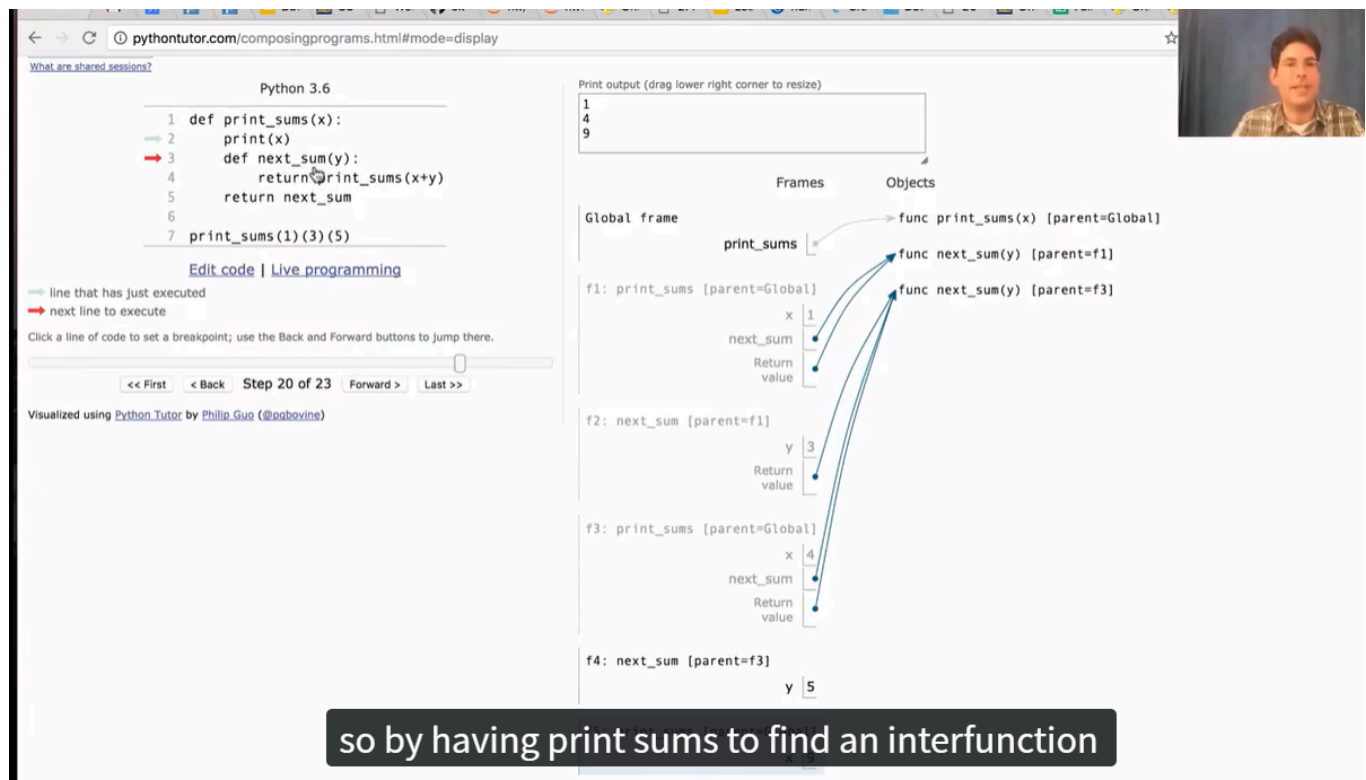
1. Add a local frame, titled with the <name> of the function being called.
2. Copy the parent of the function to the local frame: [parent=<label>]
3. Bind the <formal parameters> to the arguments in the local frame.
4. Execute the body of the function in the environment that starts with the local frame.

drawing a image-- for sure-- will help you to get a good insight of how the program is working.

## The Environment Diagram for Function Composition



## self reference



in this way, we are allowed to passed down data " stored in the last frames"

这也是我们在project1 中用到的所谓“函数状态机思想”

## Function Currying



```
def make_adder(n):  
    return lambda k: n + k
```

```
>>> make_adder(2)(3)  
5  
>>> add(2, 3)  
5
```

There's a general  
relationship between  
these functions

(Demo)

**Currying:** Transforming a multi-argument function into a single-argument, higher-order function.

Currying was discovered by Moses Schönfinkel and re-discovered by Haskell Curry.

and then it was rediscovered and made more

7

in a word, function currying allows people to input the data step by step instead of requiring all the data at once.