

Lecture 16. Mutable functions

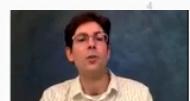
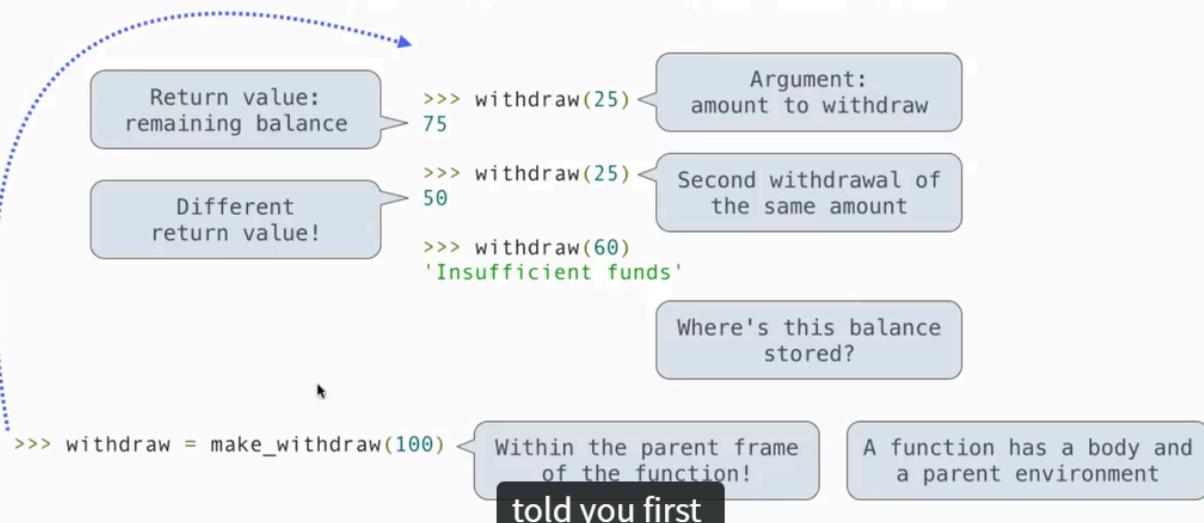
Mutable functions

functions with values associated to it that could change.

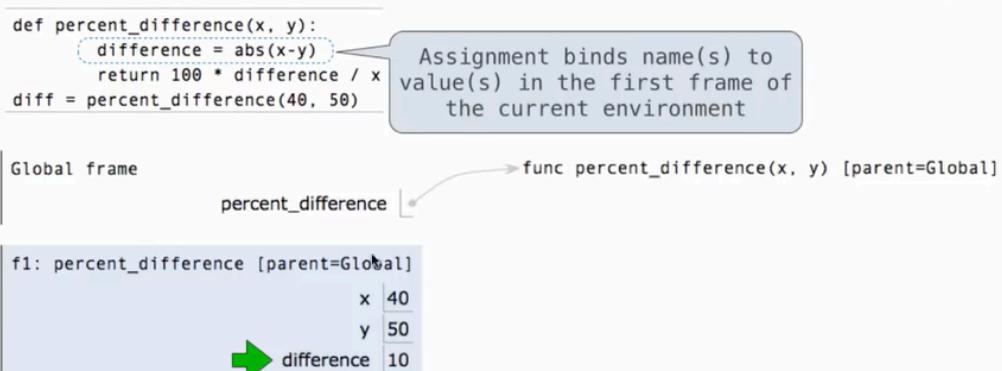


A Function with Behavior That Varies Over Time

Let's model a bank account that has a balance of \$100



Reminder: Local Assignment



Execution rule for assignment statements:

1. Evaluate all expressions right of `=`, from left to right
2. Bind the names on the left to the resulting values in the `current frame`

our assignment statement as it exists today

Interactive Diagram

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```
def make_withdraw(balance):
    """Return a withdraw function with a starting balance"""
    def withdraw(amount):
        nonlocal balance
        if amount > balance:
            return 'Insufficient funds'
        balance = balance - amount
```

```
    return balance  
    return withdraw
```

如果涉及高阶函数创造的函数涉及外部的引用（比如此处的nonlocal声明），那么被引用的数据所在的frame就不会消亡（更进一步地说，是这些变量是被python存在了一个特殊的闭包环境中）

Non-local assignment

The Effect of Nonlocal Statements



nonlocal <name>, <name>, ...

Effect: Future assignments to that name change its pre-existing binding in the first non-local frame of the current environment in which that name is bound.

Python Docs: an "enclosing scope"

From the Python 3 language reference:

Names listed in a nonlocal statement must refer to pre-existing bindings in an enclosing scope.

Names listed in a nonlocal statement must not collide with pre-existing bindings in the local scope.

Current frame

http://docs.python.org/release/3.1.3/reference/simple_stmts.html#the-nonlocal-statement

The Many Meanings of Assignment Statements



x = 2

Status

Effect

• No nonlocal statement
• "x" is not bound locally

Create a new binding from name "x" to object 2 in the first frame of the current environment

• No nonlocal statement
• "x" is bound locally

Re-bind name "x" to object 2 in the first frame of the current environment

• nonlocal x
• "x" is bound in a non-local frame

Re-bind "x" to 2 in the first non-local frame of the current environment in which it is bound

• nonlocal x
• "x" is not bound in a non-local frame

SyntaxError: no binding for nonlocal 'x' found



• nonlocal x
• "x" is bound in a non-local frame
• "x" also bound locally

SyntaxError: name 'x' is parameter and nonlocal

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Python Particulars

Python Particulars



Python pre-computes which frame contains each name before executing the body of a function.

Within the body of a function, all instances of a name must refer to the same frame.

```
def make_withdraw(balance):
    def withdraw(amount):
        if amount > balance:
            return 'Insufficient funds'
        balance = balance - amount
        return balance
    return withdraw

wd = make_withdraw(20)
wd(5)
```

Local assignment



UnboundLocalError: local variable 'balance' referenced before assignment

[Interactive Diagram](#)

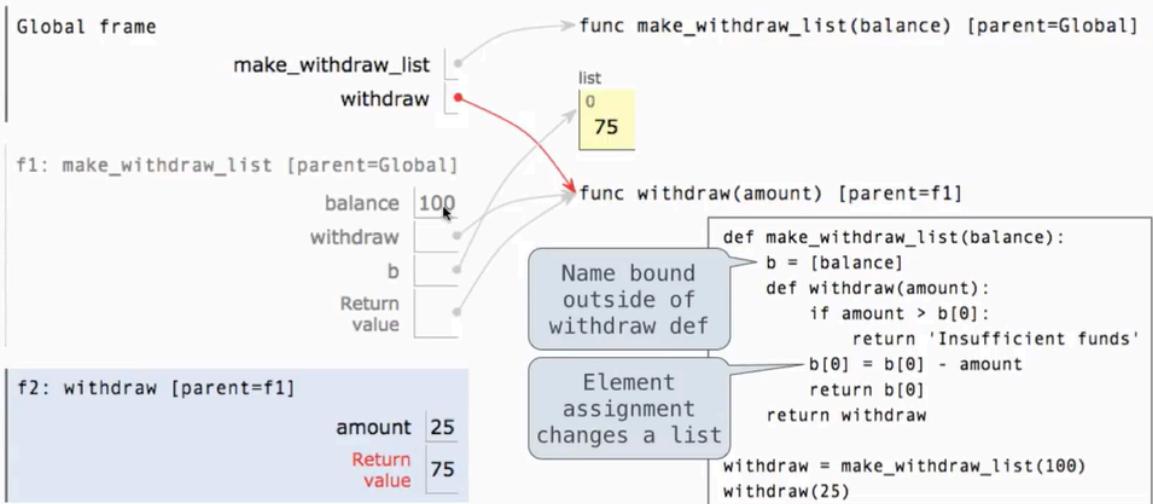
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Mutable Values & Persistent Local State



Mutable Values & Persistent Local State

Mutable values can be changed *without* a nonlocal statement.



[Interactive Diagram](#)

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Referential Transparency lost

Referential Transparency, Lost



- Expressions are **referentially transparent** if substituting an expression with its value does not change the meaning of a program.



```
mul(add(2, mul(4, 6)), add(3, 5))  
mul(add(2,      24      ), add(3, 5))  
mul(          26          , add(3, 5))
```



- Mutation operations violate the condition of referential transparency because they do more than just return a value; **they change the environment**.