

functions

funcs, func expressions, closure, returning funcs, recursion, the stack

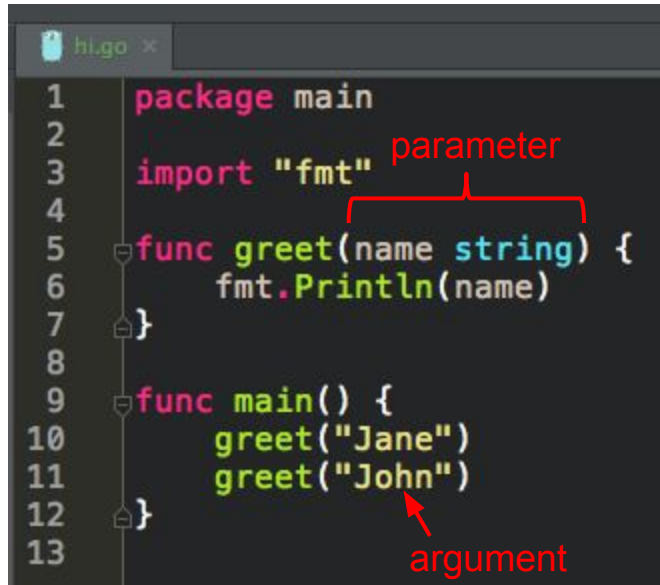
functions

- functions in go are types
 - functions behave as types in go
 - use like any other type
 - declare them as variables
 - pass functions around just as you'd pass types around
 - pass functions just like any other argument / parameter
 - pass them into functions as arguments
 - return them from functions
 - declare functions inside other functions
 - similar to JavaScript

A screenshot of a code editor window titled 'hello.go'. The editor has a dark background with syntax-highlighted Go code. Line numbers 1 through 9 are visible on the left. The code defines a 'package main', imports the 'fmt' package, and contains a 'func main()' block that calls 'fmt.Println("Hello world!")'. A comment at the bottom states '// main is the entry point to your program'.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     fmt.Println("Hello world!")
7 }
8
9 // main is the entry point to your program
```

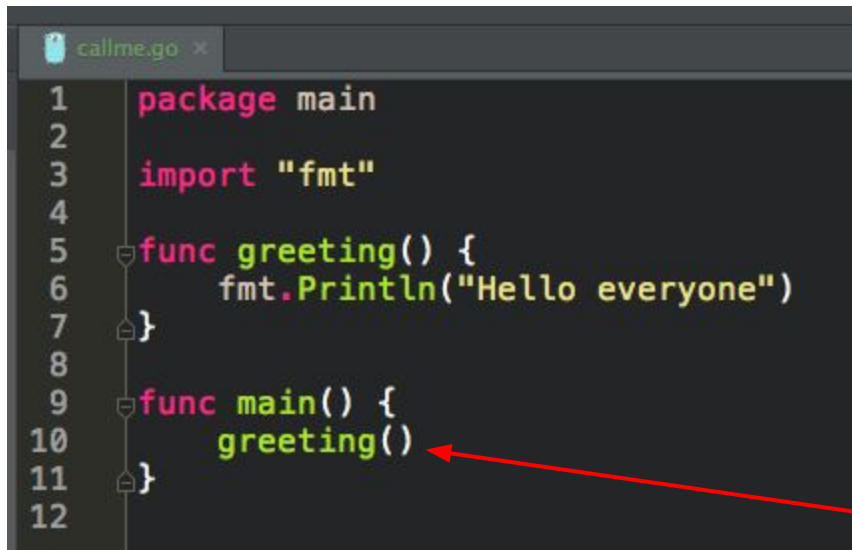
func main
the entry point for your program



The image shows a code editor window with a tab labeled 'hugo x'. The code is in Go and defines a package 'main', imports the 'fmt' package, and defines two functions: 'greet' and 'main'. The 'greet' function takes a 'name string' parameter and prints it. The 'main' function calls 'greet' with the strings 'Jane' and 'John'. A red bracket labeled 'parameter' points to the 'name string' parameter in the 'greet' function signature. A red arrow labeled 'argument' points to the string 'John' in the 'main' function call.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greet(name string) {
6     fmt.Println(name)
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     greet("Jane")
11     greet("John")
12 }
13
```

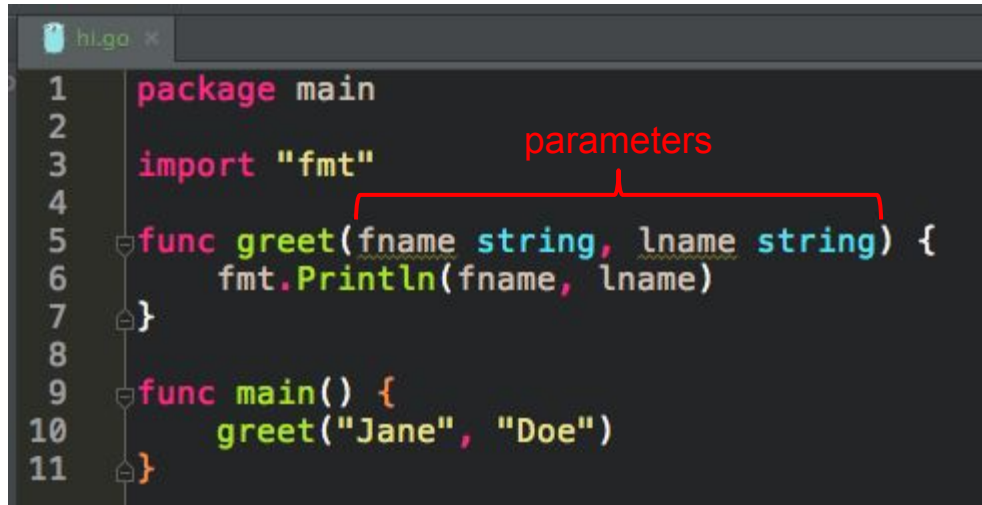
parameters & arguments



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greeting() {
6     fmt.Println("Hello everyone")
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10    greeting()
11 }
12
```

You need the ()

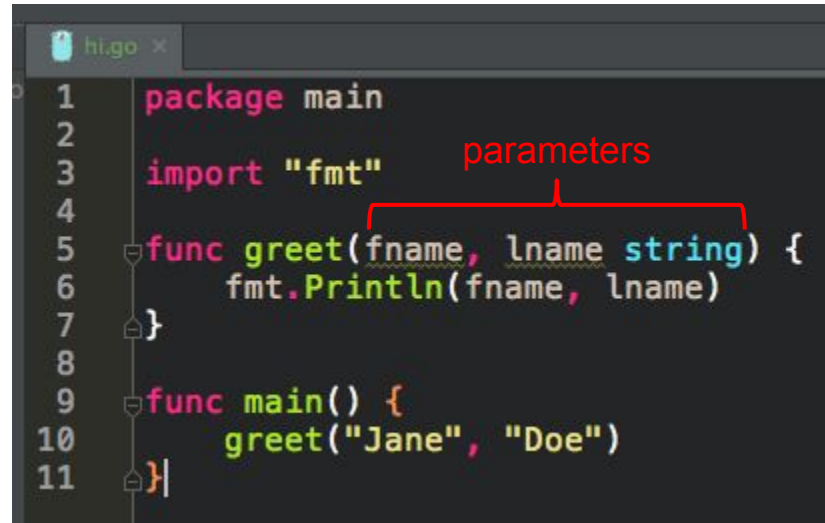
calling a function



A screenshot of a code editor window titled 'hugo'. The code is written in Go and defines a package 'main', imports the 'fmt' package, and defines two functions: 'greet' and 'main'. The 'greet' function takes two string parameters, 'fname' and 'lname', and prints them. The 'main' function calls 'greet' with the values 'Jane' and 'Doe'. A red bracket labeled 'parameters' points to the two string parameters in the 'greet' function signature.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greet(fname string, lname string) {
6     fmt.Println(fname, lname)
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     greet("Jane", "Doe")
11 }
```

two params



A screenshot of a code editor window titled "hi.go". The code is written in Go and consists of 11 lines. Line 1: `package main`. Line 2: `import "fmt"`. Line 3: `func greet(fname, lname string) {`. Line 4: `fmt.Println(fname, lname)`. Line 5: `}`. Line 6: `func main() {`. Line 7: `greet("Jane", "Doe")`. Line 8: `}`. Line 9: `}`. Line 10: `}`. Line 11: `}`. A red bracket is drawn above the function signature `func greet(fname, lname string)`, spanning from the opening curly brace to the closing curly brace of the function definition. The word "parameters" is written in red text above the bracket, indicating that the two parameters are `fname` and `lname`.

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greet(fname, lname string) {
6     fmt.Println(fname, lname)
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     greet("Jane", "Doe")
11 }
```

two params



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greet(fname string, lname string) string {
6     return fmt.Sprintf(fname, lname)
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     fmt.Println(greet("Jane ", "Doe"))
11 }
```

return


```
hi.go x
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func greet(fname string, lname string) (s string) {
6      s = fmt.Sprintf(fname, lname)
7      return
8  }
9
10 func main() {
11     fmt.Println(greet("Jane ", "Doe"))
12 }
13
14 // we can give a name to the return type
```

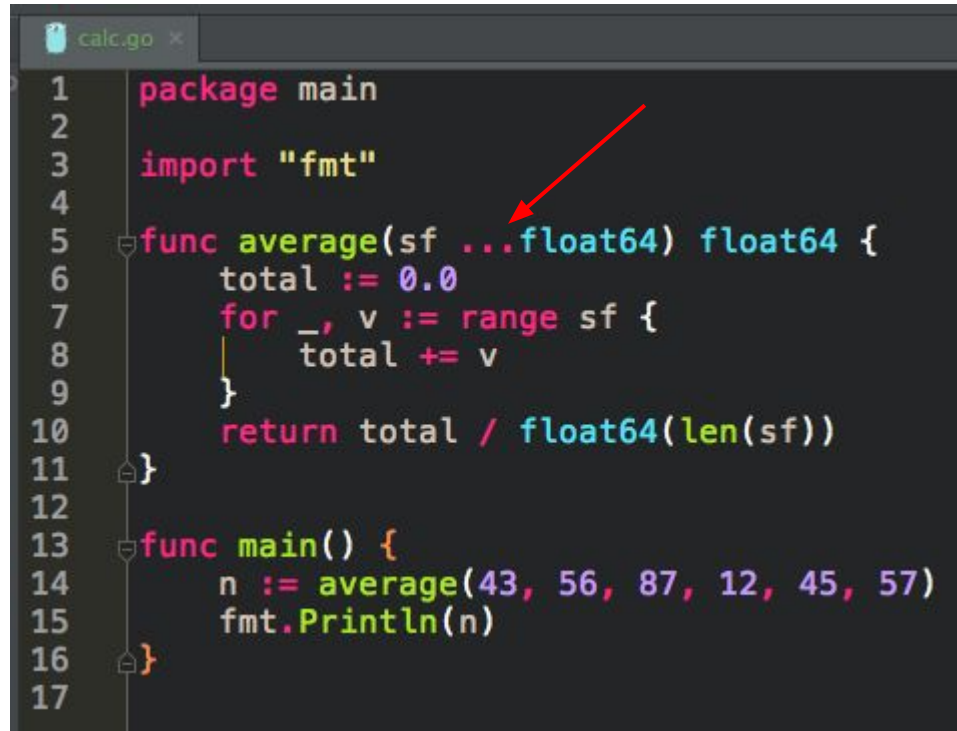
named return



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greet(fname string, lname string) (string, string) {
6     return fmt.Sprint(fname, lname), fmt.Sprint(lname, fname)
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     fmt.Println(greet("Jane ", "Doe "))
11 }
```

A red bracket labeled "returns" is positioned above the return statement in the `greet` function, spanning the two string literals being returned.

return multiple



```
calc.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func average(sf ...float64) float64 {
6     total := 0.0
7     for _, v := range sf {
8         total += v
9     }
10    return total / float64(len(sf))
11 }
12
13 func main() {
14     n := average(43, 56, 87, 12, 45, 57)
15     fmt.Println(n)
16 }
17
```

A red arrow points to the `...float64` part of the `average` function signature on line 5.

variadic parameters

```
calc.go x
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func average(sf ...float64) float64 {
6      total := 0.0
7      for _, v := range sf {
8          total += v
9      }
10     return total / float64(len(sf))
11 }
12
13 func main() {
14     data := []float64{43, 56, 87, 12, 45, 57}
15     n := average(data...)
16     fmt.Println(n)
17 }
18
```

variadic arguments

```
calc.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func average(sf []float64) float64 {
6     total := 0.0
7     for _, v := range sf {
8         total += v
9     }
10    return total / float64(len(sf))
11 }
12
13 func main() {
14     data := []float64{43, 56, 87, 12, 45, 57}
15     n := average(data)
16     fmt.Println(n)
17 }
18
```

parameter name does not have to match argument name

exercise

Write a function which takes an integer and returns two values:

- the integer divided by 2
- whether or not the integer is even (true, false)

For example

- `half(1)` should return (0, false)
- `half(2)` should return (1, true).

```
halfme.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func half(n int) (int, bool) {
6     return n/2, n%2 == 0
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     h, even := half(2)
11     fmt.Println(h, even)
12 }
13 |
```

solution to exercise

exercise

Write a function with one variadic parameter that finds the greatest number in a list of numbers.


```
max.go x
1  package main
2  import "fmt"
3
4  func max(numbers ...int) int {
5      var largest int
6      for _, v := range numbers {
7          if v > largest {
8              largest = v
9          }
10     }
11     return largest
12 }
13
14 func main() {
15     greatest := max(4,7,9,123,543,23,435,53,125)
16     fmt.Println(greatest)
17 }
18
```

solution to exercise

```
max.go x
1 package main
2 import "fmt"
3
4 func max(numbers ...int) int {
5     var largest int
6     for _, v := range numbers {
7         if v > largest {
8             largest = v
9         }
10    }
11    return largest
12 }
13
14 func main() {
15     fmt.Println(max) // max is the function
16     max := max(4,7,9,123,543,23,435,53,125)
17     fmt.Println(max) // max is the result
18 }
19
20 // don't do this; bad coding practice to shadow variables
```

```
Terminal
+ 13_variable-shadowing $ go run max.go
0x2000
X 543
13_variable-shadowing $
```

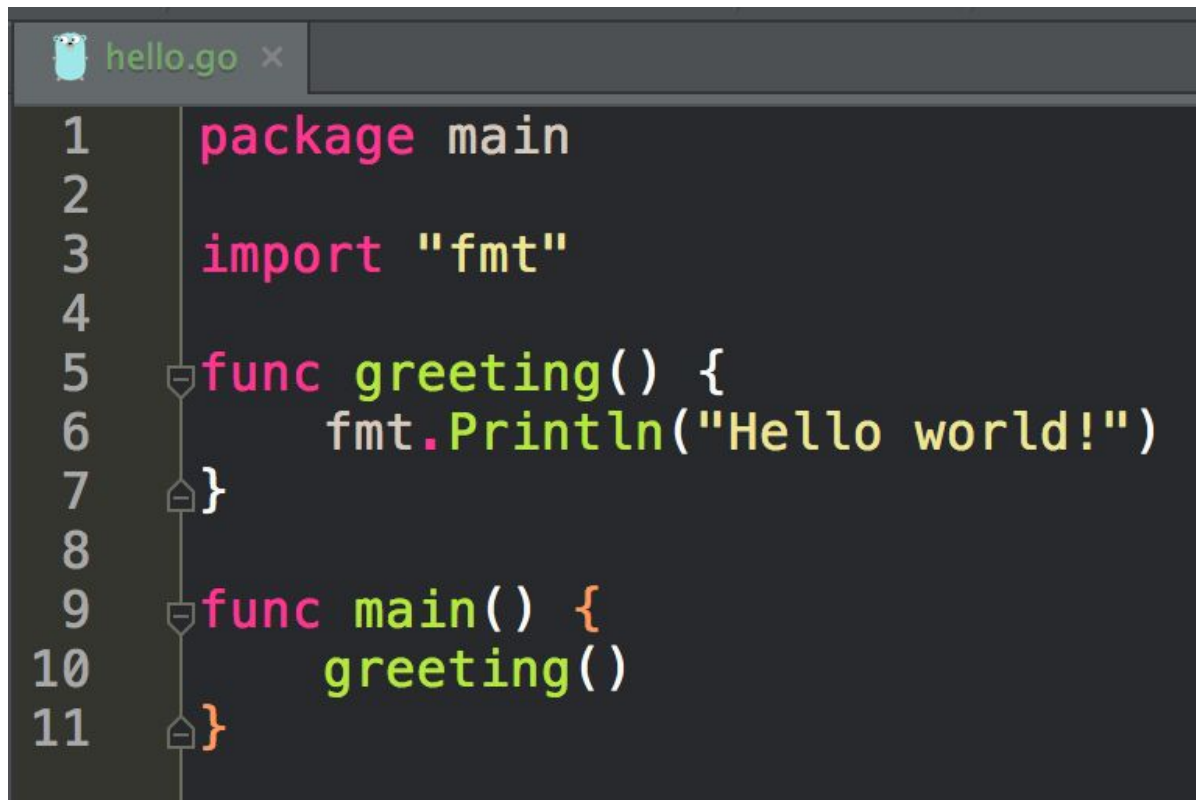
bad coding practice
variable shadowing

```
max.go x
1 package main
2 import "fmt"
3
4 func max(numbers ...int) int {
5     var largest int
6     for _, v := range numbers {
7         if v > largest {
8             largest = v
9         }
10    }
11    return largest
12 }
13
14 func main() {
15     fmt.Println(max) // max is the function
16     max := max(4,7,9,123,543,23,435,53,125)
17     fmt.Println(max) // max is the result
18     n := max(5,4,2,6,7,8) // you wouldn't be able to call your func again
19 }
20
21 // don't do this; bad coding practice to shadow variables
```

bad coding practice
variable shadowing

func expression

setting a variable equal to a function



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greeting() {
6     fmt.Println("Hello world!")
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     greeting()
11 }
```

this is not a func expression

this is our code before using a func expression

```
hello.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func greeting() {
6     fmt.Println("Hello world!")
7 }
8
9 func main() {
10     greeting()
11 }
```

this is not a func expression

```
hello.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6
7     greeting := func() {
8         fmt.Println("Hello world!")
9     }
10
11     greeting()
12 }
```

this is a func expression

func expression

setting a variable equal to a func

the **scope** of **greeting** is func main()



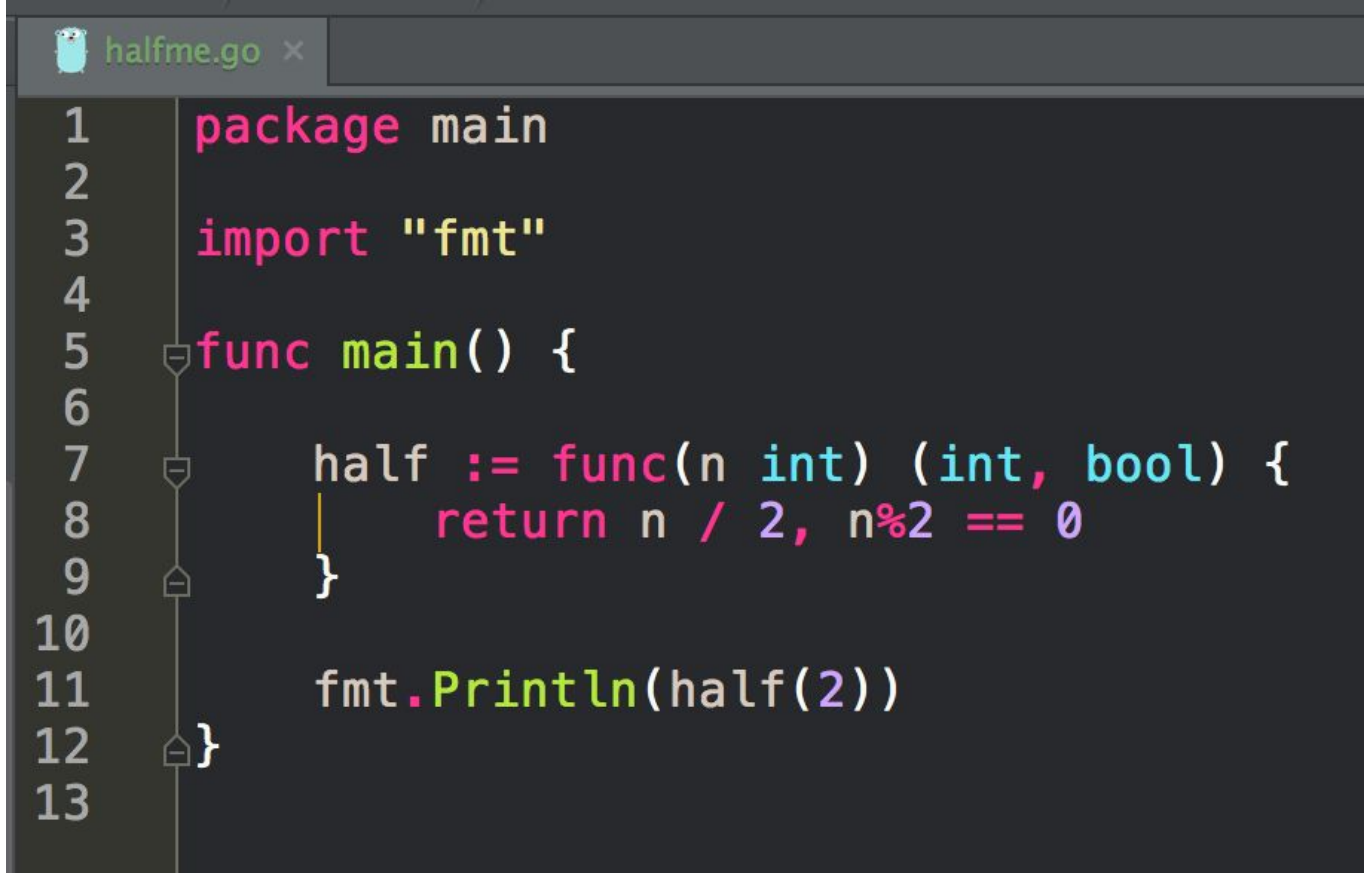
hello.go x

```
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func main() {
6
7      greeting := func() {
8          fmt.Println("Hello world!")
9      }
10
11     greeting()
12     fmt.Printf("%T\n", greeting)
13 }
```

Terminal

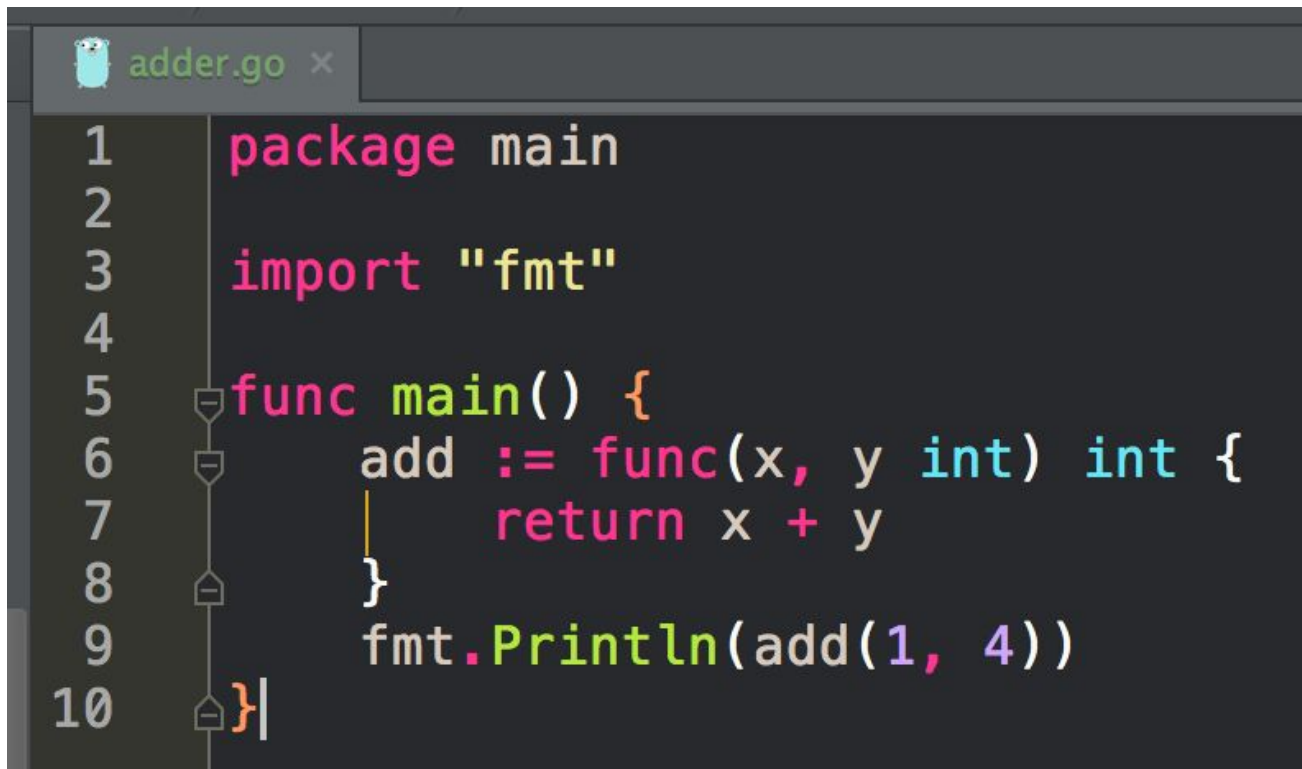
```
+ 03_func-expression-shows-type $ go run hello.go
Hello world!
x func()
03_func-expression-shows-type $
```

interesting to look at greeting's type



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6
7     half := func(n int) (int, bool) {
8         return n / 2, n%2 == 0
9     }
10
11     fmt.Println(half(2))
12 }
13
```

another func expression
setting a variable equal to a func

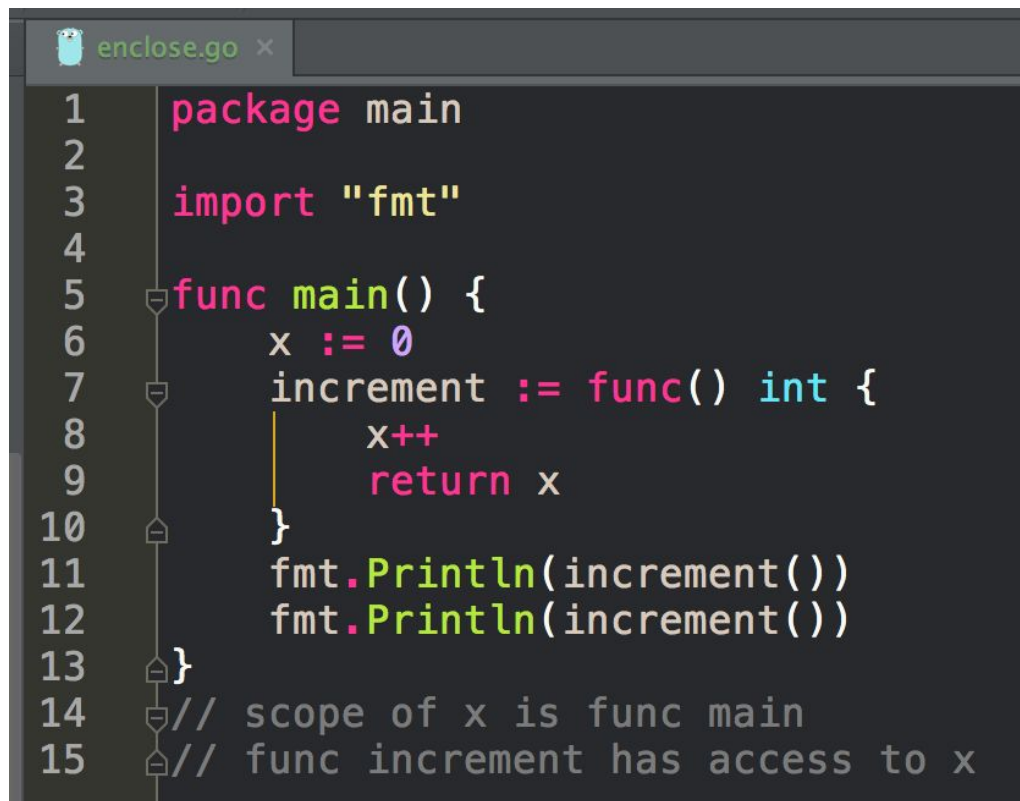


```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     add := func(x, y int) int {
7         return x + y
8     }
9     fmt.Println(add(1, 4))
10 }
```

another func expression
setting a variable equal to a func

closure

my definition: *“one thing enclosing another thing”*



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     x := 0
7     increment := func() int {
8         x++
9         return x
10    }
11    fmt.Println(increment())
12    fmt.Println(increment())
13 }
14 // scope of x is func main
15 // func increment has access to x
```

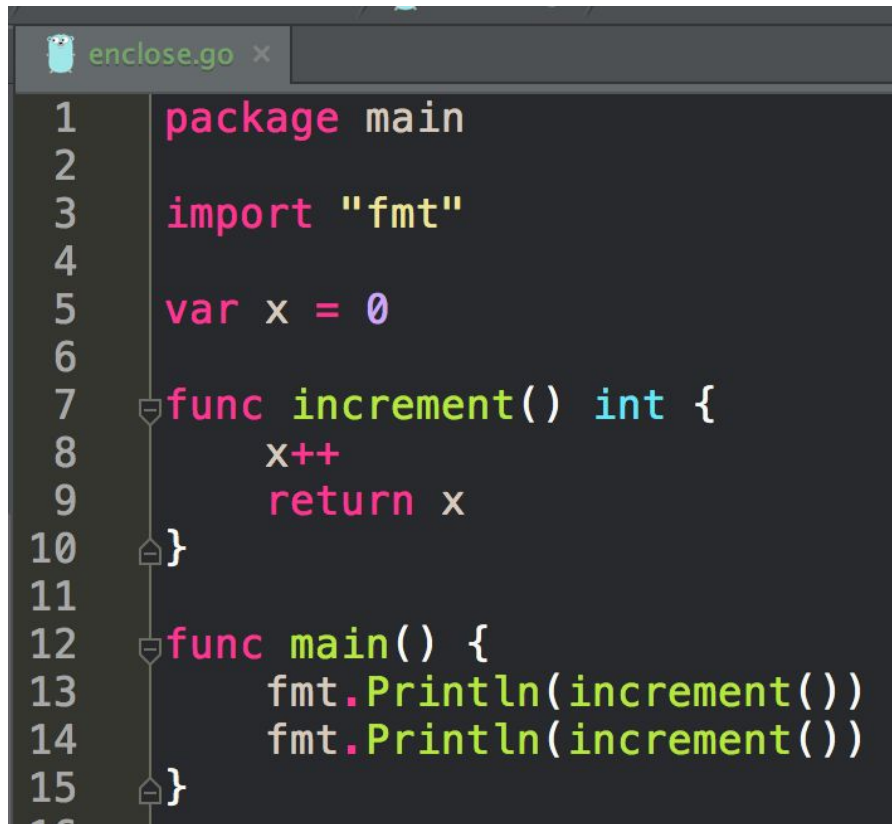
closure

func main encloses func increment

closure helps us limit the scope of variables that are used by multiple functions

without closure, for two or more funcs to have access to the same variable, that variable would need to be package scope

func main is enclosing increment; increment is enclosing x



```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 var x = 0
6
7 func increment() int {
8     x++
9     return x
10 }
11
12 func main() {
13     fmt.Println(increment())
14     fmt.Println(increment())
15 }
```

not using closure

closure helps us limit the scope of variables that are used by multiple functions

without closure, for two or more funcs to have access to the same variable, that variable would need to be package scope

```
enclose.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 var x = 0
6
7 func increment() int {
8     x++
9     return x
10 }
11
12 func main() {
13     fmt.Println(increment())
14     fmt.Println(increment())
15 }
```

not using closure

```
enclose.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func main() {
6     x := 0
7     increment := func() int {
8         x++
9         return x
10     }
11     fmt.Println(increment())
12     fmt.Println(increment())
13 }
14 // scope of x is func main
15 // func increment has access to x
```

closure

returning a func

```
even.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func makeEvenGenerator() func() int {
6     i := 0
7     return func() int {
8         i += 2
9         return i
10    }
11 }
12 func main() {
13     nextEven := makeEvenGenerator()
14     fmt.Println(nextEven()) // 2
15     fmt.Println(nextEven()) // 4
16     fmt.Println(nextEven()) // 6
17
18     masEven := makeEvenGenerator()
19     fmt.Println(masEven()) // 2
20     fmt.Println(masEven()) // 4
21     fmt.Println(masEven()) // 6
22 }
```

closure

closure helps us limit the scope of variables that are used by multiple functions

without closure, for two or more funcs to have access to the same variable, that variable would need to be package scope

nextEven & masEven are each holding/enclosing the variable i

```
hello.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func makeGreeter() func() string {
6     return func() string {
7         return "Hello world!"
8     }
9 }
10
11 func main() {
12     greet := makeGreeter()
13     fmt.Println(greet())
14 }
15
```

returning a func
(not part of func expression)

a func is returned

another func expression
setting a variable equal to a func



hello.go x

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func makeGreeter() func() string {
6     return func() string {
7         return "Hello world!"
8     }
9 }
10
11 func main() {
12     greet := makeGreeter()
13     fmt.Println(greet())
14     fmt.Printf("%T\n", greet)
15 }
16
```

a func is returned

Terminal

```
+ 05_another-way_func-expression-shows-type $ go run hello.go
Hello world!
x func() string
05_another-way_func-expression-shows-type $
```

interesting to look at greet's type

callback

passing a func as an argument



printnums.go x

```
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func visit(numbers []int, callback func(int)) {
6      for _, n := range numbers {
7          callback(n)
8      }
9  }
10
11 func main() {
12     visit([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) {
13         fmt.Println(n)
14     })
15 }
```



printnums.go x

func visit takes two arguments

a slice of ints

another func
the callback

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func visit(numbers []int, callback func(int)) {
6     for _, n := range numbers {
7         callback(n)
8     }
9 }
10
11 func main() {
12     visit([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) {
13         fmt.Println(n)
14     })
15 }
```



printnums.go x

func visit takes two arguments

a slice of ints

another func
the callback

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func visit(numbers []int, callback func(int)) {
6     for _, n := range numbers {
7         callback(n)
8     }
9 }
10
11 func main() {
12     visit([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) {
13         fmt.Println(n)
14     })
15 }
```

pass in the
slice of ints



printnums.go x

func visit takes two arguments

```
1 package main
```

```
2 import "fmt"
```

a slice of ints

another func
the callback

```
3  
4  
5 func visit(numbers []int, callback func(int)) {  
6     for _, n := range numbers {  
7         callback(n)  
8     }  
9 }
```

pass in the
slice of ints

pass in a func
the callback

```
10  
11 func main() {  
12     visit([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) {  
13         fmt.Println(n)  
14     })  
15 }
```

```

1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func visit(numbers []int, callback func(int)) {
6      for _, n := range numbers {
7          callback(n)
8      }
9  }
10
11 func main() {
12     visit([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) {
13         fmt.Println(n)
14     })
15 }

```

the func passed as an argument
(the callback)
is assigned to the parameter "callback"
and then gets used

wikipedia's description

In computer programming, a **callback** is a piece of executable code that is passed as an argument to other code, which is expected to call back (execute) the argument at some convenient time. The invocation may be immediate as in a synchronous **callback**, or it might happen at later time as in an asynchronous **callback**.

[Callback \(computer programming\) - Wikipedia,](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callback_(computer_programming))
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callback_\(computer_programmi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Callback_(computer_programming))


```
main.go x
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func filter(numbers []int, callback func(int) bool) []int {
6      xs := []int{}
7      for _, n := range numbers {
8          if callback(n) {
9              xs = append(xs, n)
10         }
11     }
12     return xs
13 }
14
15 func main() {
16     xs := filter([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) bool {
17         return n > 1
18     })
19     fmt.Println(xs) // [2 3 4]
20 }
```

another callback

can you explain this code?

```
main.go x
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func filter(numbers []int, callback func(int) bool) []int {
6      xs := []int{}
7      for _, n := range numbers {
8          if callback(n) {
9              xs = append(xs, n)
10         }
11     }
12     return xs
13 }
14
15 func main() {
16     xs := filter([]int{1, 2, 3, 4}, func(n int) bool {
17         return n > 1
18     })
19     fmt.Println(xs) // [2 3 4]
20 }
```

“If you’ve done functional programming like Lisp or Haskell, this way of dealing with functions is super common; it’s an approach to development; you get used to passing functions around. Go allows you to do that [passing functions around] but it’s not the most common way of writing code. The more normal way you’d write code [for something like the code above] would just be a simple for loop. For loops are easy to understand.”

recursion

a func that can call itself



main.go x

```
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func factorial(x uint) uint {
6      if x == 0 {
7          return 1
8      }
9      return x * factorial(x-1)
10 }
11
12 func main() {
13     fmt.Println(factorial(4))
14 }
15
```

The End Result:

- 24

Can you pencil out how the answer, 24, was reached?

recursion



main.go x

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func factorial(x uint) uint {
6     if x == 0 {
7         return 1
8     }
9     return x * factorial(x-1)
10 }
11
12 func main() {
13     fmt.Println(factorial(4))
14 }
15
```

- factorial(4)
 - returns: 4 * factorial(3)
- factorial(3)
 - returns: 3 * factorial(2)
- factorial(2)
 - returns: 2 * factorial(1)
- factorial(1)
 - returns: 1 * factorial(0)
- factorial(0)
 - returns: 1

returns: 4 * 3 * 2 * 1 * 1

The End Result:

- 4 * 3 * 2 * 1

recursion



main.go x

```
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func factorial(x uint) uint {
6     if x == 0 {
7         return 1
8     }
9     return x * factorial(x-1)
10 }
11
12 func main() {
13     fmt.Println(factorial(4))
14 }
15
```

This is called the base case

- You can always use loops to solve any problem that can be solved with recursion.
- Loops are more performant than recursion.

recursion

defer

run this at the last possible moment

```
main.go x
1  package main
2
3  import "fmt"
4
5  func hello() {
6      fmt.Print("hello ")
7  }
8
9  func world() {
10     fmt.Println("world")
11 }
12
13 func main() {
14     defer world()
15     hello()
16 }
17
```

Terminal

```
+ 02_with-defer $ go run main.go
hello world
X 02_with-defer $
```



```
main.go x
1 package main
2
3 import "fmt"
4
5 func hello() {
6     fmt.Print("hello ")
7 }
8
9 func world() {
10    fmt.Println("world")
11 }
12
13 func main() {
14    world()
15    hello()
16 }
17
```

```
Terminal
+ hello 01_no-defer $ go run main.go
world
X hello 01_no-defer $
```



★ Bookmarks



Л



Hawk



J



```
// Contents returns the file's contents as a string.
func Contents(filename string) (string, error) {
    f, err := os.Open(filename)
    if err != nil {
        return "", err
    }
    defer f.Close() // f.Close will run when we're finished.

    var result []byte
    buf := make([]byte, 100)
    for {
        n, err := f.Read(buf[0:])
        result = append(result, buf[0:n]...) // append is discussed later.
        if err != nil {
            if err == io.EOF {
                break
            }
            return "", err // f will be closed if we return here.
        }
    }
    return string(result), nil // f will be closed if we return here.
}
```



Defer

Go's defer statement schedules a function call (the *deferred* function) to be run immediately before the function executing the defer returns. It's an unusual but effective way to deal with situations such as resources that must be released regardless of which path a function takes to return. The canonical examples are unlocking a mutex or closing a file.



Defer statements

A "defer" statement invokes a function whose execution is deferred to the moment the surrounding function returns, either because the surrounding function executed a [return statement](#), reached the end of its [function body](#), or because the corresponding goroutine is [panicking](#).

```
DeferStmt = "defer" Expression .
```

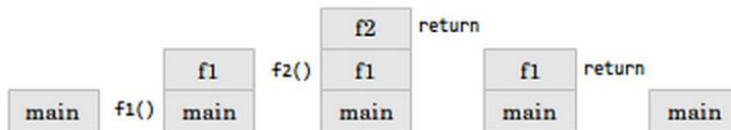
The expression must be a function or method call; it cannot be parenthesized. Calls of built-in functions are restricted as for [expression statements](#).

the stack

- Functions are built up in a “stack”. Suppose we had this program:

```
func main() {  
    fmt.Println(f1())  
}  
func f1() int {  
    return f2()  
}  
func f2() int {  
    return 1  
}
```

- We could visualize it like this:



Each time we call a function we push it onto the call stack and each time we return from a function we pop the last function off of the stack.

Review

- `func main() {}`
- calling a function
- `greeting()`
- parameters vs arguments
 - two params
 - variadic
 - ...params
 - args...
- returns
 - named returns
 - multiple returns
- variable shadowing
- **func expression**
 - setting a variable equal to a function
 - `greeting := func(){<code here>}`
 - greeting's type is func
- **closure**
 - one thing enclosing another
 - helps us limit scope of variables
- **returning a func**
 - **functional programming**
- **callback**
 - passing a func as an argument
- recursion
- **defer**
- **the stack**
 - the order in which functions are called

exercises

bool

Write a program that prints the value of this expression:
`(true && false) || (false && true) || !(false && false)`

two params

Write a program that calls a function which takes first name and age then returns a string like this, “John is 27 years old.”

two returns

Write a program that calls a function which takes first name and age
then returns an int and a bool
the int: person's age * 7 (dog years)
the bool: whether or not the person is old (age > 25)
use those two returns in a sentence like this,
("John is 140 in dog years and is not old")
or like this, ("Jane is 280 in dog years and is old")

named return

Write a program that calls a function which takes age
then returns **dogYears int** which is $\text{age} * 7$

variadic parameters

Write a program that has variadic parameters
use that function in a program

variadic arguments

Write a program that has variadic parameters
use that function in a program, passing in variadic arguments

func expression

Write a program that uses a func expression

variable type

You wrote a program that uses a func expression
now add a print statement that shows
the type of the variable to which the function is assigned

closure

create a program that uses closure

returning a func

create a func that returns a func
use that func in a program

callback

create a program that uses a callback
(a func is being passed in as an argument)

recursion

The Fibonacci sequence is defined as: $\text{fib}(0) = 0$, $\text{fib}(1) = 1$, $\text{fib}(n) = \text{fib}(n-1) + \text{fib}(n-2)$. Write a recursive function which can find $\text{fib}(n)$.

defer

create a program that uses defer

review questions

Answer These Questions

- What is variable shadowing?
- What is a func expression?
- What is closure?
- What is a callback?
- How does defer work?
- What is the stack and how does it work?