

CSIT110

# Fundamental Programming with Python

Function

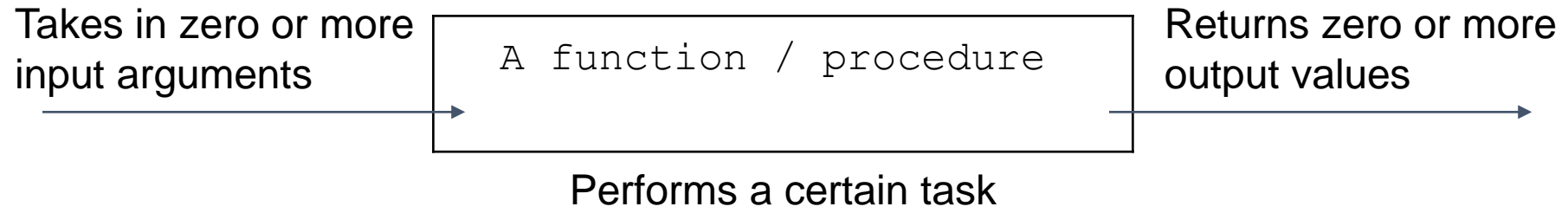
Goh X. Y.



# In this lecture

- Functions
- Terminology
- Arguments
- Return values
- Recursion
- Some useful functions
- Importing modules

# Function



# How does it look like?

## Function declaration

```
def function_name(arg1, arg2, arg3, ..., argN):  
    ... perform a certain task ...  
  
    return value1, value2, value3, ..., valueM
```

# Function - Calls

function has 2 arguments and returns 1 value

```
variable_name = function_name(arg1, arg2)
```

function has 2 arguments and returns 2 values

```
var1, var2 = function_name(arg1, arg2)
```

function has 3 arguments and returns 0 values

```
function_name(arg1, arg2, arg3)
```

function has 0 arguments and returns 1 value

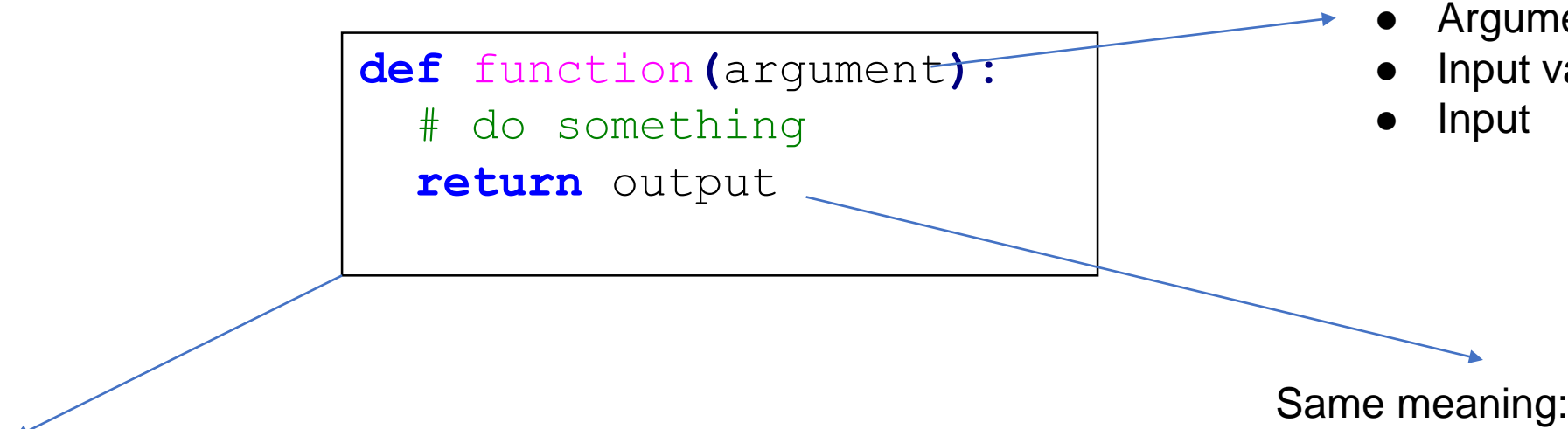
```
variable_name = function_name()
```

function has 0 arguments and returns 0 values

```
function_name()
```

# Terminology

```
def function(argument):  
    # do something  
    return output
```



Same meaning:

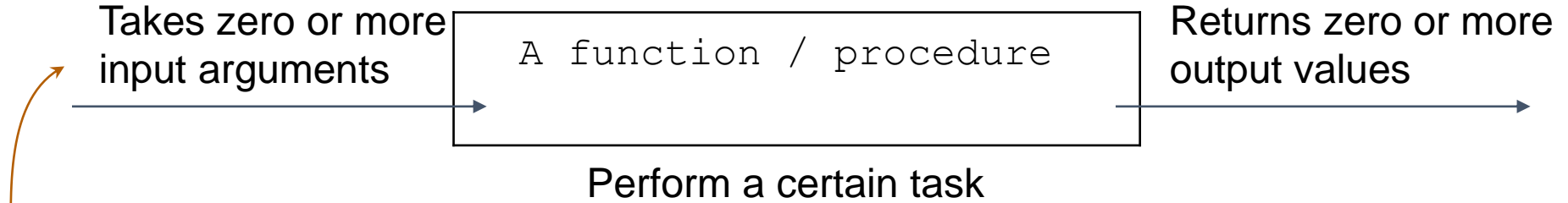
- Parameters
- Arguments
- Input values
- Input

Practically similar but  
Function – returns value(s)  
Procedure / Sub-routine – does not return anything  
Method – a function that is linked to a class object

Same meaning:

- Return values
- Output values
- Output

# Function



When we design a function, we need to ask the following questions:

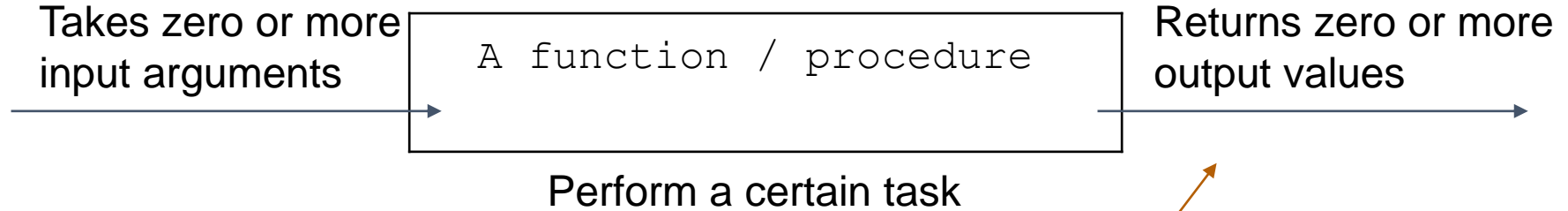
- What information does the function need to know in order to do its job?

This will determine how many input arguments the function takes in

For example, if the job of a function is to add two numbers, then this function needs to know the two numbers. So the function will have 2 input arguments.

```
# calculate sum of two numbers
def add_two_numbers(number1, number2):
    ...
```

# Function



When we design a function, we need to ask the following questions:

- What information does the function give back?

This will determine the number of return values

For example, if the job of a function is to add two numbers, then this function will give back the sum. So the function will return 1 value.

```
# calculate sum of two numbers
def add_two_numbers(number1, number2):
    number_sum = number1 + number2
    return number_sum
```



# Example: Marks and grades

At a fictional college, the following grading scheme is used:

Mark	Grade
100 - 80	A
79 - 60	B
59 - 40	C
39 - 0	D

Please enter mark: **90**

Mark 90, Grade A

Please enter mark: **62**

Mark 62, Grade B

Please enter mark: **5**

Mark 5, Grade D

# Example: Marks and grades

```
# calculate grade based on mark
def calculate_grade(mark):
    grade = "frog"
    return grade
```

```
# ask user to enter mark
mark_input = input("Please enter mark: ")
mark = int(mark_input)

# determine grade based on mark
grade = calculate_grade(mark)

# display mark and grade
print("Mark {0}, Grade {1}".format(mark, grade))
```

```
Please enter mark: 90
Mark 90, Grade frog
```

# Example: Marks and grades

```
# calculate grade based on mark
def calculate_grade(mark):
    grade = "frog"
    return grade
```

rewrite

```
def calculate_grade(mark):
    #grade A: 100-80, B: 79-60, C: 59-40, D: 39-0

    if (mark >= 80):
        grade = "A"
    elif (mark >= 60):
        grade = "B"
    elif (mark >= 40):
        grade = "C"
    else:
        grade = "D"

    return grade
```

Please enter mark: **90**

Mark 90, Grade A

# Example: Marks and grades

```
def calculate_grade(mark):  
    if (mark >= 80):  
        grade = "A"  
    elif (mark >= 60):  
        grade = "B"  
    elif (mark >= 40):  
        grade = "C"  
    else: grade = "D"  
    return grade
```

this is the same



```
def calculate_grade(mark):  
    if (mark >= 80):  
        return "A"  
    elif (mark >= 60):  
        return "B"  
    elif (mark >= 40):  
        return "C"  
    return "D"
```

# Example: Marks and grades

```
def calculate_grade(mark):  
    ...  
  
    return grade
```

- How many input arguments/parameters does this function take? And why?
  - This function takes **1** input argument / parameter.
  - Reason: in order to determine the grade, the function needs to know the mark.
- How many output values does this function return?
  - This function returns **1** value (which is the grade).

# Hello!

```
Enter first name: John  
Enter last name: Smith  
Hello John Smith!
```

```
# ask user for name  
first_name, last_name = ask_name()  
  
# display greeting  
say_hello(first_name, last_name)
```

# Hello!

```
# ask user for name
def ask_name():
    first_name = "Finley"
    last_name = "Fish"
    return first_name, last_name
```

```
# display greeting
def say_hello(first_name, last_name):
    print("Hello {0} {1}!".format(first_name, last_name))
```

```
# ask user for name
first_name, last_name = ask_name()

# display greeting
say_hello(first_name, last_name)
```

```
Hello Finley Fish!
```

# Hello!

```
# ask user for name
def ask_name():
    first_name = input("Enter first name: ")
    last_name = input("Enter last name: ")
    return first_name, last_name
```

```
# display greeting
def say_hello(first_name, last_name):
    print("Hello {0} {1}!".format(first_name, last_name))
```

```
# ask user for name
first_name, last_name = ask_name()

# display greeting
say_hello(first_name, last_name)
```

```
Enter first name: John
Enter last name: Smith
Hello John Smith!
```



# Hello!

```
# ask user for name
def ask_name() :
    ...

    return first_name, last_name
```

- How many input arguments/parameters does this function take? And why?
  - This function takes **0** input arguments / parameters.
  - Reason: the function does not need to know anything to perform its task!
- How many output values does this function return?
  - This function returns **2** values (which are the first and last name).

# Hello!

```
# ask user for name
def ask_name() :
    ...

    return first_name, last_name
```

```
# ask user for name
first_name, last_name = ask_name()

# display greeting
say_hello(first_name, last_name)
```

- Why do we have to write  
    `first_name, last_name = ask_name()` ?
  - Reason: the function returns 2 values, so we need to save them into 2 variables `first_name` and `last_name`

# Hello!

```
# display greeting
def say_hello(first_name, last_name):
    print("Hello {0} {1}!".format(first_name, last_name))
```

- How many input arguments/parameters does this function take? And why?
  - This function takes **2** input arguments / parameters.
  - Reason: the function needs to know both first name and last name to display the greeting message.
- How many output values does this function return?
  - This function returns **0** values. That is why we do not need to use the **return** statement.

# Example: Generate password

# Example: Generate password

In an online game, the initial password is generated from the username by replacing each letter i to 1, r to 7, s to 5, and z to 2.

Write a program to generate this initial password.

```
Enter username: Superman123  
Password is 5upe7man123
```

```
Enter username: zebra8  
Password is 2eb7a8
```

```
Initially set password = ""  
Username letter    Password letter  
  
    z              2          password = "2"  
    e              e          password = "2e"  
    b              b          password = "2eb"  
    r              7          password = "2eb7"  
    a              a          password = "2eb7a"  
    8              8          password = "2eb7a8"
```

# Example: Generate password

```
# construct the password for username
def generate_password(username):
    password = "frog"
    return password
```

```
# ask user to enter username
username = input("Enter username: ")

# construct the password
password = generate_password(username)

# display password result
print("Password is " + password)
```

```
Enter username: zebra8
Password is frog
```

# Example: Generate password

```
# construct the password for username
def generate_password(username):
    password = "frog"
    return password
```

```
def generate_password(username):
    # initialize password as empty string
    password = ""

    for i in range(0, len(username)):
        # get the ith character from username
        username_letter = username[i]

        # construct corresponding character for password
        password_letter = transform_character(username_letter)

        # adding a character to password
        password = password + password_letter

    return password
```

rewrite

# Example: Generate password

```
# construct password letter from username letter
```

```
def transform_character(letter):
```

```
    password_letter = "p"
```

```
    return password_letter
```

Enter username: **zebra8**

Password is pppppp

```
def generate_password(username):
```

```
    # initialize password as empty string
```

```
    password = ""
```

```
    for i in range(0, len(username)):
```

```
        # get the ith character from username
```

```
        username_letter = username[i]
```

```
        # construct corresponding character for password
```

```
        password_letter = transform_character(username_letter)
```

```
        # adding a character to password
```

```
        password = password + password_letter
```

```
return password
```



# Example: Generate password

```
# construct password letter from username letter
def transform_character(letter):
    password_letter = "p"
    return password_letter
```

```
def transform_character(letter):
    if (letter == "i") or (letter == "I"):
        password_letter = "1"
    elif (letter == "r") or (letter == "R"):
        password_letter = "7"
    elif (letter == "s") or (letter == "S"):
        password_letter = "5"
    elif (letter == "z") or (letter == "Z"):
        password_letter = "2"
    else:
        password_letter = letter

    return password_letter
```

rewrite

Enter username: **zebra8**  
Password is 2eb7a8

# Default arguments

Function arguments can have default values. If the function is called without an argument, the argument gets its default value.

```
# display a welcome message
def welcome(name, greeting="Hi"):
    #{
        print("{0} {1}!".format(greeting, name))
    #}
```

```
welcome("John", "Hello")
    → Hello John!
```

```
welcome("Mary", greeting="It is nice to meet you")
    → It is nice to meet you Mary!
```

```
# this one using default value:
welcome("Paul")
    → Hi Paul!
```

# Positional vs optional arguments

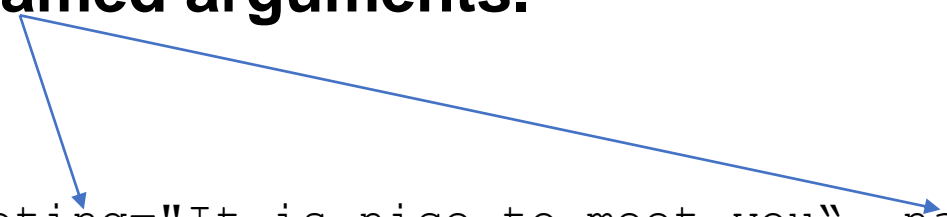
When an argument has a default value, it becomes an **optional argument**

Arguments without default values are called **positional arguments** and are required when the function is called.

# Named arguments

```
# display a welcome message
def welcome(name, greeting="Hi"):
    #{
        print("{0} {1}!".format(greeting, name))
    #}
```

Positional arguments have to be given in order. If you want to jumble the sequence or specify some optional arguments, you have to feed in the arguments as **named arguments**.



```
>>> welcome(greeting="It is nice to meet you", name="Mary")
```

Output → It is nice to meet you Mary!

# Recursion

A recursive function is a function that **calls itself**.

```
def recursive_fcn(n):  
    recursive_fcn(n+n)  
    return
```

A recursive function usually has two steps:

- **Base step**: deals with **small cases**
- **Recursion step**: how a general case can be **derived from smaller cases**

# Example: Factorial function

1!	=	1
2!	=	2
3!	=	6
4!	=	24
5!	=	120
6!	=	720
7!	=	5040
8!	=	40320
9!	=	362880

# Example: Factorial function

$$1! = 1 \longrightarrow \text{one factorial}$$

$$2! = 1 \times 2 = 2 \longrightarrow \text{two factorial}$$

$$3! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 = 6$$

$$4! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 24 \longrightarrow \text{four factorial}$$

If we know  $4! = 24$ ,  
how can we calculate  $5!$  ?

$$5! = 4! \times 5 = 24 \times 5 = 120$$

# Example: Factorial function

$$1! = 1 \longrightarrow \text{one factorial}$$

$$2! = 1 \times 2 = 2 \longrightarrow \text{two factorial}$$

$$3! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 = 6$$

$$4! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times 4 = 24 \longrightarrow \text{four factorial}$$

In general, if we know `factorial(n-1)`,  
we can calculate `factorial(n)` as:

$$\text{factorial}(n) = n \times \text{factorial}(n-1)$$



# Example: Factorial function

```
# recursive factorial function
```

```
def factorial(n):
```

```
    if (n==1):  
        return 1
```

```
    else:
```

```
        return n * factorial(n-1)
```

← base step

# Example: Factorial function

```
# recursive factorial function
```

```
def factorial(n):
```

```
    if (n==1):
```

```
        return 1
```

```
    else:
```

```
        return n * factorial(n-1)
```

← recursive step

E.g. factorial(4)

n = 4, compute factorial(4-1)

|      n = 3, compute factorial(3-1)

|              |      n = 2, compute factorial(2-1)

|              |              |      n = 1, return 1

|              |              + return 3    # 3 = 2 + 1

|              + return 6    # 6 = 3 + 3

+ return 10    # 4 + 6

# Example: Factorial function

```
# recursive factorial function
```

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

```
for i in range(1,10):  
    print("{0}! = {1}".format(i, factorial(i)))
```

1!	=	1
2!	=	2
3!	=	6
4!	=	24
5!	=	120
6!	=	720
7!	=	5040
8!	=	40320
9!	=	362880

# Useful functions: `round`

```
number = 28.30188679245283
```

```
rounded_number = round(number)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 1)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 2)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 3)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 4)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 5)
```

```
rounded_number = round(number, 6)
```

28

28.3

28.30

28.302

28.3019

28.30189

28.301887

# Useful functions: `min` and `max`

```
num1 = 1.5
num2 = 5
num3 = 3

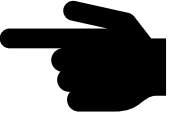
min_num = min(num1, num2, num3)    → 1.5
max_num = max(num1, num2, num3)    → 5

print("min of {0}, {1}, {2} is {3}"
      .format(num1, num2, num3, min_num))

print("max of {0}, {1}, {2} is {3}"
      .format(num1, num2, num3, max_num))
```

# The `random.randint` function

import a python module called `random`



```
import random
```

```
for i in range(0, 10):
```

```
    random_number = random.randint(1, 6)
```

```
    print("Dice result: {0}".format(random_number))
```

generate a  
random integer  
between 1 and 6

generate a random integer between  
`lower_bound` and `upper_bound`

```
Dice result: 3  
Dice result: 2  
Dice result: 4  
Dice result: 1  
Dice result: 3  
Dice result: 1  
Dice result: 3  
Dice result: 1  
Dice result: 6  
Dice result: 5
```

```
number = random.randint(lower_bound, upper_bound)
```

Any questions?