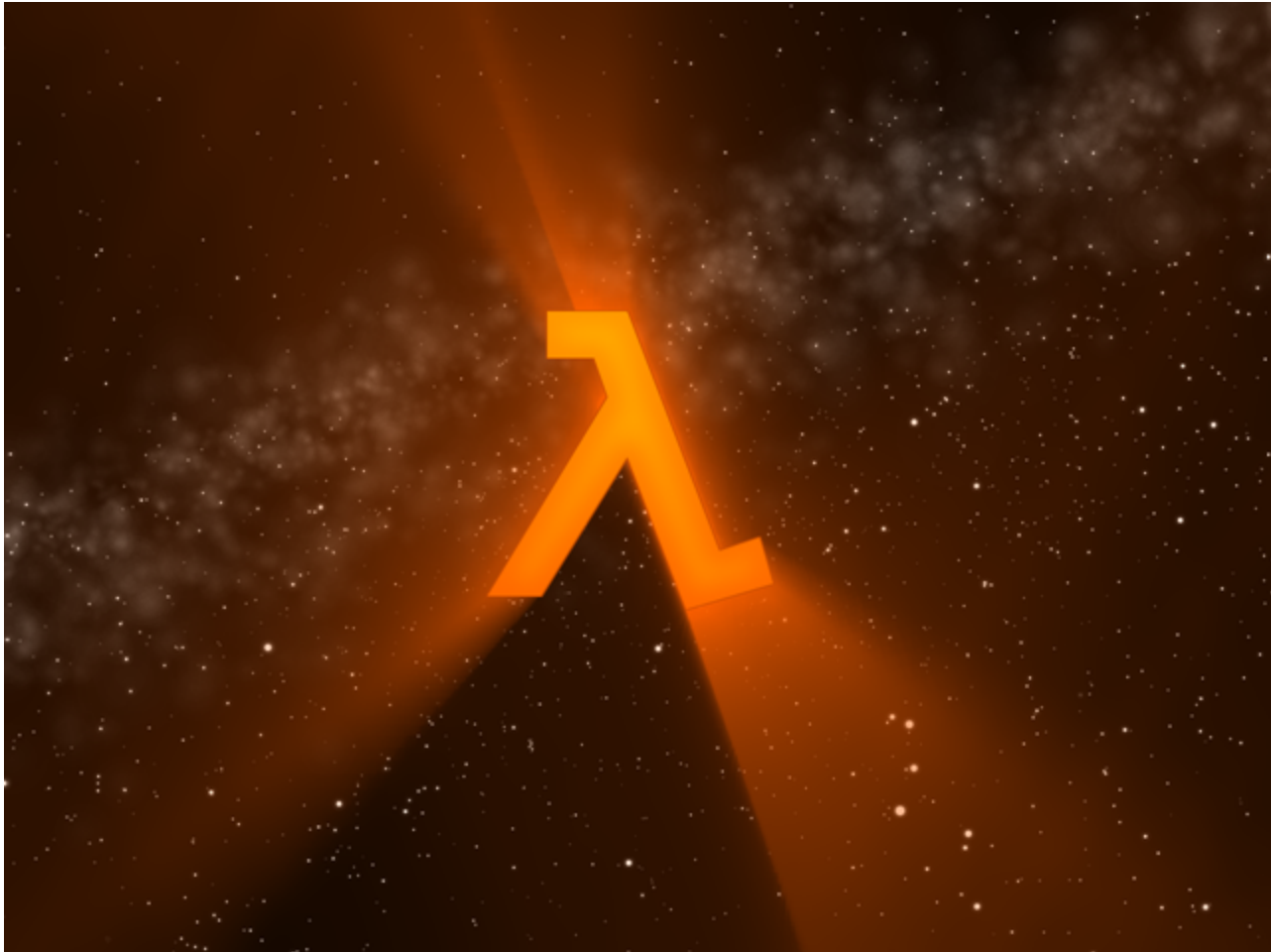
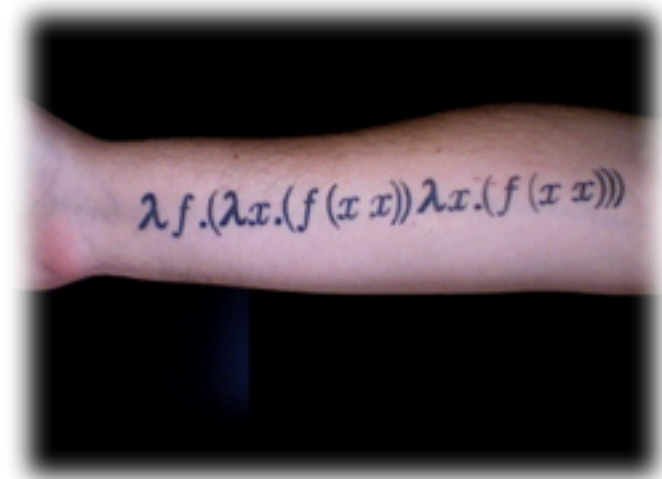
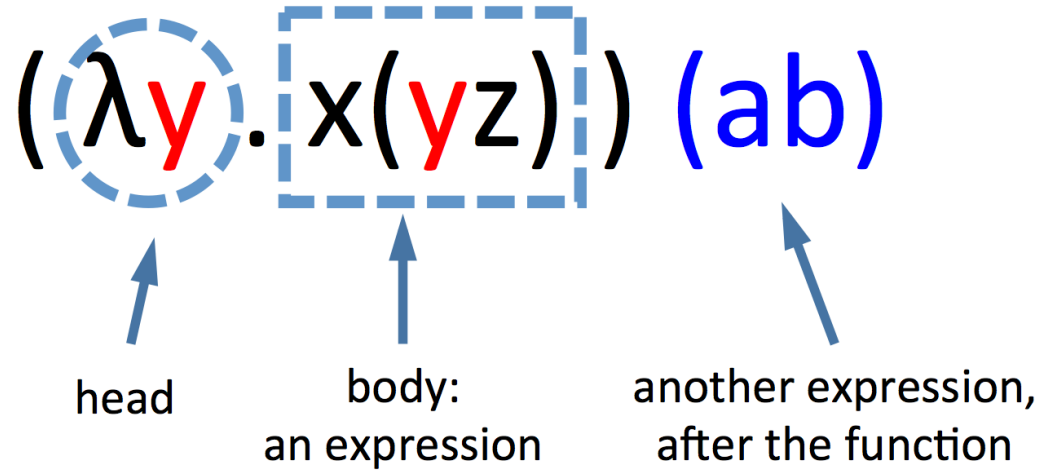


Higher Order Functions

Lambda Calculus



Lambda Calculus



MIT

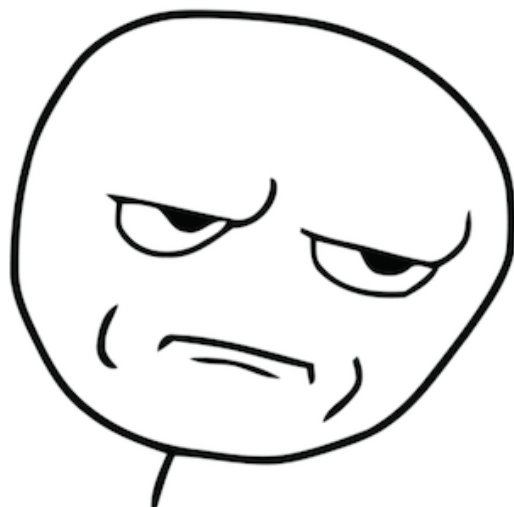
Knights of the Lambda Calculus

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Knights of the Lambda Calculus** is a semi-fictional organization of expert [Lisp](#) and [Scheme](#) hackers. The name refers to the [lambda calculus](#), a mathematical formalism invented by [Alonzo Church](#), with which Lisp is intimately connected, and references the [Knights Templar](#).

There is no actual organization that goes by the name *Knights of the Lambda Calculus*; it mostly only exists as a [hacker c](#)
[Structure and Interp](#)
audience with the b
the [Jargon File](#), a "\
them, and some pe

SO YOU ARE NOT TALKING
ABOUT A DELICIOUS CURRY?
THAT'S MISLEADING!



In popular cu

A group that evolve
appearance in the a
American computer
Lain is seen with co

MIT. For example, in the
e of the lecturers presents the
group. However, according to
ons with Knights insignia on
ts.^[1]

estern *Calculus*, make a major
MIT professors and other
. At one point in the anime,
o be Lisp.^[2]



The Knights of the Lambda
Calculus' recursive emblem
celebrates LISP's theoretical
foundation, the [lambda calculus](#). Y in
the emblem refers to the [fixed-point
combinator](#) and the [reappearance of
the picture in itself](#) refers to [recursion](#).

Print vs Return

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

```
def foo_return3():  
    return 3
```

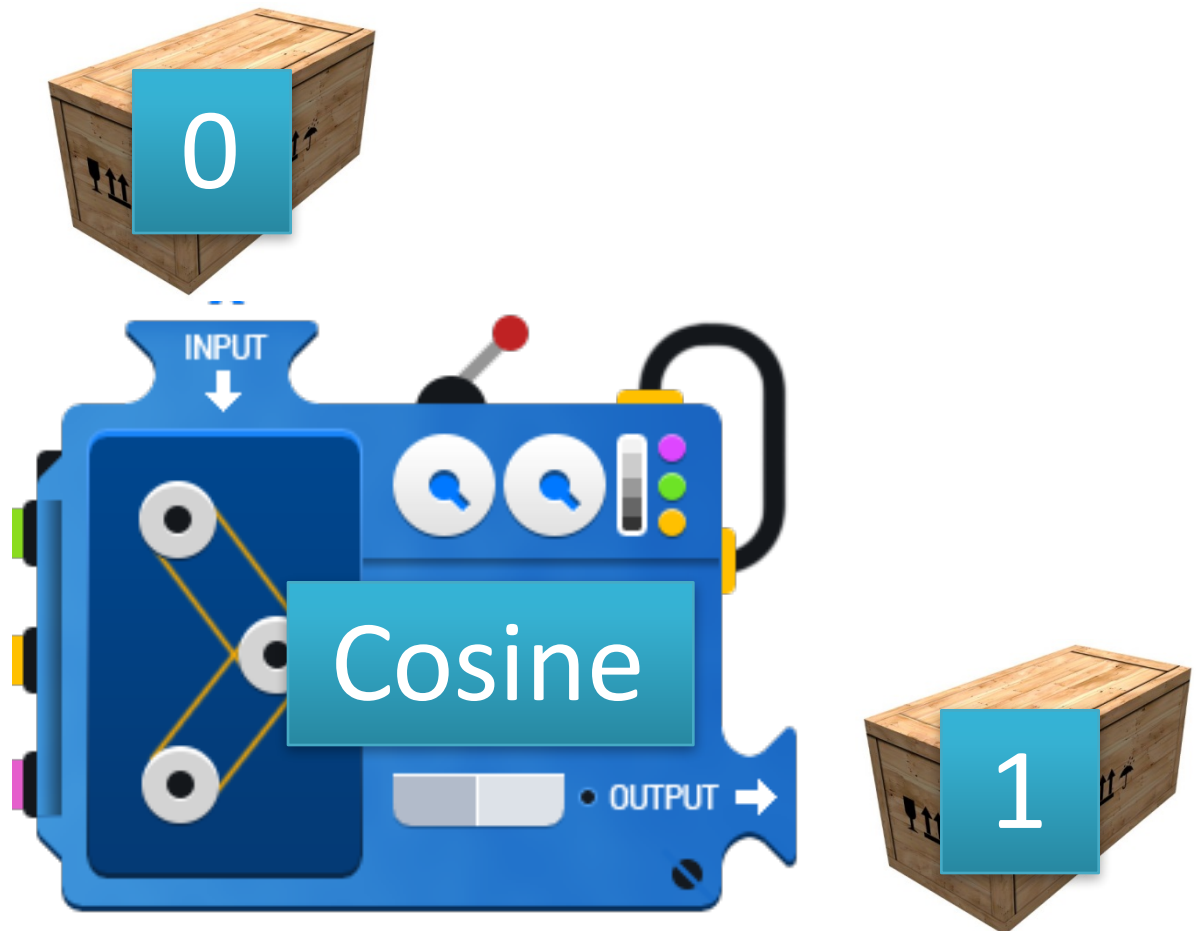
```
>>> foo_print3()  
3  
>>> foo_return3()  
3  
>>>
```

By the print
function

IDLE's echo

Function

- “Cosine” is a function
 - Input 0
 - Output 1
 - $x = \cos(0)$
 - $x = 1$



Function

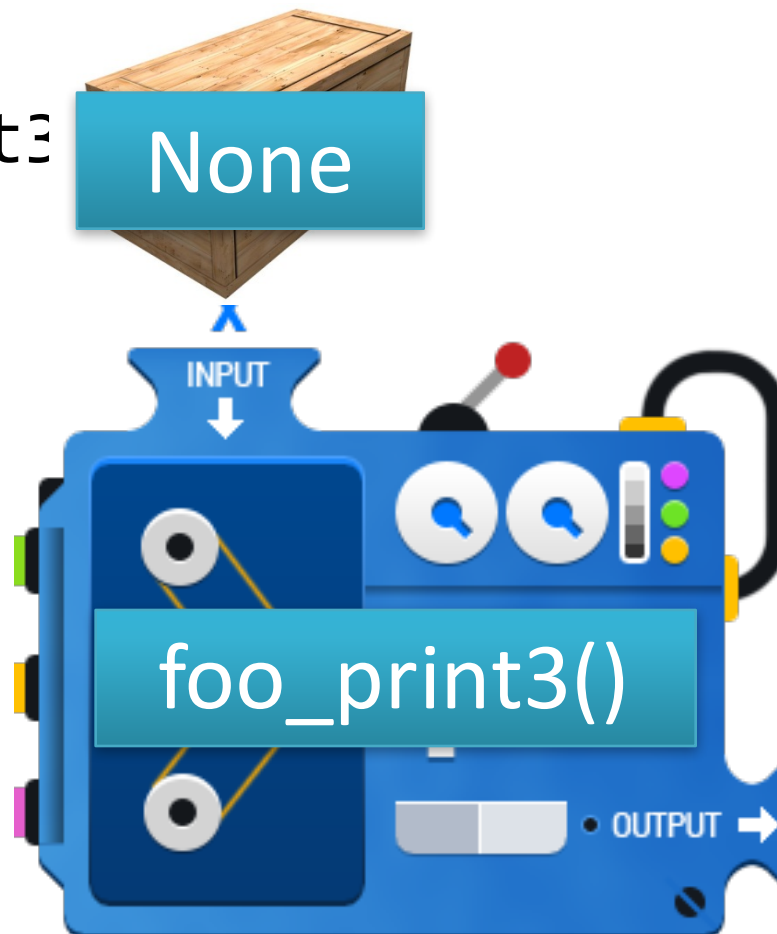
- “foo_print3()” is a function

- Input nothing

- No output

`y = foo_print3`

None

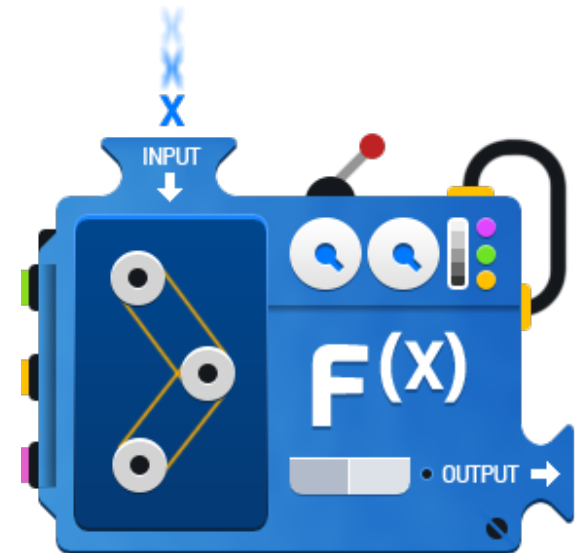


In general, we called all these “functions”

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

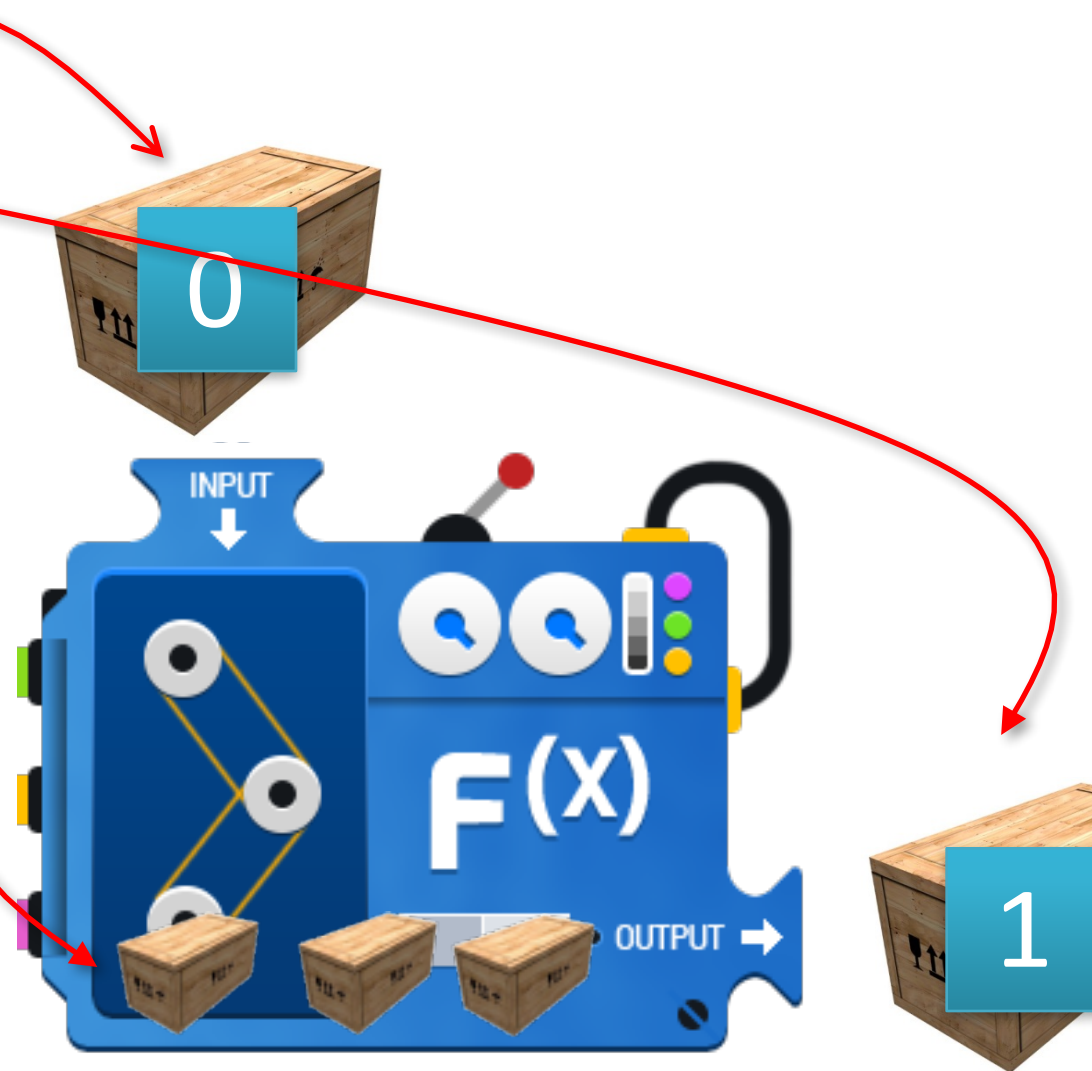
If we think that

- A variable is like a crate
 - Storing a value inside
- A function is like a machine
 - Take a crate as input
 - And produce another crate
 - (For output)



Function and Variable Illustrations

- Parameters
- Return values
- Local variables

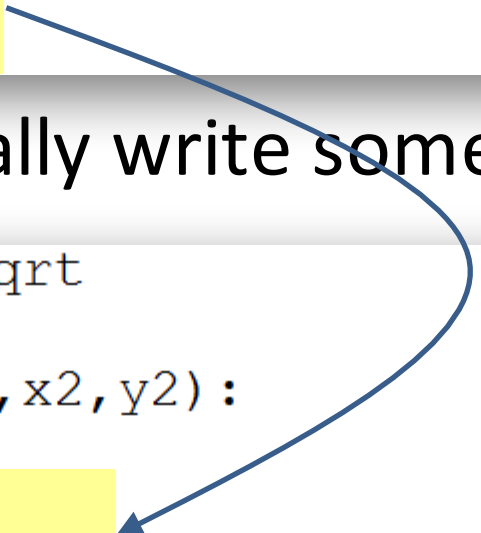


Remember how we define a function?

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))

def square(x):
    return x*x
```



- But we can actually write something like this:

```
from math import sqrt

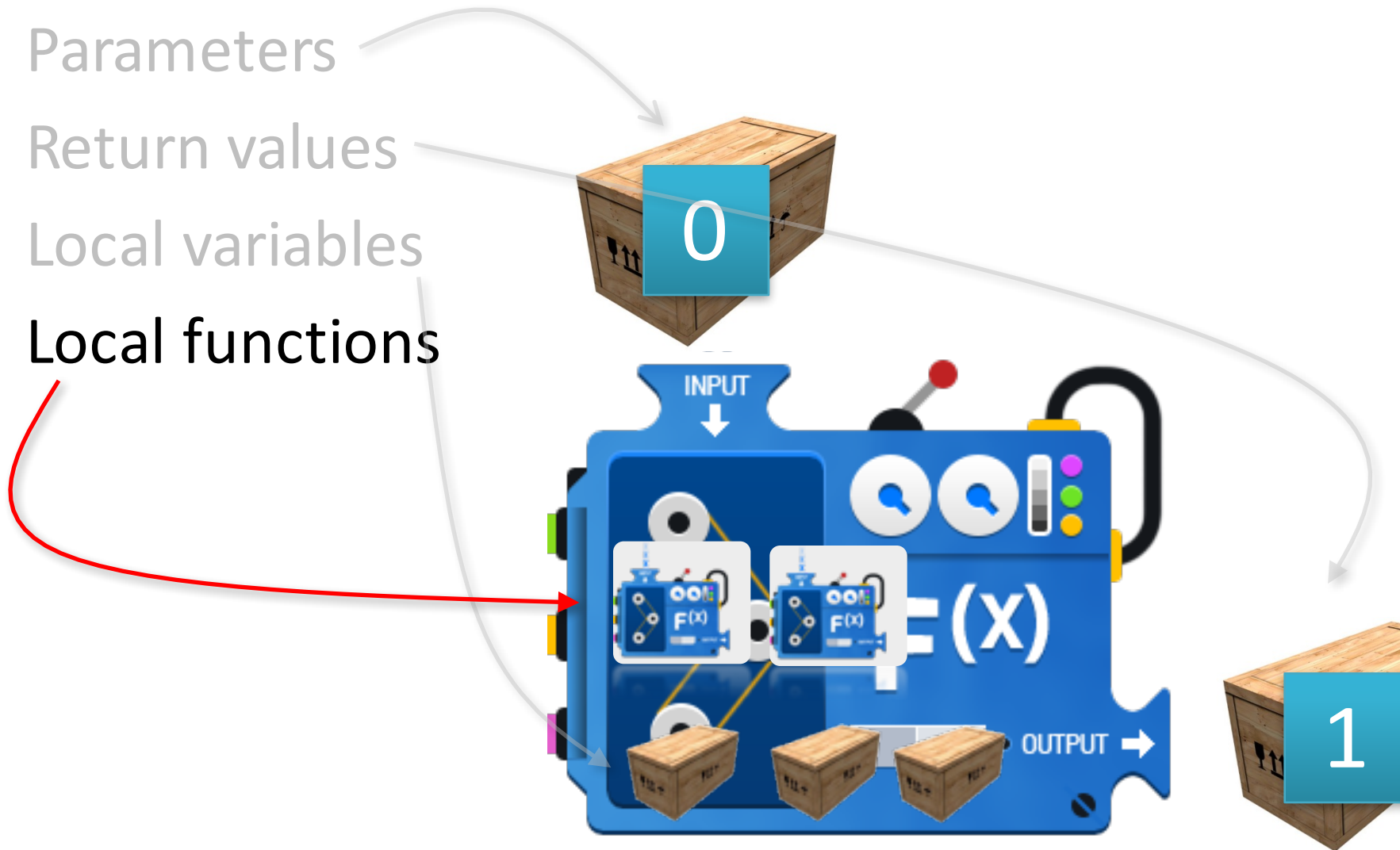
def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):

    def square(x):
        return x*x

    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```

Function and Variable Illustrations

- Parameters
- Return values
- Local variables
- Local functions



Remember how we define a function?

- Almost the same except
 - Outside the function **distance**, you cannot use the function **square**
 - Just like local variables

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):

    def square(x):
        return x*x

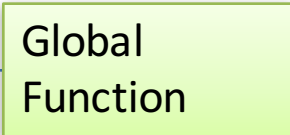
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```

Remember how we define a function?

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))

def square(x): <-----
```



Global
Function

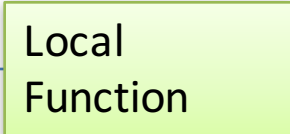
- But we can actually write like this:

```
from math import sqrt

def distance(x1,y1,x2,y2):

    def square(x):
        return x*x

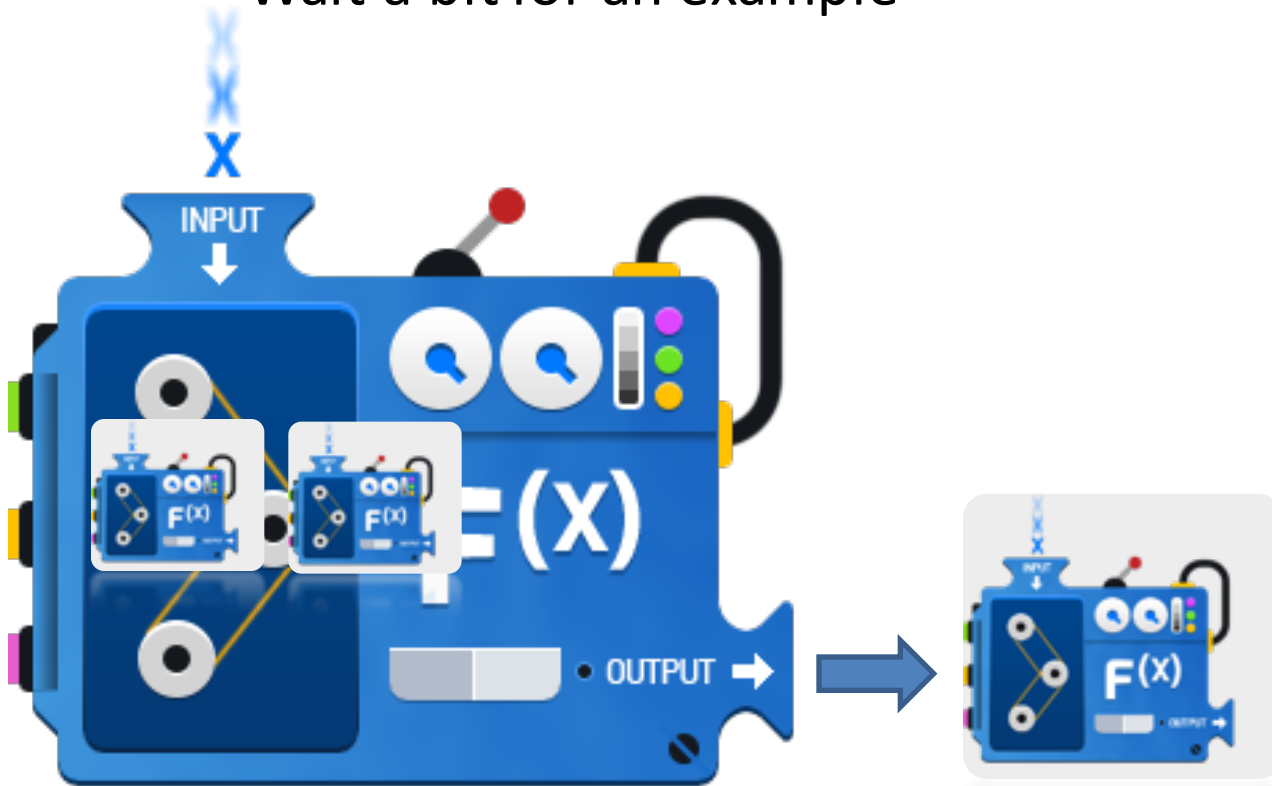
    return sqrt(square(x1-x2)+square(y1-y2))
```



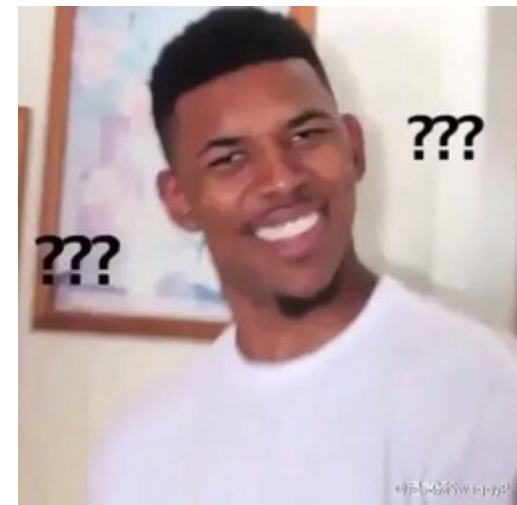
Local
Function

So we can output a function!

- You can define some local functions and then return it
 - Wait a bit for an example

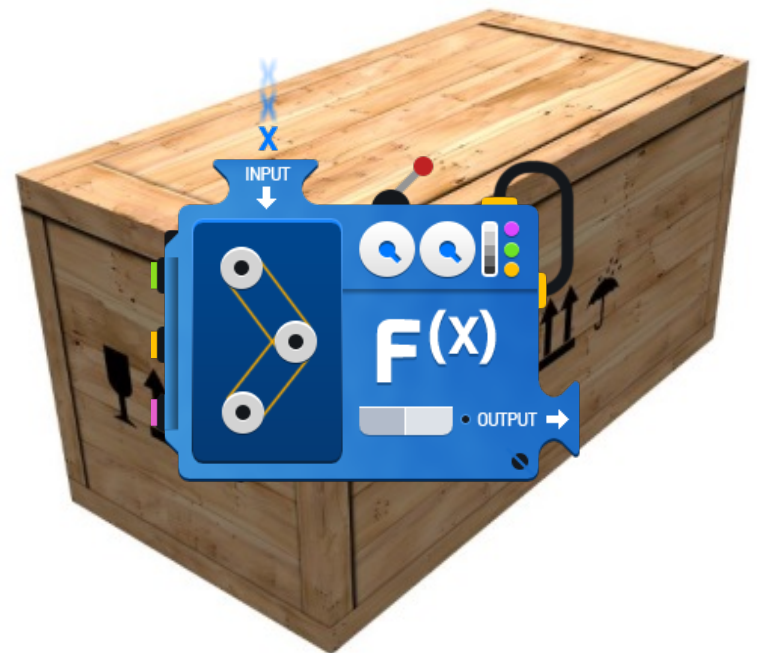
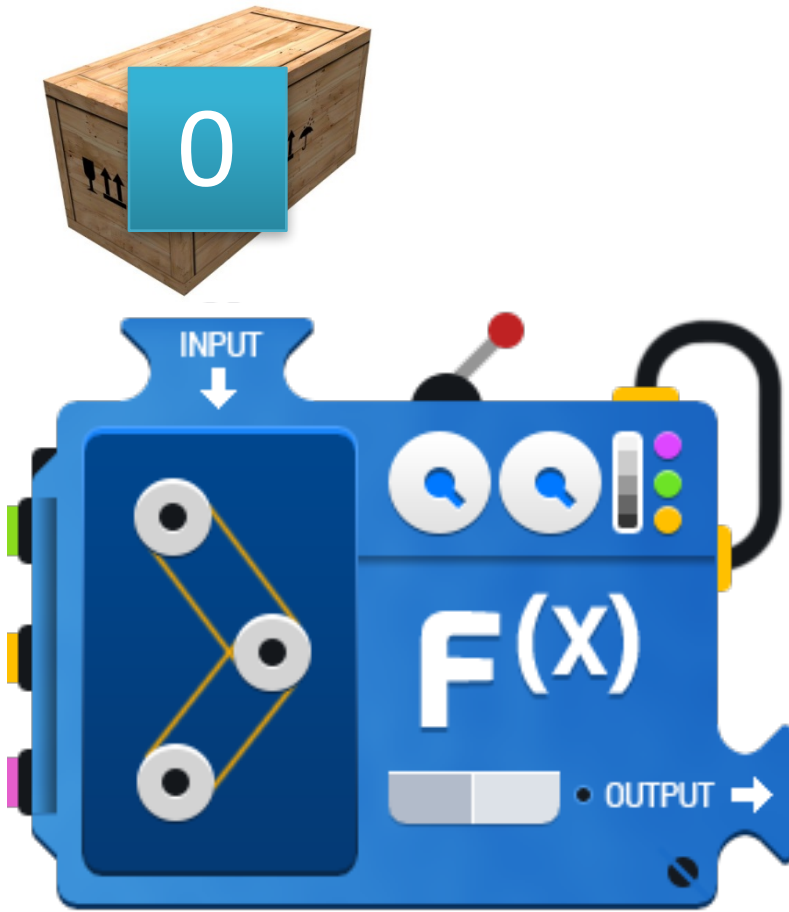


Treat a Function like a Variable



Function

- We can put a variable into a function
- Can we put a function into a variable?



“Callability”

- Normal valuables are NOT callable

```
>>> x = 1
```

```
>>> x()
```

```
Traceback (most recent call last):
```

```
  File "<pyshell#3>", line 1, in <module>
```

```
    x()
```

```
TypeError: 'int' object is not callable
```

- A function is callable

```
>>> def f():  
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> f()
```

```
Hello
```

Assignments

- Normal variables can store values

```
>>> x = 1
>>> y = x
>>> x = 2
```

- Can a variable store **a function**?!

```
>>> def f():
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> x = f
>>> x()
Hello
```

- Can!!!!!!

Assignments

- The **function** `f` is stored in the **variable** `x`
 - So `x` **IS** a function, same as `f`

```
>>> def f():  
        print("Hello")
```

```
>>> x = f  
>>> x()  
Hello
```

See the difference

```
>>> def f2():  
        return 999
```

With '()

```
>>> x = f2()  
>>> print(x)  
999  
>>> type(x)  
<class 'int'>
```

Without '()

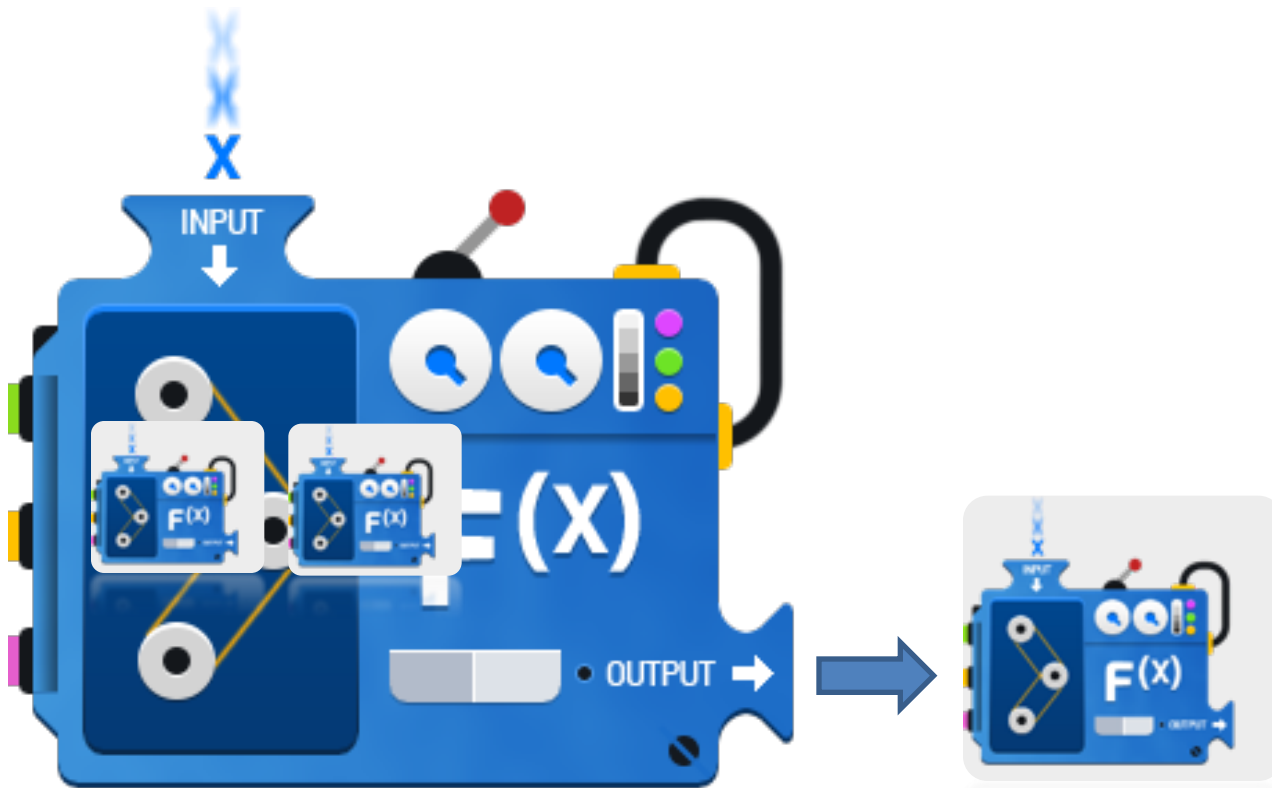
```
>>> y = f2  
>>> print(y)  
<function f2 at 0x0000007ACE8C5A60>  
>>> type(y)  
<class 'function'>
```

values

types

So we can output a function!

- You can define some local functions and then return it



A Function that Produces Another Function

```
>>> def make_yell_n(n):  
    def yell_n(s):  
        return s * n  
    return yell_n
```

Returning a function

```
>>> yell_4 = make_yell_n(4)
```

Store the returned function into "yell_4"

```
>>> yell_4("Hello!")
```

```
'Hello!Hello!Hello!Hello!'
```

Use the function yell_4

```
>>> yell_2 = make_yell_n(2)
```

```
>>> yell_2("Yay!!!")
```

```
'Yay!!!Yay!!!'
```

Make another function yell_2

Functions can be stored in variables

```
>>> from math import cos, sin, tan
>>> f_1 = cos
>>> f_1(0)
1.0
>>> print(f_1)
<built-in function cos>
>>> def f():
    print("Hello")
```

Equivalent
to cos(0)

The type is
"function"

```
>>> print(f)
<function f at 0x000000F9F93F4950>
```

- Can even store functions into a list, tuple, etc.

```
>>> my_collection = [cos, sin, tan, f, len]
>>> my_collection[4]([1,2,3])
3
```

Equivalent to
len([1,2,3])

Motel in US



One Dimension

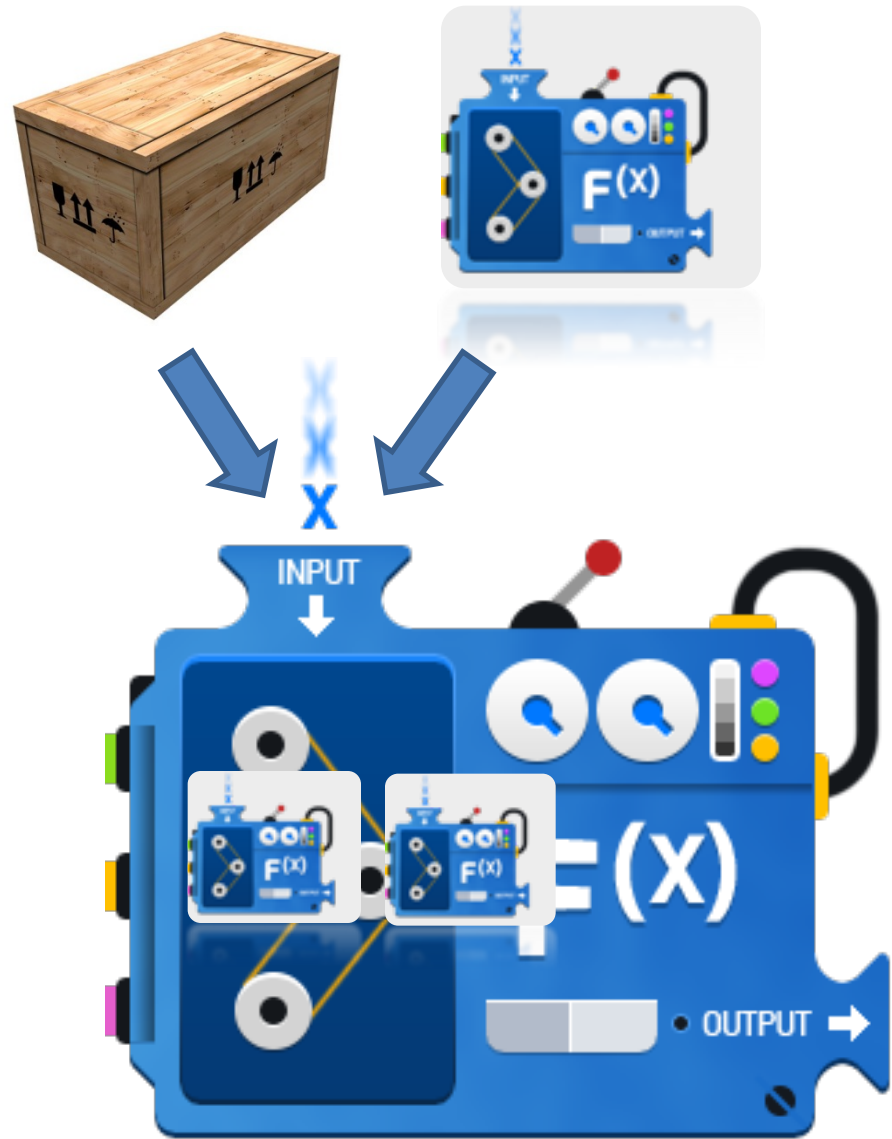
Hotel

My room is 02-05



And we can input a function

- We can input variables into a function
- In the same manner, we can **input functions** into a function



Function Composition

- In math, we can do something like $\log(\sin(x))$

```
>>> def f():  
    print("Hello")
```

```
>>> def do_twice(x):  
    x()  
    x()
```

Equivalent to

```
>>> def do_twice(x):  
    f()  
    f()
```

```
>>> do_twice(f)  
Hello  
Hello
```

Mix and Match

```
>>> def add1to(x):  
    return x + 1
```

```
>>> def square(x):  
    return x * x
```

```
>>> def do_3_times(f, n):  
    return f(f(f(n)))
```

```
>>> do_3_times(add1to, 2)  
5
```

```
>>> do_3_times(square, 2)  
256
```

A function

A variable
(can be a
function
too!)

Equivalent to

```
>>> def do_3_times(f, n):  
    add1to(add1to(add1to(2)))
```


The Evil Lambda



The Big Evil Boss “lambda”

```
>>> def add1(x):  
    return x+1
```

```
>>> add1(9)  
10
```

```
>>> func = lambda x: x + 1  
>>> func(9)  
10
```

Equivalent!!!



- difference:
 - lambda does not need a ‘return’

The “Powerful” Lambda

- Apparently nothing new

```
>>> def add1(x):  
        return x+1  
  
>>> add1(9)  
10  
>>> func = lambda x: x + 1  
>>> func(9)  
10
```

- But useful if you want to return a function as a result in a function

Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

- We know that, given a function f , the derivative of f is







$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

- $\frac{d \sin x}{dx} = \cos x$
- $\frac{d (x^3 + 3x - 1)}{dx} = 3x^2 + 3$

Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

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Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

- We know that, given a function f , the derivative of f is

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

- But, if we have a very small number dx

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

$$\frac{d \sin x}{dx} = \cos x$$

```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935
```

```
>>> func = deriv(sin)
```

```
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```

Take in a function,
returning another
function

- But, if we have a very small number dx

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

$$\frac{d(x^3 + 3x - 1)}{dx} = 3x^2 + 3$$

```
>>> def f(x):  
    return x**3+3*x-1
```

```
>>> deriv(f)(9)  
246.00001324870388
```

```
>>> x = 9
```

```
>>> 3*x**2 + 3  
246
```

- But, if we have very small number dx

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} \approx \frac{f(x + dx) - f(x)}{dx}$$

Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935
```

```
>>> func = deriv(sin)
```

```
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```

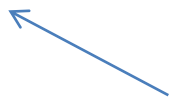
```
>>> def f(x):  
    return x**3+3*x-1
```

```
>>> deriv(f)(9)  
246.00001324870388
```

```
>>> x = 9
```

```
>>> 3*x**2 + 3  
246
```

Take in a function,
returning another
function



Agar Agar (Anyhow) Derivative

```
>>> def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx
```

```
>>> cos(0.123)  
0.9924450321351935  
>>> func = deriv(sin)  
>>> func(0.123)  
0.9924450428133723
```

- $\frac{d \sin x}{dx}$



Derivatives



$\cos x$

- $\frac{d(x^3 + 3x - 1)}{dx}$



Derivatives

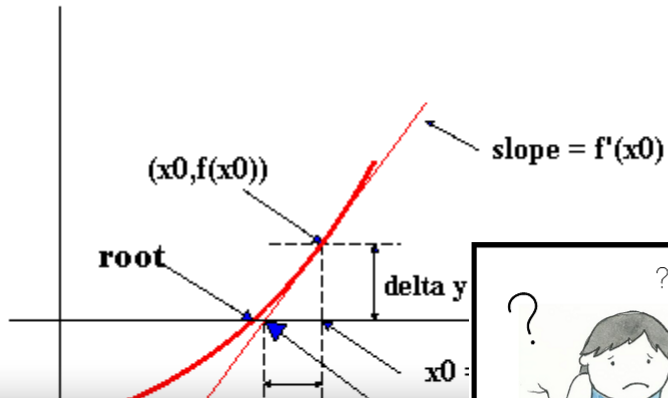


$3x^2 + 3$

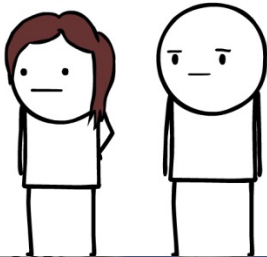
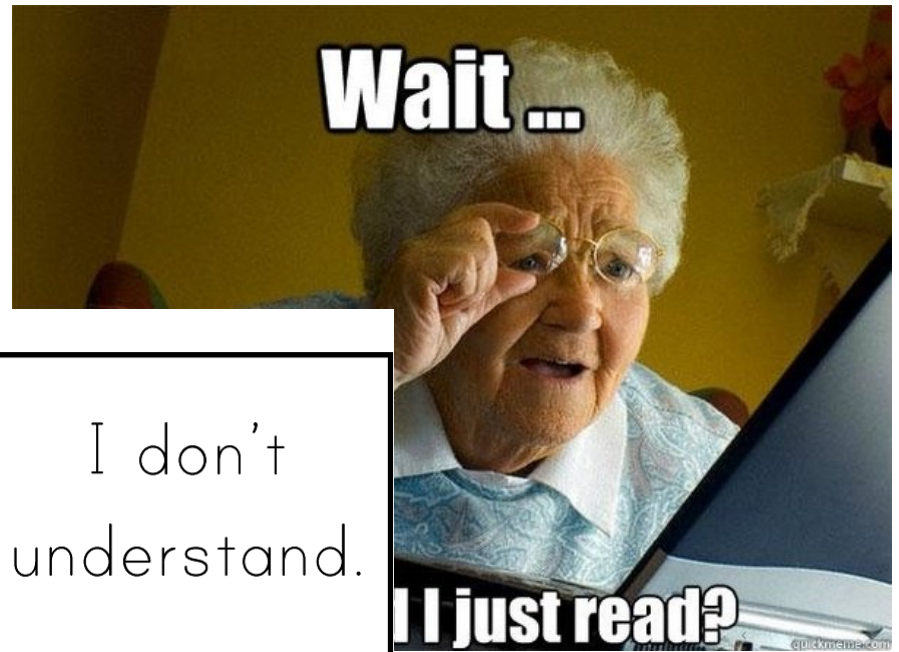
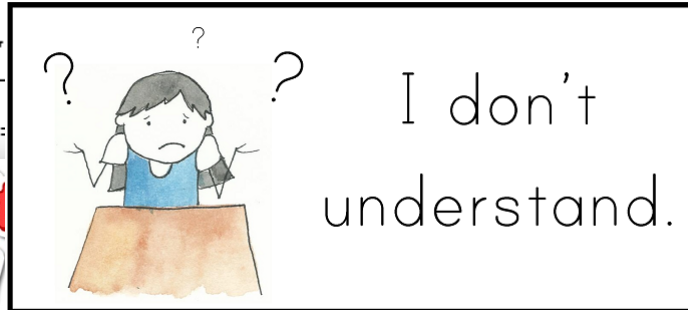
Example: Newton's method

- To compute root of function $g(x)$, i.e. find x such that $g(x) = 0$
 1. Anyhow assume the answer $x = \text{something}$
 2. If $g(x) \approx 0$ then stop: answer is x , return x
 3. Otherwise
 - $x = x - g(x)/\text{deriv}(x)$
 4. Go to step 2

Newton's Method



Things I Don't Understand



Example: Newton's method

```
def newtonM(g) :  
    x = 999 #doesn't matter  
    err = 0.00000000001  
    while (abs(g(x)) > err) :  
        x = x - g(x)/deriv(g)(x)  
    return x
```

1. Anyhow assume the answer $x = \text{something}$
2. If $g(x) \approx 0$ then stop: answer is x , return x
3. Otherwise
 - $x = x - g(x)/\text{deriv}(x)$
4. Go to step 2

Example: Newton's method

- Together with the function `deriv()`

```
def deriv(f):  
    dx = 0.0000000001  
    return lambda x: (f(x+dx) - f(x)) / dx  
  
def newtonM(g):  
    x = 999 #doesn't matter  
    err = 0.000000000001  
    while (abs(g(x)) > err):  
        x = x - g(x) / deriv(g)(x)  
    return x
```

Example: Newton's method

- Example: Square root of a number A
 - It's equivalent to solve the equation: $x^2 - A = 0$

```
>>> def my_own_sqrt(A):  
        return newtonM(lambda x:x*x-A)
```

```
>>> x = my_own_sqrt(10)  
>>> x * x  
9.9999999999999998
```

Example: Newton's method

- Example: Compute $\log_{10}(A)$
 - Solve the equation: $10^x - A = 0$

```
>>> def my_own_log10(N):  
        return newtonM(lambda x: 10**x - N)
```

```
>>> my_own_log10(100)  
2.00000000000000013  
>>> x = my_own_log10(234)  
>>> 10 ** x  
234.000000000000892
```

What We Learn Today

- Higher Order Functions
 - We can store, pass, output functions as other variables
 - An extremely powerful feature of Python
 - Functional Programming