

# HIGHER-ORDER FUNCTIONS AND CODE WRITING

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COMPUTER SCIENCE MENTORS

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## 1 Environment Diagrams

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1. When do we make a new frame in an environment diagram?
2. Draw the environment diagram that results from running the following code.

```
def swap(x, y):  
    x, y = y, x  
    return print("Swapped!", x, y)
```

```
x, y = 60, 1  
a = swap(x, y)  
swap(a, y)
```

3. Draw the environment diagram that results from running the following code.

```
def funny(joke):  
    hoax = joke + 1  
    return funny(hoax)  
  
def sad(joke):  
    hoax = joke - 1  
    return hoax + hoax  
  
funny, sad = sad, funny  
result = funny(sad(2))
```

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## 2 Lambda

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Lambda functions are essentially functions that you can define in one line. The structure of a lambda function is always `lambda arg0, arg1, ...: expr`. For example, these are functionally equivalent:

```
f = lambda x, y: x + y
```

```
def f(x, y):  
    return x + y
```

Lambda functions can return anything that a regular function can return, including functions. This means that we can define higher-order lambda functions such as `lambda x: lambda y: x + y`

The above can be interpreted as:

```
def outer(x):  
    def inner(y):  
        return x + y  
    return inner
```

Notice that the outermost lambda function takes in a parameter `x` and returns another lambda function which takes in a parameter `y` and returns `x + y`, which is exactly what the `outer` and `inner` functions do.

One important distinction from regular Python functions is that lambda functions are unnamed, so when we define frames for lambda functions in an environment diagram, we denote them using  $\lambda$  rather than with a function name.

If you want to define and use a lambda function in one line, you can do it like this:

```
(lambda x, y: x + y)(3, 4)
```

This will pass in 3 and 4 for `x` and `y` respectively and then return `3 + 4`.

1. Fill in the blanks (*without using any numbers in the first blank*) such that the entire expression evaluates to 9.

```
(lambda x: lambda y: _____) (_____) (lambda z: z*z) ()
```

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## 3 Higher-Order Functions

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1. Why and where do we use lambda and higher-order functions?

2. Draw the environment diagram that results from running the code.

```
x = 20
def foo(y):
    x = 5
    def bar():
        return lambda y: x - y
    return bar

y = foo(7)
z = y()
print(z(2))
```

3. Draw the environment diagram that results from running the code.

```
apple = 4
def orange(apple):
    apple = 5
    def plum(x):
        return lambda plum: plum * 2
    return plum

orange(apple)("hiii")(4)
```

4. Write a function, `print_sum`, that takes in a positive integer, `a`, and returns a function that does the following:
- (1) takes in a positive integer, `b`
  - (2) prints the sum of all natural numbers from 1 to `a*b`
  - (3) returns a higher-order function that, when called, prints the sum of all natural numbers from 1 to `(a+b) * c`, where `c` is another positive integer.

```
def print_sum(a):
    """
    >>> f = print_sum(1)
    >>> g = f(2) # 1*2 => 1 + 2
    3
    >>> h = g(4) # (1+2)*4 => 1 + 2 + ... + 11 + 12
    78
    >>> i = h(5) # (3+4)*5 => 1 + 2 + ... + 34 + 35
    630
    """
    def helper(b):
        i, total = _____
        while _____:
            _____
            _____
        print(_____)
        return _____
    return _____
```

5. Write a higher-order function that passes the following doctests.

*Challenge:* Write the function body in one line.

```
def mystery(f, x):
    """
    >>> from operator import add, mul
    >>> a = mystery(add, 3)
    >>> a(4) # add(3, 4)
    7
    >>> a(12)
    15
    >>> b = mystery(mul, 5)
    >>> b(7) # mul(5, 7)
    35
    >>> b(1)
    5
    >>> c = mystery(lambda x, y: x * x + y, 4)
    >>> c(5)
    21
    >>> c(7)
    23
    """
```

6. What would Python display?

```
>>> foo = mystery(lambda a, b: a(b), lambda c: 5 + square(c))
>>> foo(-2)
```