

CS61A Lecture 5

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Announcements



- Quiz today!
 - Only worth two points, so don't worry!

- Hog project
 - Get started early!
 - If you still don't have a partner (and want one), find one on Piazza
 - Use existing post; don't make a new one

The Art of the Function



- Give each function exactly one job

- Don't repeat yourself (DRY).

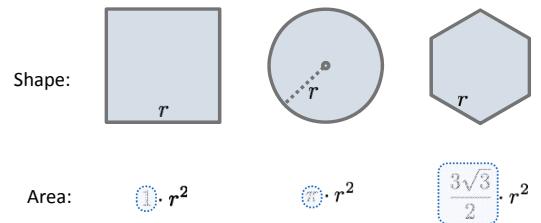
- Don't repeat yourself (DRY).

- Define functions generally

Generalizing Patterns with Parameters



Regular geometric shapes relate length and area.



Finding common structure allows for shared implementation

Generalizing Over Computational Processes



The common structure among functions may itself be a computational process, rather than a number.

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 1 = 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 = 15$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 k^2 = 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3 = 225$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^5 \frac{8}{(4k-3) \cdot (4k-1)} = \frac{8}{3} + \frac{8}{35} + \frac{8}{99} + \frac{8}{195} + \frac{8}{323} = 3.04$$

Functions as Arguments



Function values can be passed as arguments

```
def cube(k):
    return pow(k, 3)

def summation(n, term):
    """Sum the first n terms of a sequence.

    >>> summation(5, cube)
    225
    """
    total, k = 0, 1
    while k <= n:
        total, k = total + term(k), k + 1
    return total
```

Function of a single argument (not called term)

A formal parameter that will be bound to a function

"""Sum the first n terms of a sequence.

The cube function is passed as an argument value

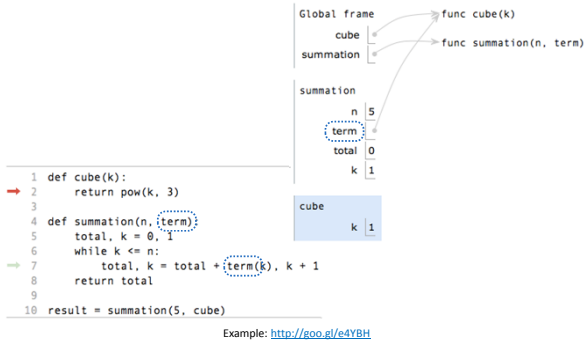
The function bound to term gets called here

$0 + 1^3 + 2^3 + 3^3 + 4^3 + 5^3$

Function Values as Parameters



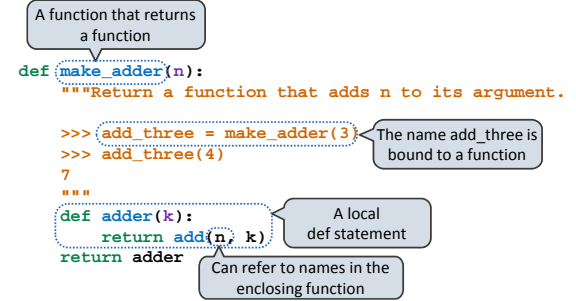
Parameters can be bound to function values



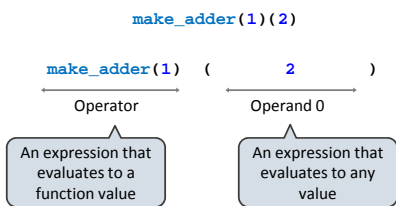
Functions as Return Values



Locally defined functions can be returned
They have access to the frame in which they are defined



Call Expressions as Operators



```
def make_adder(n):
    def adder(k):
        return add(n, k)
    return adder
```

Higher-Order Functions



Functions are first-class: they can be manipulated as values in Python

Higher-order function: a function that takes a function as an argument value or returns a function as a return value

Higher order functions:

- Express general methods of computation
- Remove repetition from programs
- Separate concerns among functions