

Special thanks to Scott Shawcroft, Ryan Tucker, and Paul Beck for their work on these slides. Except where otherwise noted, this work is licensed under: <u>http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0</u>

Functions as parameters

- Have you ever wanted to pass an entire function as a parameter
- Python has functions as first-class citizens, so you can do this
- You simply pass the functions by name



Properties of Functions

Field	Description		
name	This is the name of the function. This only have a meaningful value is the function is defined with "def".		
class	This is a reference to the class a method belongs to.		
code	This is a reference to the code object used in the implementation of python		
doc	This is the documentation string for the function.		



inspect

- A useful class for inspecting functions and classes.
 - from inspect import *
- FieldDescriptiongetdoc(x)Returns a pretty version of the docstring
for the give object.getcomments(x)Returns the comments that appear just
above the given function/class/module.getsource(x)Returns the source code for the given
function/class/module



Function Parameter Example

```
ex.py
   def mult 2(x):
 1
2
        return x * 2
3
4
   def add 2(x):
5
        return x + 2
 6
7
   def opp on item (item, func):
8
        return func(item)
9
0
   #main
1
   opp on item(12, mult 2)
                                               #result: 24
2
   opp on item(12, add 2)
                                               #result: 14
3
```



Lambda

- Sometimes you need a simply arithmetic function
- Its silly to write a method for it, but redundant not too
- With lambda we can create quick simple functions
- Facts
 - Lambda functions can only be comprised of a single expression
 - No loops, no calling other methods
 - Lambda functions can take any number of variables

Syntax:

lambda param1,...,paramn : expression



Lambda Syntax

lambda.py

```
1
  #Example 1
2
  square func = lambda x : x^{*2}
3
  square func(4)
                                       #return: 16
4
5
  #Example 2
6
  close enough = lambda x, y : abs(x - y) < 3
7
  close enough (2, 4)
                                     #return: True
8
9
  #Example 3
0
  def get func(n) :
1
       return lambda x : x * n + x % n
2
  my func = get func(13)
3
  my func(4)
                                       #return: 56
```



operator

- Most of the built-in functions (len, +, *, <) can be accessed through the operator module
- Need to import the operator module

- from operator import *

🟓 python™

Operator	Function	Operator	Function
—	neg(x)	Operator	
+	pos(x)	==	eq(x,y)
		!=	ne(x, y)
Operator	Function	<	lt(x, y)
_	sub(x, y)	>	gt(x, y)
+	add(x, y)	<=	le(x, y)
*	mul(self, other)	>=	ge(x, y)

Partially Instantiated Functions

- We have seen that we can create lambda functions for quick functions on the go
- We have also seen that we can use the built in operators through the operator class
- What we would like to do is use the built in operators with a silly lambda function
- We can do this by partially instantiating function with the partial function from the functools package
 - You supply some of the parameters and get a function back the needs the rest of the parameters in order to execute



partial

#10

#10

#10

partial.py

```
def mult1(x):
1
2
       return 2 * x
3
  mult2 = lambda x : 2 * x
4
  mult3 = partial(mul, 2)
5
6
  x = 10
7
8
  print(mult1(5));
9
  print(mult2(5));
  print(mult3(5));
0
```



Higher-Order Functions

- A higher-order function is a function that takes another function as a parameter
- They are "higher-order" because it's a function of a function
- Examples
 - Мар
 - Reduce
 - Filter
- Lambda works great as a parameter to higher-order functions if you can deal with its limitations



Transform Example

 Let's write a method called transform that takes a list and a function as parameters and applies the function to each element of the list

transform.py

```
1 def mult_2(x):

2     return x * 2

3 ...

4 #Main

5 x = [1, 2, 3]

6 transform(x, mult_2)

7 print(x) #[2, 4, 6]
```



Transform Solution

transform.py

```
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
```

