Discussion 2

Environment Diagrams and Higher-Order Functions

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Announcements

- Hog
  - Released on Monday
  - Please start early! OH is usually far less busy at the start, so the more you wait to start, the more likely you'll have to wait longer in the queue
  - Phase 1
  - EC
  - Due Date
- Small Group Tutoring Sections
  - Exam Prep
  - Discussion Sections

Results from last discussion

I forgot to change the question on the form 😭 😭 😭

There's a real question in this discussion attendance

Questions and Comments from last section

- example Questions
  - generally speaking, the discussion questions I think fulfill this role *fairly* well
- put more examples on slides
  - I will try 😌
  - this is sometimes hard to do because i prefer whiteboarding over putting things on slides, but please do ask questions during discussion - if you have a question, other people will very often have the same question
- i speak fast
  - yes, i know (oops)
- explain the intuition behind things
  - i try my best 🐈

Questions and Comments from last section

- games i like playing
  - video games: overcooked (2), mario kart (im bad), mystery dungeon, etc
  - board games: dominion!
- how do you get through the readings?
  - you don't need to! lectures are quite often enough; readings are usually just supplementary (comapred to something like data 8 where the textbook does tell you quite a lot)
- can you do x, y, or z?
  - lab/hw/projects: yes
  - exams: depends on what you're asking for

Temperature Check 🌡️

- Environment Diagrams
- `lambda` functions
- Higher-order Functions

All slides can be found on

`teaching.rouxl.es`

Environment Diagrams 

Environment Diagrams

- Environment diagrams are a great way to learn how coding languages work under the hood
- Keeps track of all the variables that have been defined, and the values that they hold
  - Done with the use of *frames*
- Expressions evaluate to values:
  - `1 + 1` → `2`
- Statements do not evaluate to values:
  - `def` statements, assignments, etc.
- Statements change our environment

Frames

- The `Global Frame` exists by default
- Frames list bindings between variables and their values
- Frames also tell us how to look up values

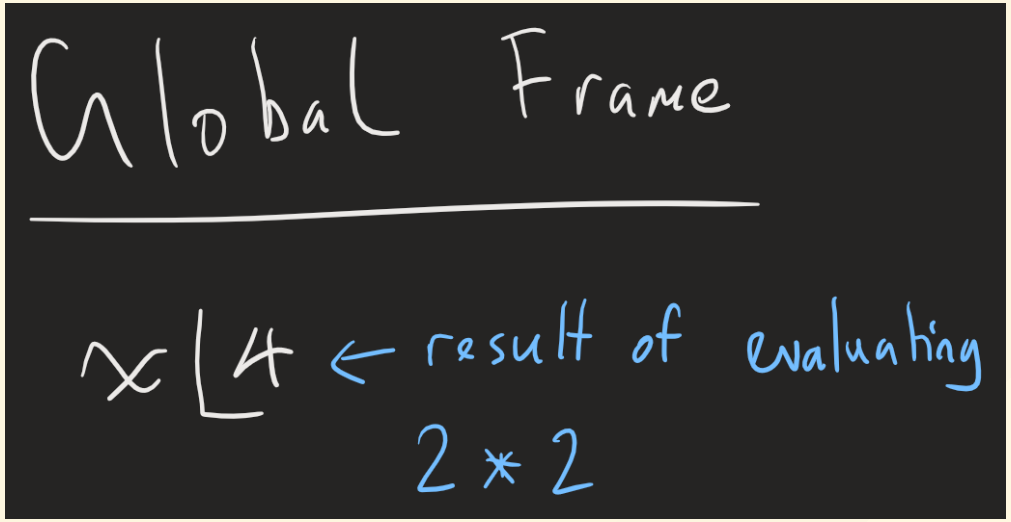
Assignment

- Assignment statements bind a value to a name
  - The right side is evaluated before being bounded to the name on the left
  - `=` is not the same in Python and mathematics
- These are then put in the *correct frame* in the environment diagram

```
x = 2 * 2 # 2 * 2 is evaluated before bound to the name x
```

Assignment

```
x = 2 * 2 # 2 * 2 is evaluated before bound to the name x
```



`def` statements

- Creates function (objects), and binds them to a variable name
- The function is **not** executed until called!
- Name of the variable is the name of the function
- Parent of the function is the frame where the function is *defined*
- Keep track of:
  - Name
  - Parameters
  - Parent

Example

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

- Keep track of the name, parameters, and parent!
- Uses *pointers* (unlike for primitive values)

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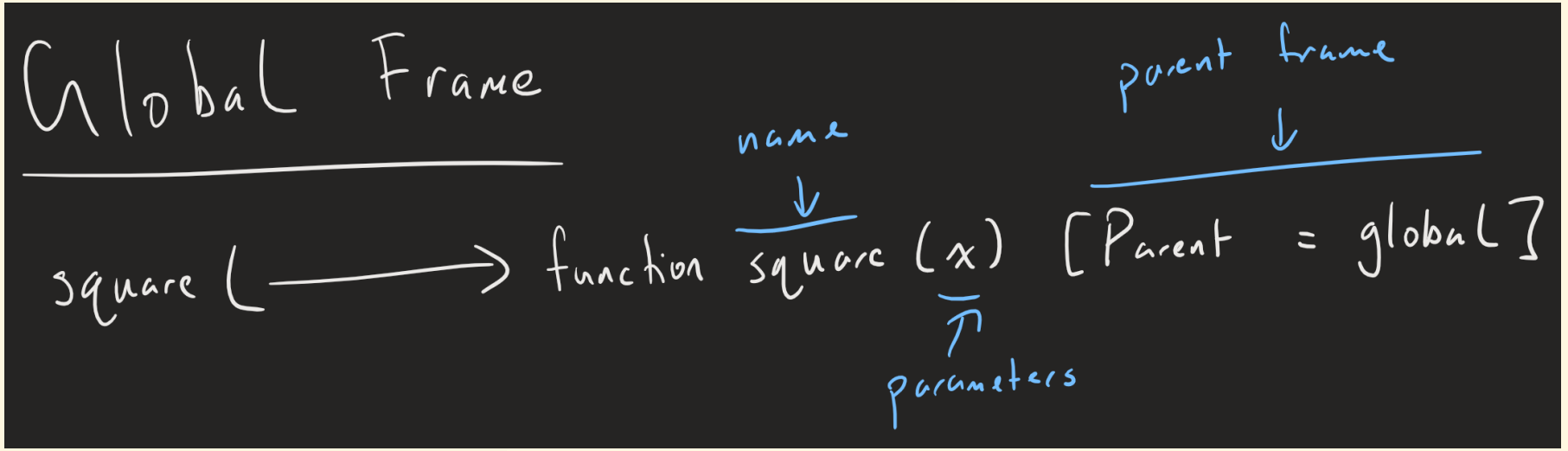


Call Expressions

(Order of operations for nested call expressions)

Example 1

```
add(5, 9) # 14
```

Example 2

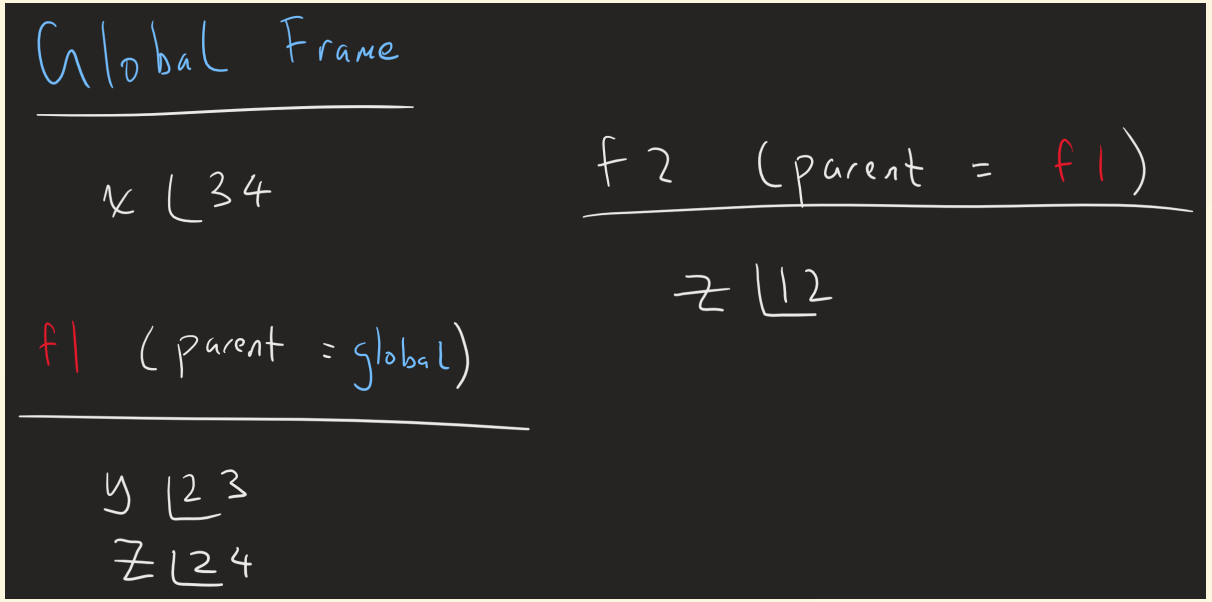
```
x = 3
add(2, add(x, 4)) # 9
```

Variable Lookup ☝️

- Look in your current frame to find your variable
- If it doesn't exist, repeat the same process in the parent frame (including the lookup if you don't find anything)
- If you reach the global frame and still can't find anything, the program errors
  - This is because the variable doesn't exist 😭

Variable Lookup

Example



(Assume that we're looking for variables inside `f2`)

Variable Lookup

Example

Variable	Value
x	34
y	23
z	12

- If we start off in `f2`, we already see `z` in `f2`, so there is no need to look at the frame above.
- However, for the case of `y`, we do need to look up to its parent frame, and for `x`, we need to lookup 2 levels

New Frames

- New frames are made when a function is called
- Label your frame with a unique index (convention is `f1`, `f2`, etc.)
- Write down the name of the function object
  - Not necessarily the name of the variable!
- Write down the parent that the function you're calling has
- Separately, all frames (other than the global frame) have a return value
  - This can be `None` if nothing is specified

Example

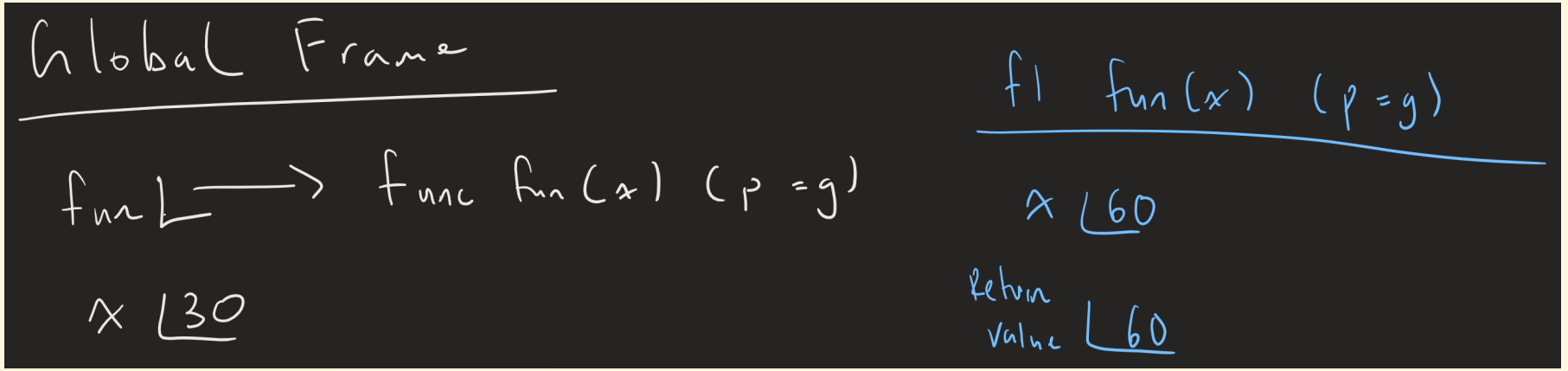
```
def fun(x):
  x = x * 2
  return x

x = 30
fun(x)
```

Example

```
def fun(x):
  x = x * 2
  return x

x = 30
fun(x)
```



Worksheet! (Question 2)

`lambda` Syntax

- `lambda <args>: <body>`
- What goes in `<body>` must be a single expression

`lambda` Example

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

func = lambda x, y: x + y
# Notice how I have to do the binding to a variable myself
```

```
def i(j, k, l):
  return j * k * l

i = lambda j, k, l: j * k * l
```

`lambda` Example 2

`lambda` functions can also be used as the operator for a function!

```
(lambda x, y: x + y)(2, 3) # 5
# or
add = lambda x, y: x + y
add(2, 3)

# Equivalent to

def add(x, y):
  return x + y

add(2, 3) # 5
```

Higher Order Functions (HOF)

- HOFs are functions that can do the following things (can be both):
  1. Take in other functions as inputs
  2. Return a function as an output
- You can treat a function as just an object or a value (there's nothing special about them)
- `function` and `function()` mean different things!
  - `function` refers to the object itself (in the environment diagram, it refers to what the arrow is pointing to)
  - `function()` actually calls and executes the body of the function

HOF Example 1 (Functions as input)

```
def double(x):
  return x * 2

def square(x):
  return x ** 2

def double_adder(f, x):
  return f(x) + f(x)

double_adder(double, 3) # 12
double_adder(square, 3) # 18
# Passed in two different functions
```

HOF Example 2 (Functions as output)

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

a = f(2)
a(3) # 5

# Same thing as calling f(2)(3)
```

HOF Example 2

```
def f(x):
  def g(y):
    def h(z):
      return x + y + z
    return h
  return g

lambda x: lambda y: lambda z: x + y + z
```

The two above are equivalent statements!

(Notice how the lambda one takes up far less space!)

`lambda` Functions and Higher-Order Functions

- A `lambda` expression evaluates to a `lambda` function
  - Can be used as the operator for a function!
- These functions work the same way as a normal function
  - Can be written in 1 line - faster way to make functions
  - Similar to `def` in usage, but different syntax
- `lambda`s are especially useful when you want to use a function once and then never use it again (will see examples of this)

Attendance

`links.rouxl.es/disc`

Worksheet!

Currying

Currying is one application of the HOFs from earlier.

```
lambda x: lambda y: x + y
```

Instead of just any expression on the inside (for example `x + y`), we use a function!

```
def pow(x, y):
  x ** y

def curried_pow(x):
  def f(y):
    return pow(x, y)
  return f

curried_pow(3)(2)
# is the same as
pow(3, 2)
# You will need as many inner functions as you have arguments
```

Currying

- Currying is the process of turning a function that takes in *multiple* arguments to one that takes in *one* argument.
- What's the point?
  - Sometimes functions with 1 argument are far easier to deal with
  - Can create a bunch of functions that have slightly different starting values which saves on repeating code
  - Useful for the `map` function (it requires functions that have only 1 argument)
- Kind of hard to see the benefits until you write production code

Worksheet!

Mental Health Resources

- CAPS:
  - If you need to talk to a professional, please call CAPS at 510-642-9494.
- After Hours Assistance
  - For any assistance after hours, details on what to do can be found at this link

Anonymous Feedback Form

`links.rouxl.es/feedback`

Thanks for coming! 🥳

Please give me feedback on what to improve!