61A Lecture 14

Friday, October 4

Announcements

- Homework 4 due Tuesday 10/8 @ 11:59pm.
- Project 2 due Thursday 10/10 @ 11:59pm.
- Guerrilla Section 2 this Saturday 10/5 & Sunday 10/6 10am–1pm in Soda.
  - Topics: Data abstraction, sequences, and non-local assignment.
  - Please RSVP on Piazza!
- Guest lecture on Wednesday 10/9, Peter Norvig on Natural Language Processing in Python.
  - No video (except a screencast)! Come to Wheeler.

Mutable Functions

A Function with Behavior That Varies Over Time

Let's model a bank account that has a balance of $100

```
>>> withdraw(25)
75
>>> withdraw(25)
50
>>> withdraw(60)
'Insufficient funds'
>>> withdraw(15)
35
```

Return value: remaining balance

Argument: amount to withdraw

Different return value!

Second withdrawal of the same amount

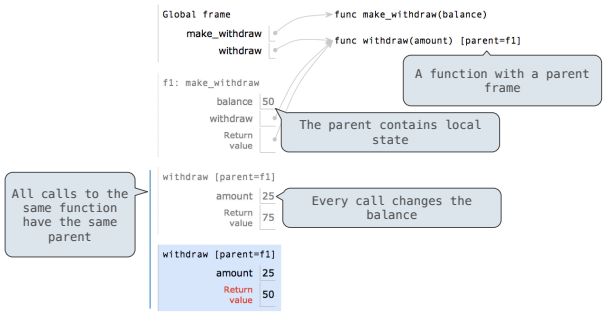
Where's this balance stored?

```
>>> withdraw = make_withdraw(100)
```

Within the parent frame of the function!

A function has a body and a parent environment

Persistent Local State Using Environments

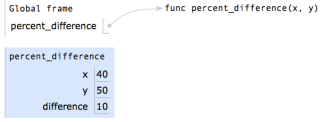


Example: http://goo.gl/cUC09s

Reminder: Local Assignment

```
def percent_difference(x, y):
    difference = abs(x-y)
    return 100 * difference / x
diff = percent_difference(40, 50)
```

Assignment binds name(s) to value(s) in the first frame of the current environment



Execution rule for assignment statements:

1. Evaluate all expressions right of =, from left to right.
2. Bind the names on the left the resulting values in the **first frame** of the current environment.

Example: http://goo.gl/WxpgSZ

Non-Local Assignment & Persistent Local State

```
def make_withdraw(balance):
    """Return a withdraw function with a starting balance."""
    def withdraw(amount):
        nonlocal balance
        if amount > balance:
            return 'Insufficient funds'
        balance = balance - amount
        return balance
    return withdraw
```

Declare the name "balance" nonlocal at the top of the body of the function in which it is re-assigned

Re-bind balance in the first non-local frame in which it was bound previously

(Demo)

Non-Local Assignment

The Effect of Nonlocal Statements

```
nonlocal <name>, <name>, ...
```

Effect: Future assignments to that name change its pre-existing binding in the **first non-local frame** of the current environment in which that name is bound.

Python Docs: an "enclosing scope"

From the Python 3 language reference:

Names listed in a nonlocal statement must refer to pre-existing bindings in an enclosing scope.

Names listed in a nonlocal statement must not collide with pre-existing bindings in the local scope.

http://docs.python.org/release/3.1.3/reference/simple_stmts.html#the-nonlocal-statement

http://www.python.org/dev/peps/pep-3104/

The Many Meanings of Assignment Statements

x = 2

Status	Effect
•No nonlocal statement •"x" **is not** bound locally	Create a new binding from name "x" to object 2 in the first frame of the current environment.
•No nonlocal statement •"x" **is** bound locally	Re-bind name "x" to object 2 in the first frame of the current env.
•nonlocal x •"x" **is** bound in a non-local frame	Re-bind "x" to 2 in the first non-local frame of the current environment in which it is bound.
•nonlocal x •"x" **is not** bound in a non-local frame	SyntaxError: no binding for nonlocal 'x' found
•nonlocal x •"x" **is** bound in a non-local frame •"x" also bound locally	SyntaxError: name 'x' is parameter and nonlocal

Python Particulars

Python pre-computes which frame contains each name before executing the body of a function.

Therefore, within the body of a function, all instances of a name must refer to the same frame.

```
def make_withdraw(balance):
    def withdraw(amount):
        if amount > balance:
            return 'Insufficient funds'
        balance = balance - amount
        return balance
    return withdraw

wd = make_withdraw(20)
wd(5)
```

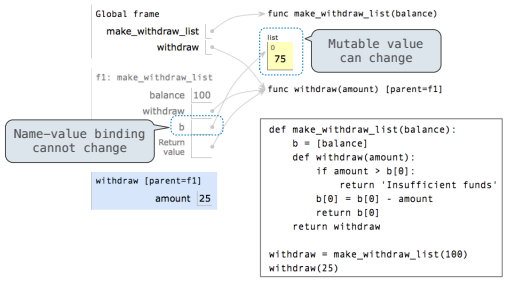
Local assignment

UnboundLocalError: local variable 'balance' referenced before assignment

Example: http://goo.gl/bDVzc6

Mutable Values & Persistent Local State

Mutable values can be changed *without* a nonlocal statement.



Example: http://goo.gl/y4TyFZ

Multiple Mutable Functions

(Demo)

Sameness and Change

- As long as we **never modify** objects, we can regard a compound object to be precisely the **totality of its pieces.**
- A **rational number** is just its numerator and denominator.
- This view is no longer valid **in the presence of change.**
- Now, a compound data **object has an "identity"** that is something more than the pieces of which it is composed.
- A bank account is **still "the same" bank account even if we change the balance** by making a withdrawal.
- Conversely, we could have two bank accounts that happen to have the **same balance, but are different objects.**

John's Account
$10

Steven's Account
$10

Referential Transparency, Lost

- Expressions are **referentially transparent** if substituting an expression with its value does not change the meaning of a program.

```
mul(add(2, mul(4, 6)), add(3, 5))
mul(add(2,    24    ), add(3, 5))
mul(       26        , add(3, 5))
```

- Mutation operations violate the condition of referential transparency because they do more than just return a value; **they change the environment.**

(Demo)