

# CS61A Lecture 7

Amir Kamil  
UC Berkeley  
February 6, 2013

# Announcements



- HW3 out, due Tuesday at 7pm
- Midterm next Wednesday at 7pm
  - Keep an eye out for your assigned location
  - Old exams posted soon
  - Review sessions
    - Saturday 2-4pm in TBA
    - Extend office hours Sunday 11-3pm in TBA
    - HKN review session Sunday 3-6pm in 145 Dwinelle
- Environment diagram handout on website
- Code review system online
  - See Piazza post for details

# How to Draw an Environment Diagram



When defining a function:

Create a function value with signature

`<name>(<formal parameters>)`

For nested definitions, label the parent as the first frame of the current environment

Bind `<name>` to the function value in the first frame of the current environment

When calling a function:

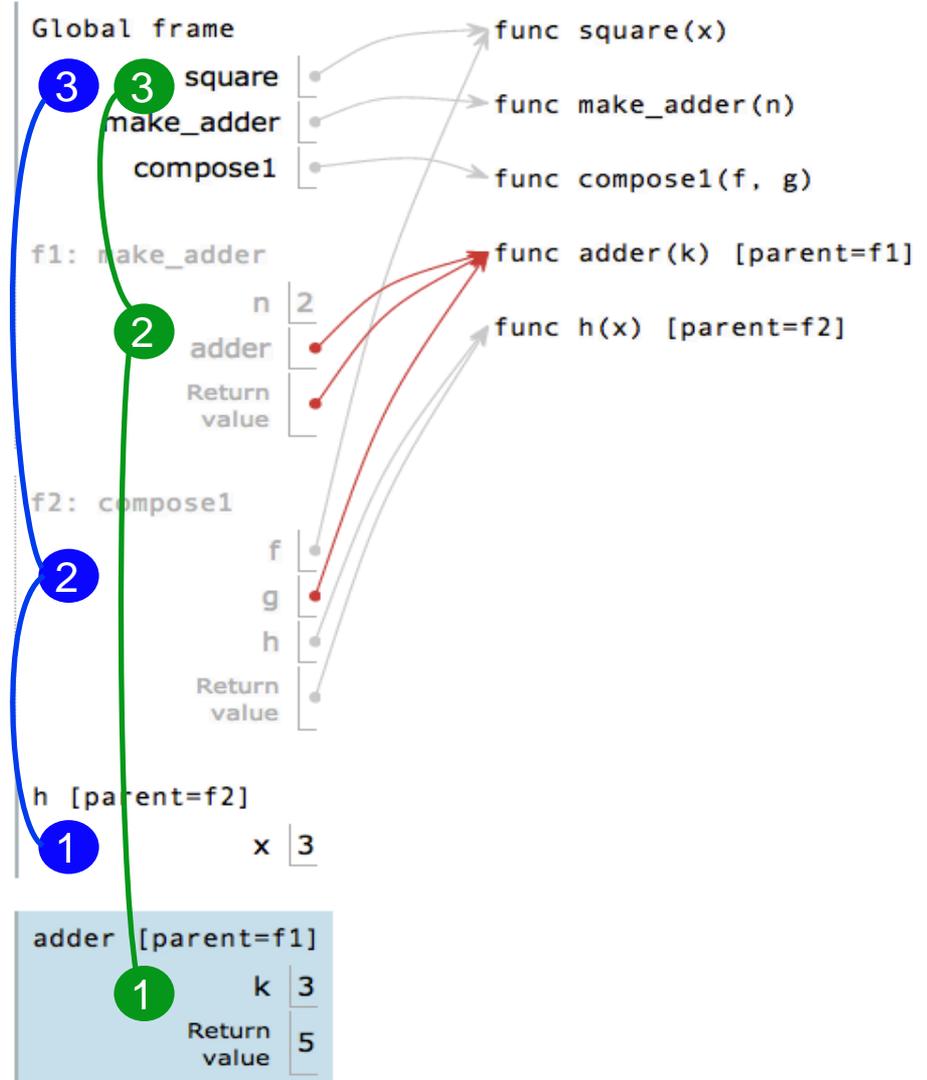
1. Add a local frame labeled with the `<name>` of the function
2. If the function has a parent label, copy it to this frame
3. Bind the `<formal parameters>` to the arguments in this frame
4. Execute the body of the function in the environment that starts with this frame

# Environment for Function Composition



```
1 def square(x):
2     return x * x
3
4 def make_adder(n):
5     def adder(k):
6         return n + k
7     return adder
8
9 def compose1(f, g):
10    def h(x):
11        return f(g(x))
12    return h
13
14 compose1(square, make_adder(2))(3)
```

Return value of make\_adder is an argument to compose1



Example: <http://goo.gl/5zcuq>

# Lambda Expressions



```
>>> ten = 10
```

An expression: this one evaluates to a number

```
>>> square = x * x
```

Also an expression: evaluates to a function

```
>>> square = lambda x: x * x
```

Notice: no "return"

A function

with formal parameter  $x$

and body "return  $x * x$ "

```
>>> square(4)
```

```
16
```

Must be a single expression

Lambda expressions are rare in Python, but important in general

# Evaluation of Lambda vs. Def



```
lambda x: x * x
```

VS

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

Execution procedure for def statements:

1. Create a function value with signature `<name>(<formal parameters>)` and the current frame as parent
2. Bind `<name>` to that value in the current frame

Evaluation procedure for lambda expressions:

1. Create a function value with signature `λ(<formal parameters>)` and the current frame as parent

No intrinsic name

2. Evaluate to that value

# Lambda vs. Def Statements



```
square = lambda x: x * x    VS    def square(x):  
                                return x * x
```

Both create a function with the same arguments & behavior

Both of those functions are associated with the environment in which they are defined

Both bind that function to the name "square"

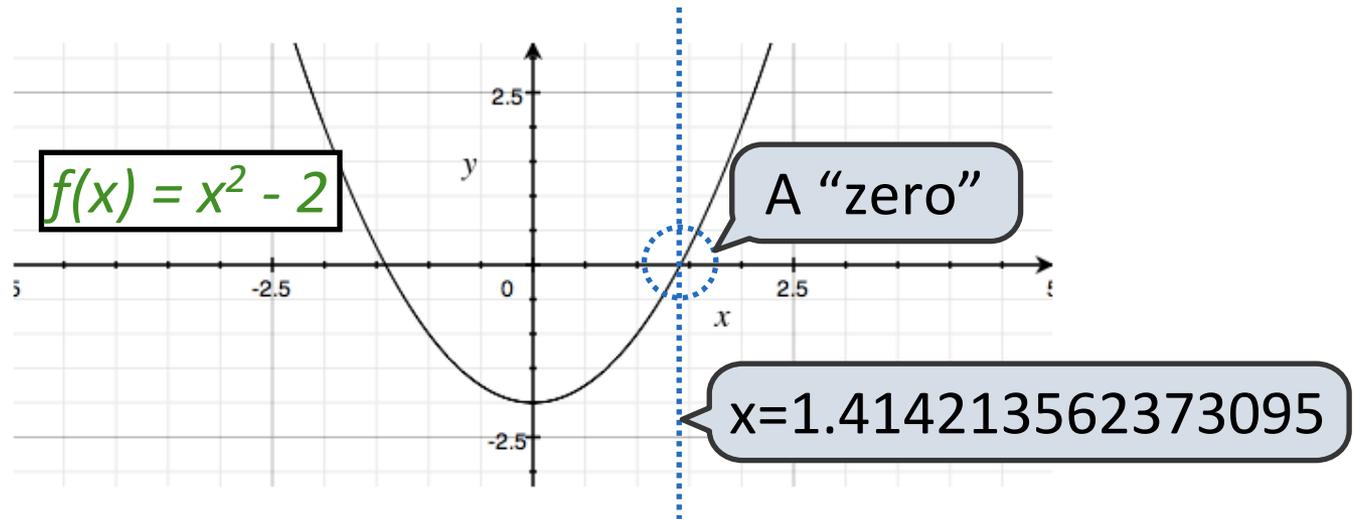
Only the def statement gives the function an intrinsic name



# Newton's Method Background



Finds approximations to zeroes of differentiable functions



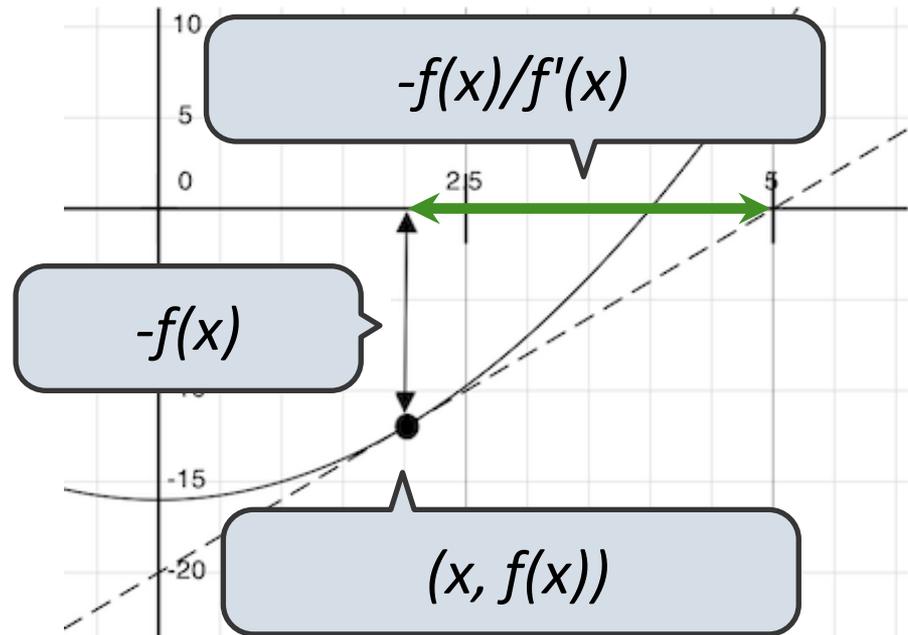
Application: a method for (approximately) computing square roots, using only basic arithmetic.

The positive zero of  $f(x) = x^2 - a$  is  $\sqrt{a}$

# Newton's Method



Begin with a function  $f$  and an initial guess  $x$



Compute the value of  $f$  at the guess:  $f(x)$

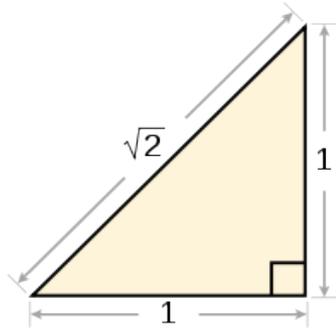
Compute the derivative of  $f$  at the guess:  $f'(x)$

Update guess to be: 
$$x - \frac{f(x)}{f'(x)}$$

# Using Newton's Method



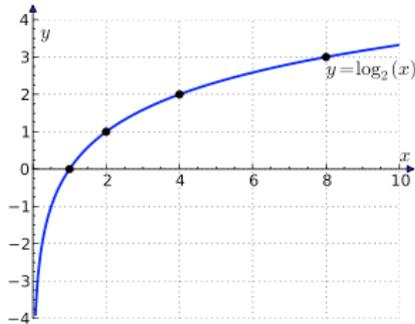
How to find the **square root** of 2?



```
>>> f = lambda x: x*x - 2
>>> find_zero(f)
1.4142135623730951
```

$$f(x) = x^2 - 2$$

How to find the **log base 2** of 1024?



```
>>> g = lambda x: pow(2, x) - 1024
>>> find_zero(g)
10.0
```

$$g(x) = 2^x - 1024$$

# Special Case: Square Roots



How to compute `square_root(a)`

Idea: Iteratively refine a guess  $x$  about the square root of  $a$

Update:

$$x = \frac{x + \frac{a}{x}}{2}$$

$$x - f(x)/f'(x)$$

Babylonian Method

Implementation questions:

What guess should start the computation?

How do we know when we are finished?

# Special Case: Cube Roots



How to compute `cube_root(a)`

Idea: Iteratively refine a guess  $x$  about the cube root of  $a$

Update:  $x = \frac{2x + \frac{a}{x^2}}{3}$

The update formula  $x = \frac{2x + \frac{a}{x^2}}{3}$  is shown. The fraction  $\frac{2x + \frac{a}{x^2}}{3}$  is enclosed in a blue dashed oval. A grey callout box with a pointer to the numerator contains the expression  $x - f(x)/f'(x)$ .

Implementation questions:

What guess should start the computation?

How do we know when we are finished?

# Iterative Improvement



First, identify common structure.

Then define a function that generalizes the procedure.

```
def iter_improve(update, done, guess=1, max_updates=1000):
    """Iteratively improve guess with update until done
    returns a true value.

    >>> iter_improve(golden_update, golden_test)
    1.618033988749895
    """
    k = 0
    while not done(guess) and k < max_updates:
        guess = update(guess)
        k = k + 1
    return guess
```

# Newton's Method for nth Roots



```
def nth_root_func_and_derivative(n, a):  
    def root_func(x):  
        return pow(x, n) - a  
    def derivative(x):  
        return n * pow(x, n-1)  
    return root_func, derivative
```

Exact derivative

```
def nth_root_newton(a, n):  
    """Return the nth root of a.
```

```
>>> nth_root_newton(8, 3)  
2.0  
"""
```

```
root_func, deriv = nth_root_func_and_derivative(n, a)  
def update(x):  
    return x - root_func(x) / deriv(x)  
def done(x):  
    return root_func(x) == 0  
return iter_improve(update, done)
```

$x - f(x)/f'(x)$

Definition of a function zero