# DATA C88C Fall 2025

# Higher-Order Functions, Environment Diagrams

Discussion 3: September 15, 2025

## Environment Diagrams

Draw an environment diagram for the code below. You can use paper or a tablet or the whiteboard. Then, step through the diagram generated by Python Tutor to check your work.

```
def foo(x, y):
    foo = bar
    return foo(x, y)
def bar(z, x):
    return z + y
y = 5
foo(1, 2)
```

See the web version of this resource for the environment diagram.

Here's a blank diagram in case you're using a tablet:

If you have questions, ask those around you or course staff instead of just looking up the answer!

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Global frame	
f1:	[parent=]
f2:	[parent=]

template

### Higher-Order Functions

Remember the problem-solving approach from last discussion; it works just as well for implementing higher-order functions.

- 1. Pick an example input and corresponding output. (This time it might be a function.)
- 2. Describe a process (in English) that computes the output from the input using simple steps.
- 3. Figure out what additional names you'll need to carry out this process.
- 4. Implement the process in code using those additional names.
- 5. Determine whether the implementation really works on your original example.
- 6. Determine whether the implementation really works on other examples. (If not, you might need to revise step 2.)

### Q1: Multi-Apply

Sometimes we want to apply a function more than once to a number. Implement multi-apply, which is a higher-order function takes in a function f. It returns a function of the form g(x, y), which takes in two arguments. This new function *composes*, or applies, f to x y times; for example, for y = 3, it would evaluate f(f(f(x))).

```
def multi_apply(f):
    """Returns a function g(x, y) that returns the result of applying f to x y times.
    >>> def adder(x):
            return x + 1
    >>> multi_add = multi_apply(adder)
    >>> multi add(3, 1)
    4
    >>> multi_add(4, 5)
    9
    >>> multi_add(5, 0)
    0.00
    def g(x, y):
        while y > 0:
            x = f(x)
            y -= 1
        return x
    return g
```

Don't run Python to check your work unless you're confident your answer is correct. You can check it just by thinking! If you get stuck, ask the staff for help.

#### Q2: Make Keeper

Implement make\_keeper, which takes a positive integer n and returns a function f that takes as its argument another one-argument function cond. When f is called on cond, it prints out the integers from 1 to n (including n) for which cond returns a true value when called on each of those integers. Each integer is printed on a separate line.

```
def make_keeper(n):
   """Returns a function that takes one parameter cond and prints
   out all integers 1..i..n where calling cond(i) returns True.
   >>> def is_even(x): # Even numbers have remainder 0 when divided by 2.
            return x % 2 == 0
   >>> make_keeper(5)(is_even)
   2
   4
   >>> make_keeper(5)(lambda x: True)
   2
   3
    4
   5
   >>> make_keeper(5)(lambda x: False) # Nothing is printed
   def f(cond):
        i = 1
        while i <= n:
            if cond(i):
                print(i)
            i += 1
   return f
```

No peeking! First try to implement it without the hint.

To return a function f, include def f(cond): as the first line of the implementation and return f as the last. The f function should introduce i = 1 in order to loop through all integers, calling cond(i) to determine whether cond returns true for each integer.