



UC Berkeley EECS
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Computational Structures in Data Science



Lecture 6: Environment Diagrams, Recursion Review, Midterm Review

March 4, 2019

<http://inst.eecs.berkeley.edu/~cs88>









Recursion Key concepts – by example

1. Test for simple “base” case

2. Solution in simple “base” case

```
def sum_of_squares (n) :  
    if n < 1:  
        return 0  
    else:  
        return sum_of_squares (n-1) + n**2
```

3. Assume recursive solution to simpler problem

4. Transform soln of simpler problem into full soln







How does it work?

- **Each recursive call gets its own local variables**
 - Just like any other function call
- **Computes its result (possibly using additional calls)**
 - Just like any other function call
- **Returns its result and returns control to its caller**
 - Just like any other function call
- **The function that is called happens to be itself**
 - Called on a simpler problem
 - Eventually bottoms out on the simple base case
- **Reason about correctness “by induction”**
 - Solve a base case
 - Assuming a solution to a smaller problem, extend it



Local variables

```
def sum_of_squares (n) :  
    n_squared = n**2  
    if n < 1:  
        return 0  
    else:  
        return n_squared + sum_of_squares (n-1)
```

- Each call has its own “frame” of local variables
- What about globals?
- Let’s see the environment diagrams

<https://goo.gl/CiFaUJ>



Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

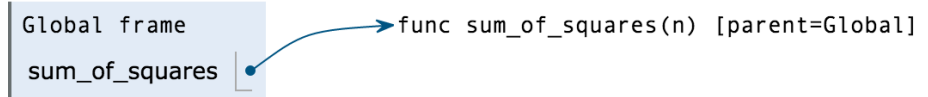
```

[Edit code](#)

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Frames

Objects



Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

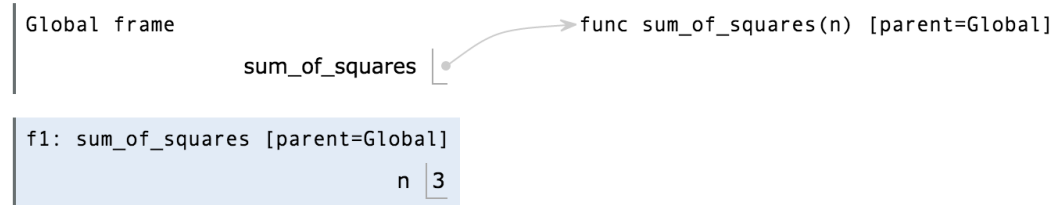
```

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Frames

Objects



pythontutor.com



Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

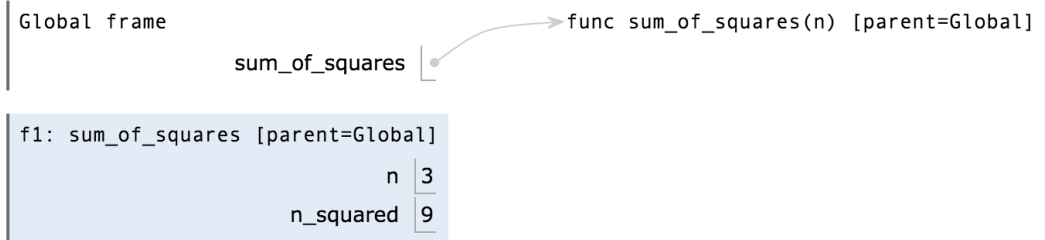
```

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Frames

Objects



Python 3.3

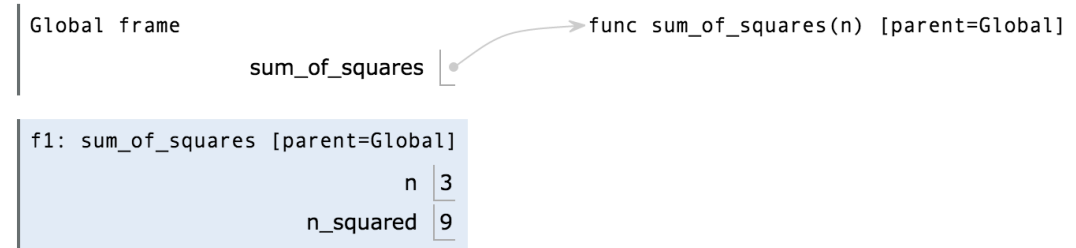
```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

Frames

Objects





Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

[Edit code](#)

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
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5     else:
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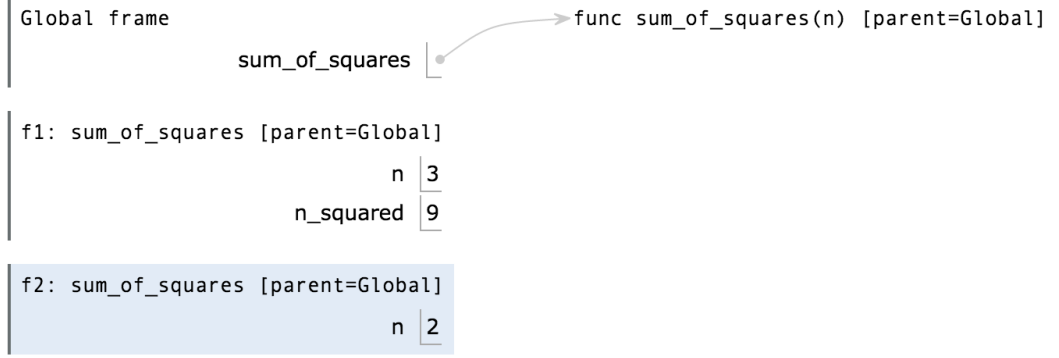
```

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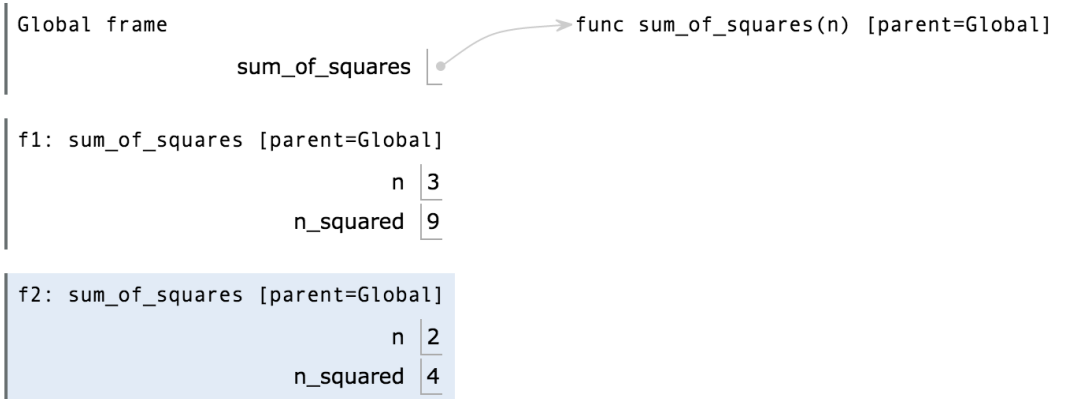
Frames

Objects



Frames

Objects





Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

[Edit code](#)

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Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

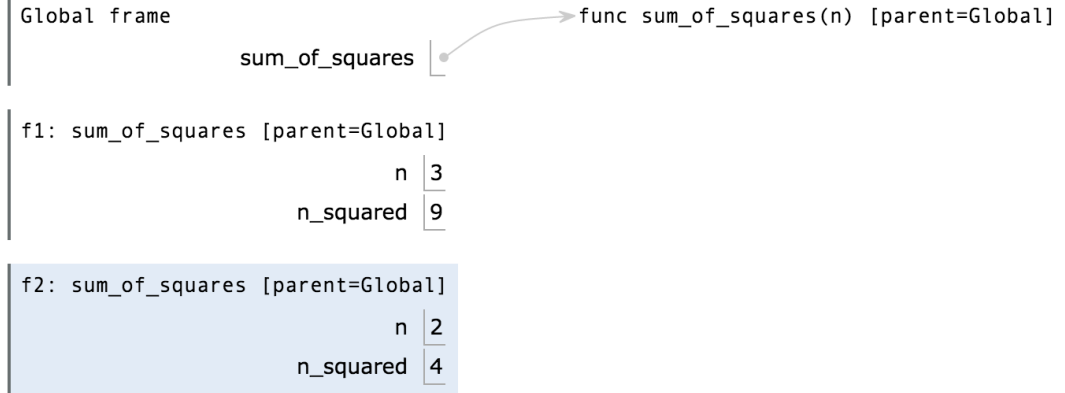
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that has just executed
: line to execute

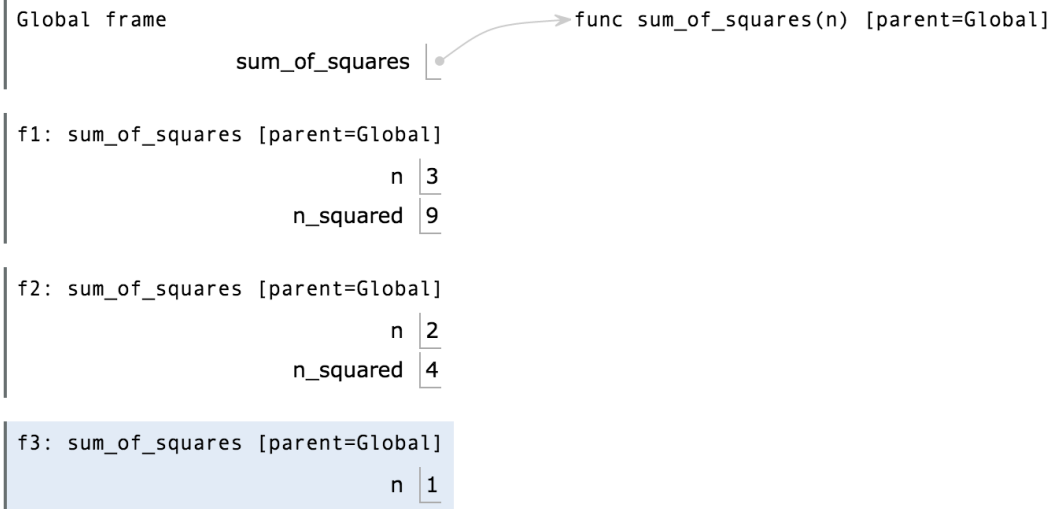
Frames

Objects



Frames

Objects





Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

[Edit code](#)

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that has just executed
t line to execute

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

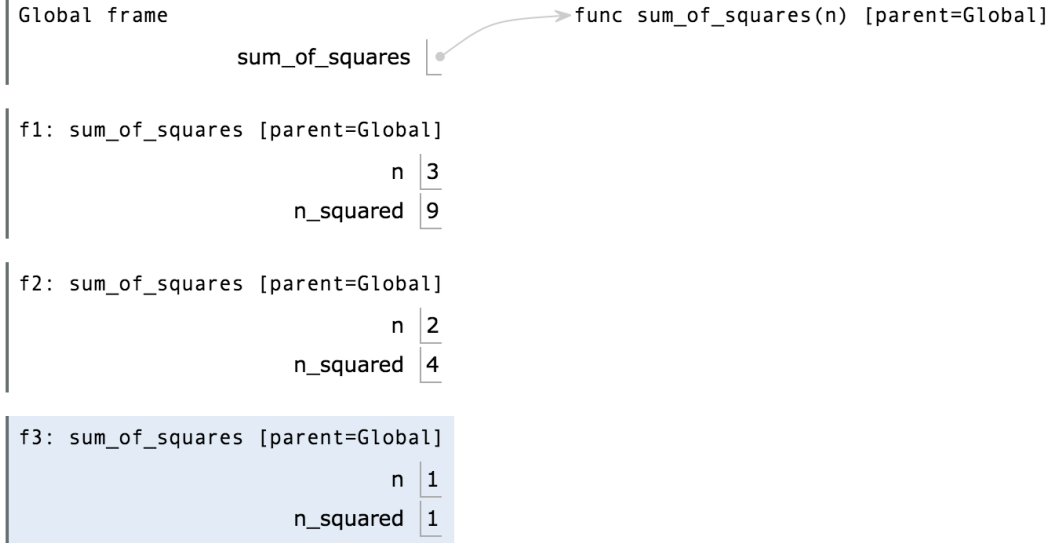
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that has just executed
t line to execute

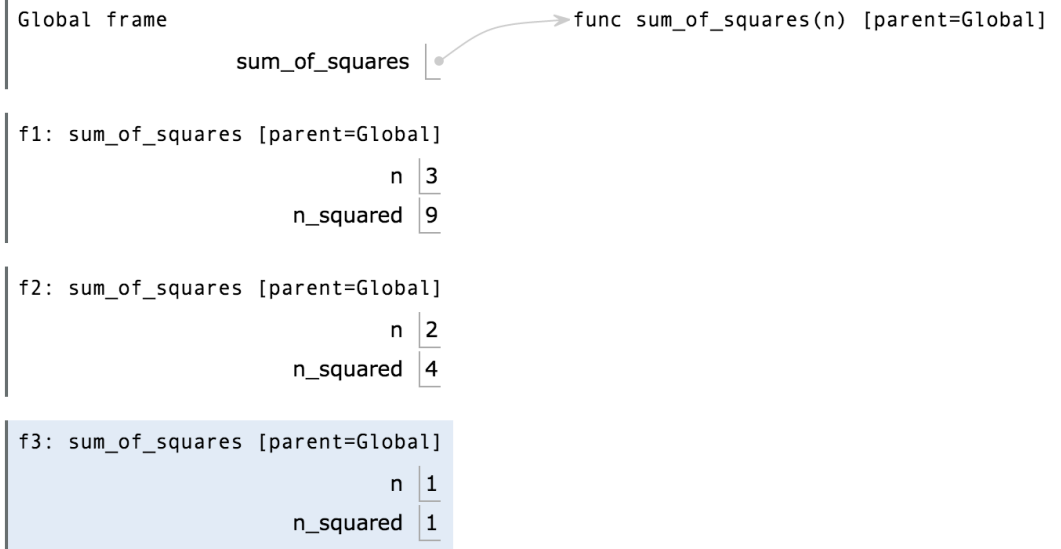
Frames

Objects



Frames

Objects





Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

[Edit code](#)

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Line that has just executed
Next line to execute

Frames

Objects

Global frame

sum_of_squares

func sum_of_squares(n) [parent=Global]

f1: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n | 3

n_squared | 9

f2: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n | 2

n_squared | 4

f3: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n | 1

n_squared | 1

Return value | 1



Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

[Edit code](#)

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Line that has just executed
Next line to execute

Frames

Objects

Global frame

sum_of_squares

func sum_of_squares(n) [parent=Global]

f1: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n 3

n_squared 9

f2: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n 2

n_squared 4

Return value 5

f3: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n 1

n_squared 1

Return value 1



Environments Example

Python 3.3

```

1 def sum_of_squares(n):
2     n_squared = n**2
3     if n == 1:
4         return 1
5     else:
6         return n_squared + sum_of_squares(n-1)
7
8 sum_of_squares(3)

```

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... that has just executed
... xt line to execute

Frames

Objects

Global frame

sum_of_squares

func sum_of_squares(n) [parent=Global]

f1: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n	3
n_squared	9
Return value	14

f2: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n	2
n_squared	4
Return value	5

f3: sum_of_squares [parent=Global]

n	1
n_squared	1
Return value	1



How much ???

- **Time is required to compute `sum_of_squares(n)` ?**
 - Recursively?
 - Iteratively ?
- **Space is required to compute `sum_of_squares(n)` ?**
 - Recursively?
 - Iteratively ?
- **Count the frames...**
- **Recursive is linear, iterative is constant!**

Linear
proportional to n
 cn for some c



Tail Recursion

- All the work happens on the way down the recursion
- On the way back up, just return

```
def sum_up_squares(i, n, accum):  
    """Sum the squares from i to n in incr. order"""  
    if i > n:  
        Base Case  
    else:  
        Tail Recursive Case  
  
>>> sum_up_squares(1, 3, 0)  
14
```



Tree Recursion

- **Break the problem into multiple smaller sub-problems, and Solve them recursively**

```
def split(x, s):
    return [i for i in s if i <= x], [i for i in s if i > x]

def qsort(s):
    """Sort a sequence - split it by the first element,
    sort both parts and put them back together."""
    if not s:
        return []
    else:
        pivot = first(s)
        lessor, more = split(pivot, rest(s))
        return qsort(lessor) + [pivot] + qsort(more)

>>> qsort([3,3,1,4,5,4,3,2,1,17])
[1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 17]
```



QuickSort Example

[3, 3, 1, 4, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 17]

[3, 1, 3, 2, 1]

[4, 5, 4, 17]

[1, 3, 2, 1]

[]

[4]

[5, 17]

[1]

[3, 2]

[] []

[] [17]

[] []

[2] []

[4]

[] []

[1]

[] []

[5, 17]

[2, 3]

[4, 4, 5, 17]

[1, 1, 2, 3]

[1, 1, 2, 3, 3]

[1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 17]



Tree Recursion with HOF

```
def qsort(s):
    """Sort a sequence - split it by the first element,
    sort both parts and put them back together."""

    if not s:
        return []
    else:
        pivot = first(s)
        lessor, more = split_fun(leq_maker(pivot), rest(s))
        return qsort(lessor) + [pivot] + qsort(more)

>>> qsort([3,3,1,4,5,4,3,2,1,17])
[1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 17]
```



Computational Concepts Toolbox

- **Data type: values, literals, operations,**
 - e.g., int, float, string
- **Expressions, Call expression**
- **Variables**
- **Assignment Statement**
- **Sequences: tuple, list**
 - indexing
- **Data structures**
- **Tuple assignment**
- **Call Expressions**
- **Function Definition Statement**
- **Conditional Statement**
- **Iteration:**
 - data-driven (list comprehension)
 - control-driven (for statement)
 - while statement
- **Higher Order Functions**
 - Functions as Values
 - Functions with functions as argument
 - Assignment of function values
- **Recursion**
- **Environment Diagrams**





Answers for the Wandering Mind

The computer chooses a random element x of the list generated by `range(0,n)`. What is the smallest amount of iteration/recursion steps the best algorithm needs to guess x ?

$\log_2 n$

How would the algorithm look like?

Guess the binary digits of x starting with the highest significant digit. This is, ask questions of the form

“smaller than 2^{n-1} ?” (yes \Rightarrow 0...),

“smaller than 2^{n-2} ?” (no \Rightarrow 0 1...),

“smaller than $2^{n-2}+2^{n-3}$?”, ...

This method is also called: binary search