

# Question – How difficult is the triplet project on a scale 1 – 10 ?

- a) 1 (I'm offended by how trivial the project was)
- b) 2 (very easy)
- c) 3 (a quite standard review exercise)
- d) 4 (not too complicated, got some known concepts repeated)
- e) 5 (good exercise to repeat standard programming techniques)
- f) 6 (had to use more advanced techniques in a familiar way)
- g) 7 (quite complicated, but manageable)
- h) 8 (very abstract exercise, using complicated language constructs)
- i) 9 (very complicated – barely manageable spending all my time)
- j) 10 (this is a research project – could be an MSc thesis/PhD project)
- k) 25 (this is wayyy too complicated for a university course)

# Functions as objects

- lambda
- higher-order functions
- map, filter, reduce

# Aliasing functions – both user defined and builtin

Python shell

```
> def square(x):  
    return x * x  
> square  
| <function square at 0x0329A390>  
> square(8)  
| 64  
> kvadrat = square  
> kvadrat(5)  
| 25  
> len  
| <built-in function len>  
> length = len  
> length([1, 2, 3])  
| 3
```

# Functions as values

square\_or\_double.py

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

def double(x):
    return 2 * x

while True:
    answer = input("square or double ? ")
    if answer == "square":
        f = square
        break
    if answer == "double":
        f = double
        break

answer = input("numbers: ")
L_in = [int(x) for x in answer.split()]
L_out = [f(x) for x in L_in]
print(L_out)
```

f will refer to one of the functions  
square and double refer to  
call the function f is referring to  
with argument x

Python shell

```
| square or double ? square
| numbers: 3 6 7 9
| [9, 36, 49, 81]
|
| square or double ? double
| numbers: 2 3 4 7 9
| [4, 6, 8, 14, 18]
```

# Functions as values and namespaces

## say.py

```
def what_says(name):  
    def say(message):  
        print(name, "says:", message)  
    return say  
  
alice = what_says("Alice")  
peter = what_says("Peter")  
  
alice("Where is Peter?")  
peter("I am here")
```


## Python shell

```
| Alice says: Where is Peter?  
| Peter says: I am here
```

- `what_says` is a function returning a function (`say`)
- Each call to `what_says` with a single string as its argument **creates a new `say` function** with the current `name` argument in its namespace
- In each call to a an instance of a `say` function, `name` refers to the string in the namespace when the function was created, and `message` is the string given as an argument in the call

# Question – What list is printed ?

```
def f(x):  
    def g(y):  
        nonlocal x  
        x = x + 1  
        return x + y  
    return g  
  
a = f(3)  
b = f(6)  
print([a(3), b(2), a(4)])
```

- a) [7, 7, 10]
- b) [7, 9, 8]
-  c) [7, 9, 9]
- d) [7, 9, 12]
- e) [7, 10, 10]
- f) Don't know

# map

- `map(function, list)` applies the function to each element of the sequence `list`
- `map(function, list1, ..., listk)` requires `function` to take `k` arguments, and creates a sequence with the `i`'th element being `function(list1[i], ..., listk[i])`

## Python shell

```
> def square(x):  
    return x*x  
  
> list(map(square, [1,2,3,4,5]))  
| [1, 4, 9, 16, 25]  
  
> def triple_sum(x, y, z):  
    return x + y + z  
  
> list(map(triple_sum, [1,2,3], [4,5,6], [7,8,9]))  
| [12, 15, 18]
```

# sorted

- A list `L` can be sorted using `sorted(L)`
- A user defined order on the elements can be defined by providing a function using the keyword argument `key`, that maps elements to values with some default ordering

## Python shell

```
> def length_square(p):  
    x, y = p  
    return x**2 + y**2 # no sqrt  
  
> L = [(5,3), (2,5), (1,9), (2,2), (3,4)]  
> list(map(length_square, L))  
| [34, 29, 82, 8, 25]  
> sorted(L) # default lexicographical order  
| [(1, 9), (2, 2), (2, 5), (3, 4), (5, 3)]  
> sorted(L, key=length_square) # order by length  
| [(2, 2), (3, 4), (2, 5), (5, 3), (1, 9)]
```



# Question – What list does sorted produce ?

```
sorted([2, 3, -1, 5, -4, 0, 8, -6], key=abs)
```

a) [-6, -4, -1, 0, 2, 3, 5, 8]

b) [0, 2, 3, 5, 8, -1, -4, -6]



c) [0, -1, 2, 3, -4, 5, -6, 8]

d) [8, 5, 3, 2, 0, -1, -4, -6]

e) [0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8]

f) Don't know

**Python shell**

```
> abs(7)
```

```
| 7
```

```
> abs(-42)
```

```
| 42
```

# filter

- `filter(function, list)` returns the subsequence of `list` where `function` evaluates to true
- Essentially the same as

```
[x for x in list if function(x)]
```

## Python shell

```
> def odd(x):  
    return x % 2 == 1  
  
> filter(odd, range(10))  
| <filter object at 0x03970FD0>  
> list(filter(odd, range(10)))  
| [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
```

# reduce (in module functools)

- Python's "reduce" function is in other languages often denoted "fold"

$$\text{reduce}(f, [x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_k]) = f(\dots f(f(x_1, x_2), x_3) \dots, x_k)$$

## Python shell

```
> from functools import reduce
> def power(x, y):
    return x**y
> reduce(power, [2, 2, 2, 2, 2])
| 65536
```

# lambda (anonymous functions)

- If you need to define a *short* function, that *returns a value*, and the function is only *used once* in your program, then a lambda function might be appropriate:

```
lambda arguments: expression
```

- Creates a function with no name that takes zero or more arguments, and returns the value of the single expression

## Python shell

```
> f = lambda x, y : x + y
> f(2, 3)
| 5
> list(filter(lambda x: x % 2, range(10)))
| [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]
```

# Examples: sorted using lambda

## Python shell

```
> L = [ 'AHA', 'Oasis', 'ABBA', 'Beatles', 'AC/DC', 'B. B. King', 'Bangles', 'Alan Parsons']
> # Sort by length, secondary after input position (default, known as stable)
> sorted(L, key=len)
| ['AHA', 'ABBA', 'Oasis', 'AC/DC', 'Beatles', 'Bangles', 'B. B. King', 'Alan Parsons']
> # Sort by length, secondary alphabetically
> sorted(L, key=lambda s: (len(s), s))
| ['AHA', 'ABBA', 'AC/DC', 'Oasis', 'Bangles', 'Beatles', 'B. B. King', 'Alan Parsons']
> # Sort by most 'a's, if equal by number of 'b's, etc.
> sorted(L, key=lambda s: sorted([a.lower() for a in s if a.isalpha()] + ['~']))
| ['Alan Parsons', 'ABBA', 'AHA', 'Beatles', 'Bangles', 'AC/DC', 'Oasis', 'B. B. King']
> sorted([a.lower() for a in 'Beatles' if a.isalpha()] + ['~'])
| ['a', 'b', 'e', 'e', 'l', 's', 't', '~']
```

# History of lambda in programming languages

- lambda calculus invented by Alonzo Church in 1930s
- Lisp has had lambdas since 1958
- C++ got lambdas in C++11 in 2011
- Java first got lambdas in Java 8 in 2014