

High-order functions



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- Decorators are a little piece of functional programming
- Generator expressions are also a form of functional programming



Functions

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Functions are first-class citizens in Python:
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...    return x
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In this case, the first style is preferred. It's a bit easier to read, not to mention it's actually named.



42

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 $\mathtt{min}/\mathtt{max}$ gets the minimum or maximum value from an iterable, optionally using a key function to select by.



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Example:

```
x = min(points, key=lambda p:dist(p, z))
```



zip

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Pro Tip: Iterating over the columns of a 2D matrix

```
for col in zip(*M):
    # do something with each column
```



Other Functional Things

map(func, *iterables), which calls func(*t) for all t in zip(*iterables). Note that map is completely unnecessary as the same can be done using generator expressions. Under a few cases, it may be better to use map to improve readability.



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- map(func, *iterables), which calls func(*t) for all t in zip(*iterables). Note that map is completely unnecessary as the same can be done using generator expressions. Under a few cases, it may be better to use map to improve readability.
- reduce(func, sequence) which reduces a sequence by calling func(func(a, b), c), ...). This is useful for taking the product of a sequence (use operator.mul)

Recommended Reading

The **Functional Programming HOWTO** page in the Python documentation has some very useful tips for functional programming. https://docs.python.org/howto/functional.html

