

## Anonymous Functions: lambda

- ❖ Python also provides an expression form that generates function objects, it's called lambda
- ❖ Lambda returns the function instead of assigning it to a name, This is why lambdas are sometimes known as *anonymous* (i.e., unnamed) functions
- ❖ The lambda's general form:

```
lambda argument1, argument2,... argumentN : expression using arguments
```

- ❖ lambda is an expression, not a statement.
- ❖ lambda's body is a single expression, not a block of statements.

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## Anonymous Functions: lambda

```
>>> def func(x, y, z): return x + y + z
>>> func(2, 3, 4)
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>>> f = lambda x, y, z: x + y + z
>>> f(2, 3, 4)
9
>>> def knights():
    title = 'Sir'
    action = (lambda x: title + ' ' + x)      # Title in enclosing def scope
    return action                            # Return a function object
>>> act = knights()
>>> msg = act('robin')                      # 'robin' passed to x
>>> msg
'Sir robin'
>>> act                                     # act: a function, not its result
<function knights.<locals>.<lambda> at 0x00000000029CA488>
```

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## Multiway branch switches: The finale

```
>>> key = 'got'
>>> {'already': (lambda: 2 + 2),
     'got':     (lambda: 2 * 4),
     'one':     (lambda: 2 ** 6)}[key]()
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>>> def f1(): return 2 + 2

>>> def f2(): return 2 * 4

>>> def f3(): return 2 ** 6

>>> key = 'one'
>>> {'already': f1, 'got': f2, 'one': f3}[key]()
64
```