

# Scope (1A)

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# Python Scope

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A **variable** is only available from inside the **region** it is created.

This is called **scope**.

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Local Scope

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A **variable** created inside a **function** belongs to the **local scope** of that **function**, and can only be used inside that **function**.

A variable created inside a **function** is available inside that **function**:

```
def myfunc():
```

```
    x = 300  
    print(x)
```

```
myfunc()
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Function Inside Function

the **variable x** is not available outside the function,  
but it is available for any function inside the function:

The **local variable** can be accessed  
from a **function within** the **function**:

```
def myfunc():  
    x = 300  
    def myinnerfunc():  
        print(x)  
    myinnerfunc()
```

```
myfunc()
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Global Scope

A variable created in the **main body** of the Python code is a **global variable** and belongs to the **global scope**.

Global variables are available from within any scope, global and local.

A variable created outside of a **function** is **global** and can be used by anyone:

```
x = 300
```

```
def myfunc():  
    print(x)
```

```
myfunc()
```

```
print(x)
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Naming Variables

If you operate with the same variable name inside and outside of a function, Python will treat them as two separate variables, one available in the global scope (outside the function) and one available in the local scope (inside the function):

The function will print the local x (= 300), and then the code will print the global x (= 200):

```
x = 300
```

```
def myfunc():  
    x = 200  
    print(x)           # local x (=200)  
  
myfunc()  
  
print(x)              # global x (= 300)
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Global Keyword (1)

If you need to create a **global variable**, but are stuck in the **local scope**, you can use the **global keyword**.

The **global keyword** makes the variable **global**.

If you use the **global** keyword, the variable belongs to the **global scope**:

```
def myfunc():  
    global x  
    x = 300          # global x (= 300)  
  
myfunc()  
  
print(x)           # global x (= 300)
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Global Keyword (2)

Also, use the **global** keyword if you want to make a change to a **global variable** inside a **function**.

To change the value of a **global variable** inside a **function**, refer to the variable by using the **global** keyword:

```
x = 300
```

```
def myfunc():  
    global x  
    x = 200
```

```
myfunc()
```

```
print(x)           # global x (= 200)
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/python\\_scope.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/python_scope.asp)

# Variable Scope

how to initialize a variable.

the **scope** of these variables

Not all variables can be accessed from anywhere in a program.

The part of a program where a variable is accessible is called its **scope**.

here are four major types of **variable scope** and is the basis for the **LEGB rule**.

**LEGB** stands for **Local** -> **Enclosing** -> **Global** -> **Built-in**.

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Local Scope

Whenever you define a **variable** within a **function**, its **scope** lies ONLY within the **function**.

It is accessible **from** the point at which it is defined until the end of the **function** and exists for as long as the function is executing

Which means its value cannot be changed or even accessed from outside the **function**.

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Enclosing Scope

What if we have a nested function  
(function defined inside another function)?

```
def outer():  
    first_num = 1  
    def inner():  
        second_num = 2  
        # Print statement 1 - Scope: Inner  
        print("first_num from outer: ", first_num)  
        # Print statement 2 - Scope: Inner  
        print("second_num from inner: ", second_num)  
    inner()  
    # Print statement 3 - Scope: Outer  
    print("second_num from inner: ", second_num)
```

outer()

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Enclosing Scope

```
first_num from outer: 1
second_num from inner: 2
```

-----  
NameError Traceback (most recent call last)

```
<ipython-input-4-13943a1eb01e> in <module>
    11 print("second_num from inner: ", second_num)
    12
--> 13 outer()
```

```
<ipython-input-4-13943a1eb01e> in outer()
     9 inner()
    10 # Print statement 3 - Scope: Outer
--> 11 print("second_num from inner: ", second_num)
    12
    13 outer()
```

NameError: name 'second\_num' is not defined

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Enclosing Scope

an error

because you cannot access `second_num` from `outer()` (# Print statement 3). It is not defined within that function.

However, you can access `first_num` from `inner()` (# Print statement 1), because the scope of `first_num` is larger, it is within `outer()`. This is an **enclosing scope**.

**Outer's** variables have a larger scope and can be accessed from the enclosed function `inner()`.

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Global Scope

Whenever a **variable** is defined outside any **function**, it becomes a **global variable**, and its scope is anywhere within the program.

Which means it can be used by any **function**.

```
greeting = "Hello"
```

```
def greeting_world():  
    world = "World"  
    print(greeting, world)
```

```
def greeting_name(name):  
    print(greeting, name)
```

```
greeting_world()  
greeting_name("Samuel")
```

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Built-in Scope

This is the widest **scope**

All the special reserved **keywords**  
are under **built-in scope**.

We can call the **keywords**  
anywhere within our program  
without having to define them before use.

**keywords** are simply special reserved words.

They are kept for specific purposes  
and cannot be used for any other purpose in the program.

These are the keywords in Python:

Keywords in Python

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Python Keywords

<b>False</b>	<b>class</b>	<b>finally</b>	<b>is</b>	<b>return</b>
<b>None</b>	<b>continue</b>	<b>for</b>	<b>lambda</b>	<b>try</b>
<b>True</b>	<b>def</b>	<b>from</b>	<b>nonlocal</b>	<b>while</b>
<b>And</b>	<b>del</b>	<b>global</b>	<b>not</b>	<b>with</b>
<b>as</b>	<b>elif</b>	<b>if</b>	<b>or</b>	<b>yield</b>
<b>assert</b>	<b>else</b>	<b>import</b>	<b>pass</b>	
<b>break</b>	<b>except</b>	<b>in</b>	<b>raise</b>	

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# LEGB Rule

LEGB (**Local** -> **Enclosing** -> **Global** -> **Built-in**)  
is the logic followed by a Python interpreter  
when it is executing your program.

Let's say you're calling **print(x)** within **inner()**,  
which is a function nested in **outer()**.

Then Python will first look  
if "x" was defined locally within **inner()**.

If not, the variable defined in **outer()** will be used.  
This is the **enclosing function**.

If it also wasn't defined there,  
the Python interpreter will go up another level  
- to the **global scope**.

Above that, you will only find the **built-in scope**,  
which contains special variables reserved for Python itself.

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# LEGB Rule

```
# Global scope
X = 0

def outer():
    # Enclosed scope
    X = 1

    def inner():
        # Local scope
        X = 2
```

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Global scope example

to change the global variable **greeting** ("Hello")  
to set a new **value** ("Hi")

```
greeting = "Hello"
```

```
def change_greeting(new_greeting):  
    greeting = new_greeting
```

```
def greeting_world():  
    world = "World"  
    print(greeting, world)
```

```
change_greeting("Hi")  
greeting_world()
```

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Global scope example

---

because when we set the value of **greeting** to "Hi", it created a new **local variable greeting** in the scope of `change_greeting()`.

It did not change anything for the global greeting.

This is where the **global keyword** comes in handy.

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Global keyword example

With `global` keyword, can use the `globally defined` variable instead of `locally creating` one.

```
greeting = "Hello"
```

```
def change_greeting(new_greeting):  
    global greeting  
    greeting = new_greeting
```

```
def greeting_world():  
    world = "World"  
    print(greeting, world)
```

```
change_greeting("Hi")  
greeting_world()
```

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Non-local keyword example

The `nonlocal` keyword is useful in `nested functions`. It causes the variable to refer to the previously bound variable in the closest enclosing scope.

it will prevent the variable from trying to `bind locally first`, and force it to go a `level 'higher up'`.

```
def outer():  
    first_num = 1  
    def inner():  
        nonlocal first_num  
        first_num = 0  
        second_num = 1  
        print("inner - second_num is: ", second_num)  
    inner()  
    print("outer - first_num is: ", first_num)
```

```
outer()
```

<https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/scope-of-variables-python>

# Scoping rule (1)

Actually, a concise rule for Python Scope resolution, from Learning Python, 3rd. Ed.

these rules are specific to **variable names**, not **attributes**. If you reference it without a **period**, these rules apply.

## LEGB Rule

### Local

Names assigned in any way within a **function** (**def** or **lambda**), and not declared **global** in that function

### Enclosing-function

Names assigned in the **local scope** of any and all **statically enclosing functions** (**def** or **lambda**), from inner to outer

### Global (module)

Names assigned at the **top-level** of a **module file**, or by executing a **global** statement in a **def** within the file

### Built-in (Python)

Names preassigned in the **built-in names module**: *open*, *range*, *SyntaxError*, etc

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (2)

```
code1
class Foo:
code2
    def spam():
code3
        for code4:
code5
            x()
```

The **for** loop does not have its own **namespace**.  
In LEGB order, the scopes would be

- L: **Local** in **def** spam (in code3, code4, and code5)
- E: Any **enclosing** functions (if the whole example were in another def)
- G: Were there any **x** declared **globally** in the module (in code1)?
- B: Any **builtin** **x** in Python.

x will never be found in code2  
(even in cases where you might expect it would, see Antti's answer or here).

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (3-1)

```
from __future__ import print_function # for python 2 support
```

```
x = 100
```

```
print("1. Global x:", x)
```

```
class Test(object):
```

```
    y = x
```

```
    print("2. Enclosed y:", y)
```

```
    x = x + 1
```

```
    print("3. Enclosed x:", x)
```

```
    def method(self):
```

```
        print("4. Enclosed self.x", self.x)
```

```
        print("5. Global x", x)
```

```
        try:
```

```
            print(y)
```

```
        except NameError as e:
```

```
            print("6.", e)
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

## Scoping rule (3-2)

```
def method_local_ref(self):  
    try:  
        print(x)  
    except UnboundLocalError as e:  
        print("7.", e)  
    x = 200 # causing 7 because has same name  
    print("8. Local x", x)
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (4)

```
inst = Test()  
inst.method()  
inst.method_local_ref()
```

output:

1. Global x: 100
2. Enclosed y: 100
3. Enclosed x: 101
4. Enclosed self.x 101
5. Global x 100
6. global name 'y' is not defined
7. local variable 'x' referenced before assignment
8. Local x 200

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (5-1)

---

Essentially, the only thing in Python that introduces a new scope is a function definition.

Classes are a bit of a special case in that anything defined directly in the body is placed in the class's namespace, but they are not directly accessible from within the methods (or nested classes) they contain.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (5-2)

In your example there are only 3 scopes where x will be searched in:

**spam's scope** - containing everything defined in code3 and code5 (as well as code4, your loop variable)

**The global scope** - containing everything defined in code1, as well as Foo (and whatever changes after it)

**The builtins namespace.** A bit of a special case - this contains the various Python builtin functions and types such as len() and str(). Generally this shouldn't be modified by any user code, so expect it to contain the standard functions and nothing else.

```
code1
class Foo:
code2
    def spam():
code3
        for code4:
code5
            x()
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (6)

More scopes only appear when you introduce a nested function (or lambda).

These will behave pretty much as you'd expect however.

The **nested function** can access everything in the **local scope**, as well as anything in the **enclosing function's scope**.

```
def foo():  
    x=4  
    def bar():  
        print x          # Accesses x from foo's scope  
    bar()                # Prints 4  
    x=5  
    bar()                # Prints 5
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (7)

---

Restrictions:

Variables in scopes other than the local function's variables can be accessed, but can't be rebound to new parameters without further syntax.

Instead, assignment will create a new local variable instead of affecting the variable in the parent scope.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (7)

```
global_var1 = []  
global_var2 = 1
```

```
def func():
```

```
    # This is OK: It's just accessing, not rebinding
```

```
    global_var1.append(4)
```

```
    # This won't affect global_var2. Instead it creates a new variable
```

```
    global_var2 = 2
```

```
    local1 = 4
```

```
        def embedded_func():
```

```
            # Again, this doesn't affect func's local1 variable. It creates a  
            # new local variable also called local1 instead.
```

```
            local1 = 5
```

```
            print local1
```

```
    embedded_func() # Prints 5
```

```
    print local1   # Prints 4
```

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Scoping rule (8)

In order to actually modify the bindings of global variables from within a function scope, you need to specify that the variable is **global** with the **global** keyword. Eg:

```
global_var = 4
```

```
def change_global():  
    global global_var  
    global_var = global_var + 1
```

Currently there is no way to do the same for variables in enclosing function scopes,

but **Python 3** introduces a new keyword, "**nonlocal**" which will act in a similar way to **global**, but for **nested function scopes**.

<https://stackoverflow.com/questions/291978/short-description-of-the-scoping-rules>

# Non-local (1)

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## Definition and Usage

The `nonlocal` keyword is used to work with variables inside nested functions, where the variable should not belong to the inner function.

Use the keyword `nonlocal` to declare that the variable is not local.

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref\\_keyword\\_nonlocal.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref_keyword_nonlocal.asp)

## Non-local (2)

Make a function inside a function, which uses the variable x as a non local variable:

```
def myfunc1():  
    x = "John"  
    def myfunc2():  
        nonlocal x  
        x = "hello"  
    myfunc2()  
    return x  
  
print(myfunc1())
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref\\_keyword\\_nonlocal.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref_keyword_nonlocal.asp)

# Non-local (2)

Same example as above, but without the nonlocal keyword:

```
def myfunc1():  
    x = "John"  
    def myfunc2():  
        x = "hello"  
    myfunc2()  
    return x  
  
print(myfunc1())
```

[https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref\\_keyword\\_nonlocal.asp](https://www.w3schools.com/python/ref_keyword_nonlocal.asp)