

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
6.001 Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs
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Higher Order Procedures Practice (Mike Leventon)

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1. Write a function *swap* that takes a function *f*, and returns a function that takes two arguments, and returns *f* with the variables swapped: $(f\ x\ y) == ((\text{swap } f)\ y\ x)$ For example, $((\text{swap } -)\ 4\ 5)\ 1$.

2. Composing functions

Now try to write the function *compose* that takes two functions, *f* and *g*, and returns a function, that takes one argument, and composes *f* and *g* on that argument.

Example: composing *double* and *cube* means take the double of the cube of *x*
 $((\text{compose } \text{double } \text{cube})\ 3) \Rightarrow (\text{double } (\text{cube } 3)) \Rightarrow 54$

3. Using *compose*, define the function $f^{3/2}$ which takes a number *x* and computes $x^{3/2}$.

4. Repeated Composition of Functions

We saw how to compose two functions to produce another function. For example, we can define the following:

```
(define fourth-power (compose square square))  
(define eight-power (compose square (compose square square)))  
... and so on ...
```

Write a recursive procedure called *repeat* that takes a function *f* and an integer *n*, and composes *f*, *n* times. For example:

(define fourth-power (repeat square 2))

(define eight-power (repeat square 3))

... and so on ...

5. Iterative Repeat: Write a version that creates the repeat procedure iteratively by calling *compose*. (Note: The procedure created will run as a recursive procedure.)

6. Iterative Repeated 2: Write a version of *repeat* that creates a procedure that will run as an iterative procedure. (Hint: Do not use *compose*.)