

Final words on variable scope



FEB 28TH

A variable cannot be both local and global in the same function



```
def foo():  
    if y == "hello":  
        print "Hello to you as well!"
```

Here y is a global variable

```
    y = "hi"  
    print y
```

And here y is a local variable

```
y = "hello"  
foo()
```

- We need yet another version of our mental model!

Mental model: version 1.2



- Here is an “even more correct” version of item (4)

When Python starts executing a function, the statements of the function are first examined to get the names of variables that might be assigned a value in the function. If a variable x might be assigned in the function, but is not explicitly *global*, then it is local. If a variable is not local by this criterion, then by default it is global.