

CS61A Lecture 18

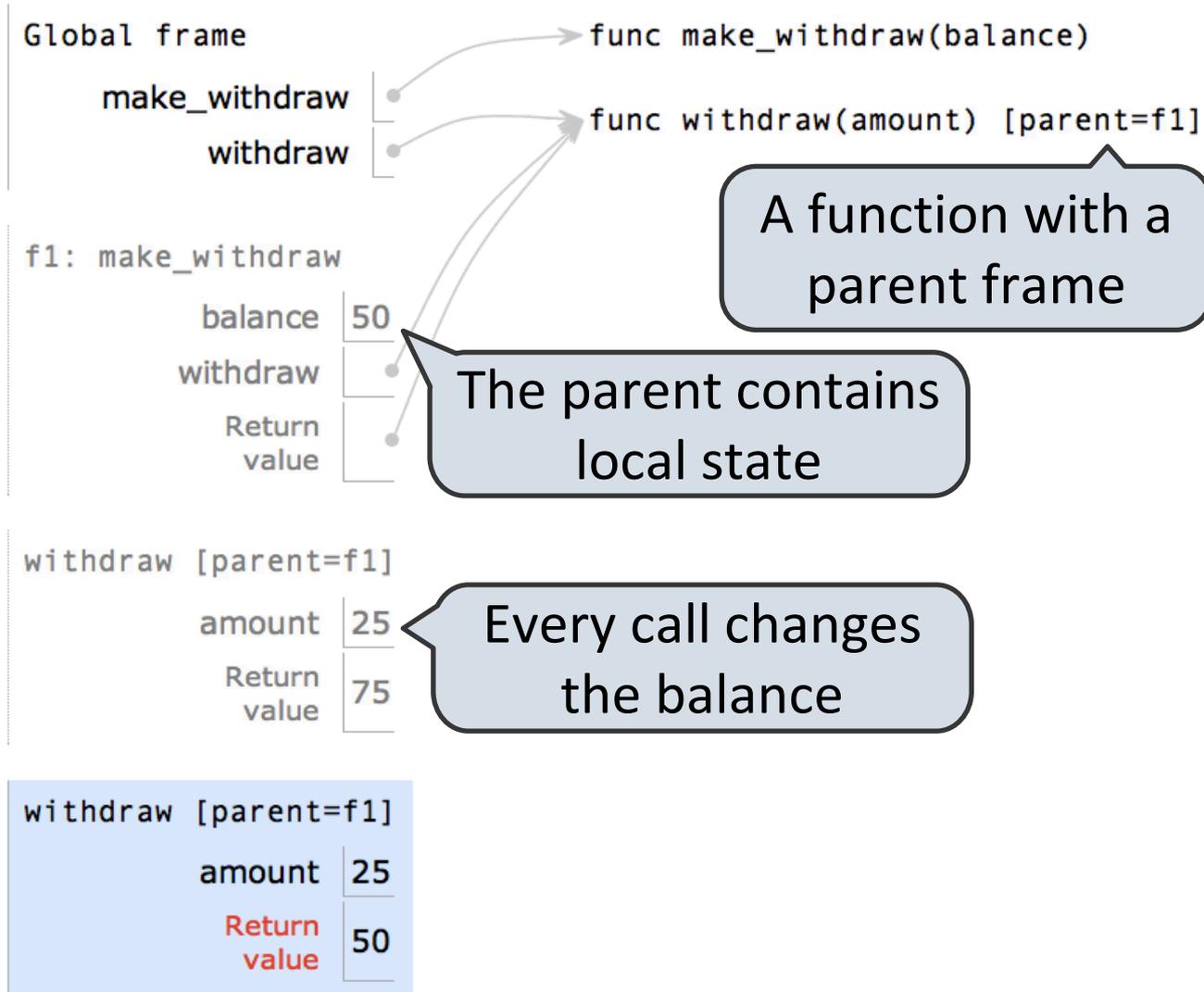
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Announcements



- HW6 due on Thursday
- Trends project due tomorrow
- Ants project out

Persistent Local State



Example: <http://goo.gl/5LZ6F>

Non-Local Assignment



```
def make_withdraw(balance):
```

```
    """Return a withdraw function with a starting balance."""
```

```
    def withdraw(amount):
```

```
        nonlocal balance
```

Declare the name
"balance" nonlocal

```
        if amount > balance:
```

```
            return 'Insufficient funds'
```

```
        balance = balance - amount
```

```
        return balance
```

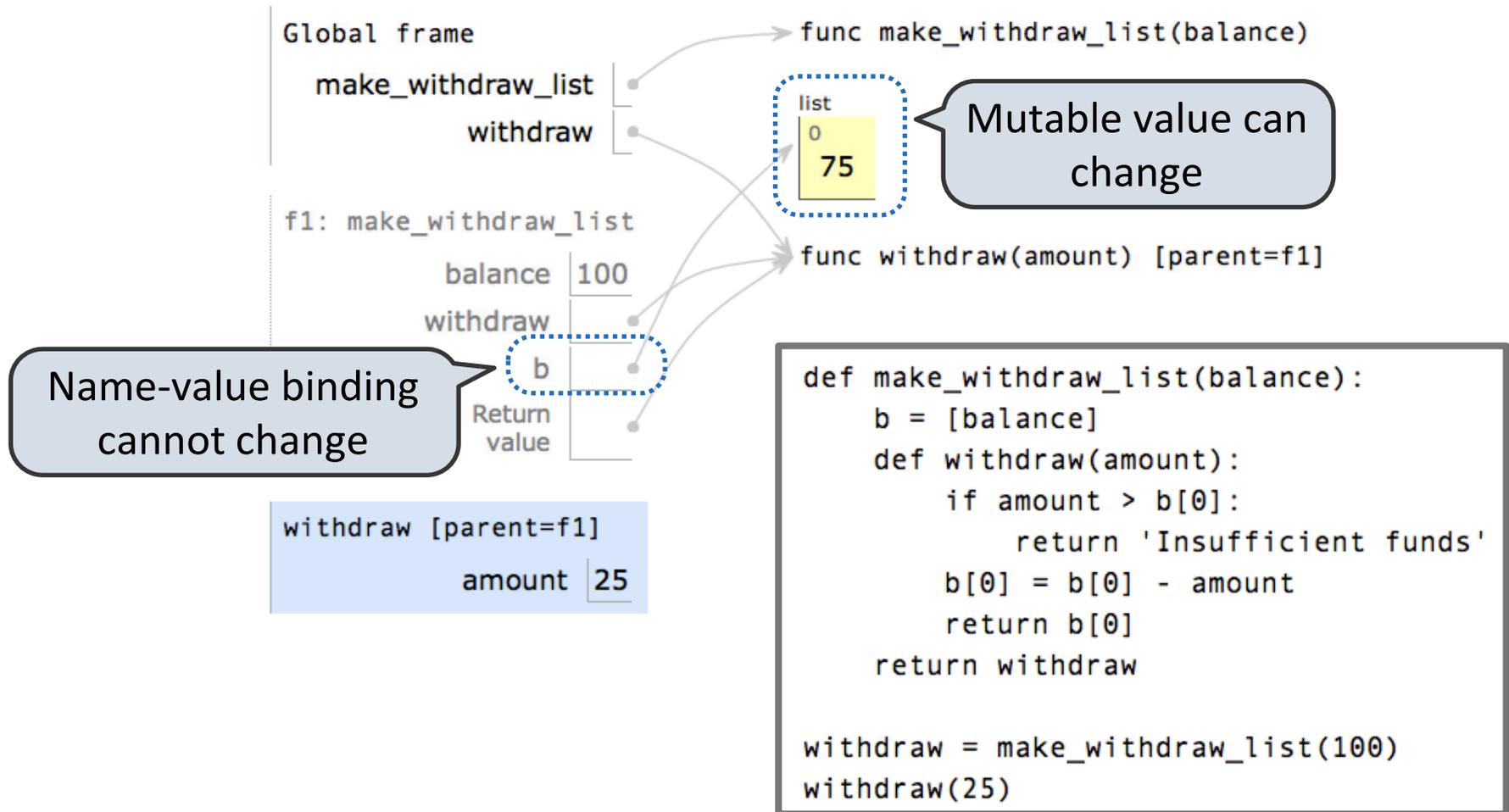
Re-bind balance
where it was
bound previously

```
    return withdraw
```

Mutable Values and Persistent State

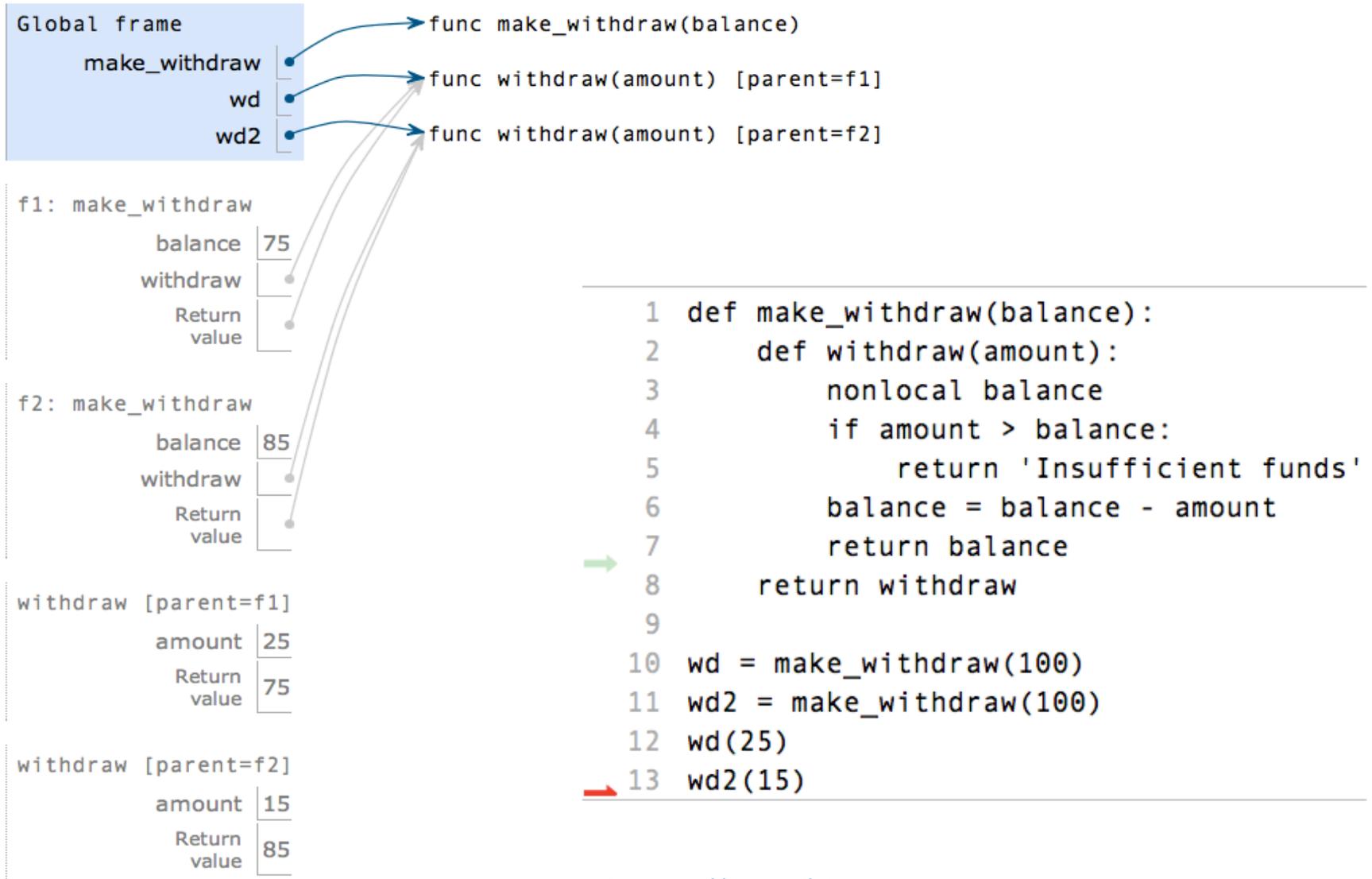


Mutable values can be changed without a nonlocal statement.



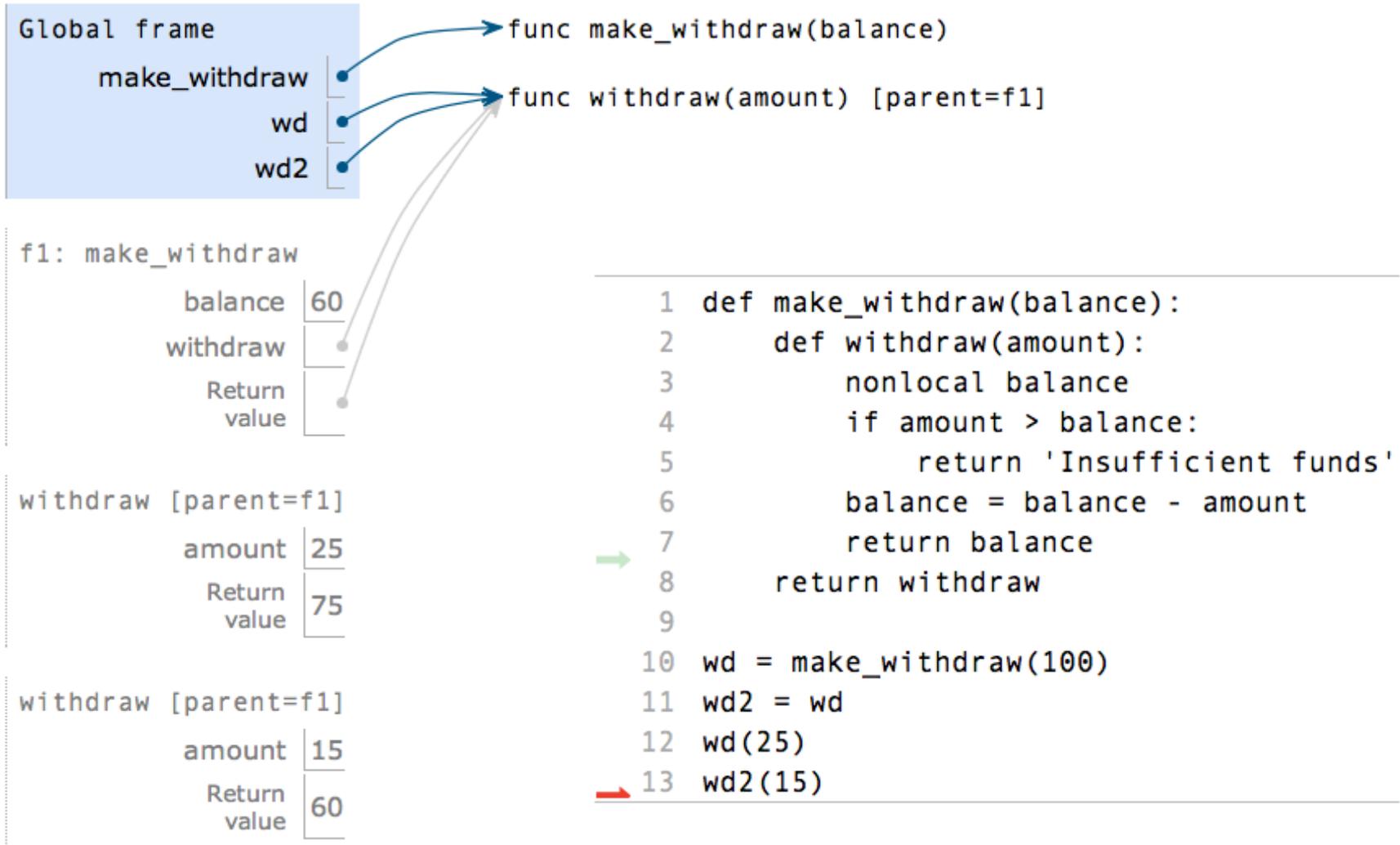
Example: <http://goo.gl/cEpmz>

Creating Two Withdraw Functions



Example: <http://goo.gl/gITyB>

Multiple References to a Withdraw Function

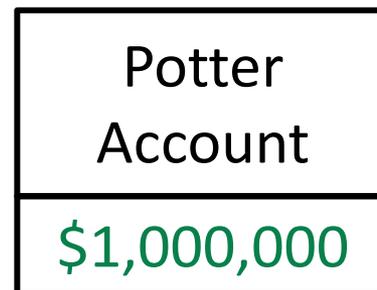


Example: <http://goo.gl/X2qG9>

The Benefits of Non-Local Assignment



- Ability to maintain some state that is local to a function, but evolves over successive calls to that function.
- The binding for balance in the first non-local frame of the environment associated with an instance of withdraw is inaccessible to the rest of the program.
- An abstraction of a bank account that manages its own internal state.



Referential Transparency



Expressions are referentially transparent if substituting an expression with its value does not change the meaning of a program.



```
mul(add(2, mul(4, 6)), 3)
mul(add(2,      24    ), 3)
mul(      26      , 3)
```



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Mutation is a *side effect* (like printing)

Side effects violate the condition of referential transparency because they do more than just return a value; they change the state of the computer.

A Mutable Container



```
def container(contents):
    """Return a container that is manipulated by two
    functions.

    >>> get, put = container('hello')
    >>> get()
    'hello'
    >>> put('world')
    >>> get()
    'world'
    """

    def get():
        return contents

    def put(value):
        nonlocal contents
        contents = value

    return put, get
```

Dispatch Functions



A technique for packing multiple behaviors into one function

```
def pair(x, y):  
    """Return a function that behaves like a pair."""  
    def dispatch(m):  
        if m == 0:  
            return x  
        elif m == 1:  
            return y  
    return dispatch
```

Message argument can be anything, but strings are most common

The body of a dispatch function is always the same:

- One conditional statement with several clauses
- Headers perform equality tests on the message

Message Passing



An approach to organizing the relationship among different pieces of a program

Different objects pass messages to each other

- What is your fourth element?
- Change your third element to this new value. (please?)

Encapsulates the behavior of all operations on a piece of data

Important historical role:
The message passing approach strongly influenced object-oriented programming
(next lecture)



Mutable Container with Message Passing



```
def container_dispatch(contents):  
    def dispatch(message,  
                  value=None):  
        nonlocal contents  
        if message == 'get':  
            return contents  
        if message == 'put':  
            contents = value  
    return dispatch  
  
def container(contents):  
    def get():  
        return contents  
    def put(value):  
        nonlocal contents  
        contents = value  
    return put, get
```

The diagram consists of two horizontal double-headed arrows. The top arrow connects the `dispatch` function in the `container_dispatch` block to the `get` function in the `container` block. The bottom arrow connects the `put` function in the `container_dispatch` block to the `put` function in the `container` block.

Mutable Recursive Lists



```
def mutable_rlist():
    contents = empty_rlist
    def dispatch(message, value=None):
        nonlocal contents
        if message == 'len':
            return len_rlist(contents)
        elif message == 'getitem':
            return getitem_rlist(contents, value)
        elif message == 'push':
            contents = make_rlist(value, contents)
        elif message == 'pop':
            item = first(contents)
            contents = rest(contents)
            return item
        elif message == 'str':
            return str_rlist(contents)
    return dispatch
```