

UNIT 2B An Introduction to Programming (for loops)

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for Loop (simple version)

for loop_variable in range(n):
 loop body

- The loop variable is a new variable name
- The loop body is one or more instructions that you want to repeat.
- If n > 0, the for loop repeats the loop body n times.
- If n <= 0, the entire loop is skipped.
- Remember to indent loop body

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for Loop Example

```
for i in range(5):
      print("hello world")
hello world
hello world
hello world
hello world
hello world
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```

What Happens to Loop Variable?

```
for i in range(5):
         print(i)
0
1
2
3
4
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```

```
Detour: some printing options

for i in range (5):
    print (i, end=" ")
0 1 2 3 4

Blank space after value printed

for i in range (5):
    print (i, end="")
01234

No space after value printed

for i in range (10):
    print (i*2, end="")
0 2 4 6 8 10 12 14 16 18
```

Reminder: Assignment Statements

variable = expression

The expression is evaluated and the result is stored in the variable

• overwrites the previous contents of *variable*.

a = 5

a:

5

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Variables change over time

statement

$$x = 150$$

$$y = x * 10$$

$$y = y + 1$$

$$x = x + y$$

value of x

150

150

1651

value of y

?

1500

1501

1501

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Accumulating an answer

```
def compute_sum():
    # sums first 5 positive integers
    sum = 0
    for i in range(1, 6):
        sum = sum + i
    return sum

compute_sum()
=> 15
```

Accumulating an answer

```
def compute_sum():
    # sums first 5 positive integers
    sum = 0
    for i in range(1, 6):
        sum = sum + i
    return sum
```

	i	sum	
initialize sum	?	0	
iteration 1	1	1	
iteration 2	2	3	
iteration 3	3	6	
iteration 4	4	10	
iteration 5	5	15	

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Generalizing sum

```
def compute_sum(n):
    # sums the first n positive integers
    sum = 0
    for i in range(1, n + 1):
        sum = sum + i
    return sum

compute_sum(6) => 21
compute_sum(100) => 5050
compute_sum(15110) => 114163605
```

Danger! Don't change the loop variable!

```
for i in range(5):
     print(i, end=" ")
      i = 10
                                 Even if you modify the loop
0 1 2 3 4
                                variable in the loop, it will be
                                reset to its next expected
                                value in the next iteration.
for i in range (1,6):
     i = i * 2
                                NEVER modify the loop
     print(i, end=" ")
                                variable inside a for loop.
2 4 6 8 10
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```

Accumulation by multiplying as well as by adding

An epidemic:

```
def compute_sick(n):
    # computes total sick after n days
    total_sick = 1
    newly_sick = 1
    for day in range(2, n + 1):
        # each iteration represents one day
        newly_sick = newly_sick * 2
        total_sick = total_sick + newly_sick
    return total_sick

Each newly infected person infects 2 people the next day.
```

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An epidemic (cont'd)

```
compute sick(1)
                     => 1
                               compute sick(17) \Rightarrow 131071
compute sick(2)
                     => 3
                               compute sick(18) => 262143
compute sick(3)
                     => 7
                               compute sick(19) \Rightarrow 524287
compute sick(4)
                     => 15
                               compute sick(20) => 1048575
compute_sick(5)
                     => 31
                               compute sick(21) => 2097151
compute sick(6)
                     => 63
                     => 127
compute sick(7)
                                      In just three weeks, over
compute sick(8)
                     => 255
                                      2 million people are sick!
compute_sick(9)
compute_sick(10) \Rightarrow 1023
                                      (This is what Blown To Bits
compute sick(11) \Rightarrow 2047
                                      means by exponential growth.
compute_sick(12) \Rightarrow 4095
                                      We will see important
compute sick(13) \Rightarrow 8191
                                      computational problems that
compute sick(14) \Rightarrow 16383
                                      get exponentially "harder" as
compute\_sick(15) \Rightarrow 32767
                                      the problems gets bigger.)
compute sick(16) \Rightarrow 65535
```

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Countdown

Countdown! (an easier way)