



## 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  $n \leq 0$ , 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
```

## What Happens to Loop Variable?

```
for i in range(5):  
    print(i)
```

```
0  
1  
2  
3  
4
```

## 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
```

## Changing the range

```
for i in range(1, 6):  
    print(i, end=" ")  
1 2 3 4 5
```

Increase by 2 each time

```
for j in range(1, 6, 2):  
    print(j, end=" ")  
1 3 5
```

```
for k in range(5, 35, 6):  
    print(k, end=" ")  
5 11 17 23 29 35
```

## 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	value of x	value of y
x = 150	150	?
y = x * 10	150	1500
y = y + 1	150	1501
x = x + y	1651	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

## 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
```

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

## Danger! Don't change the loop variable!

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

```
    i = 10
```

```
0 1 2 3 4
```

Even if you modify the loop 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
```

```
    print(i, end=" ")
```

```
2 4 6 8 10
```

NEVER modify the loop variable inside a for loop.



# 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.

# An epidemic (cont' d)

```
compute_sick(1) => 1  
compute_sick(2) => 3  
compute_sick(3) => 7  
compute_sick(4) => 15  
compute_sick(5) => 31  
compute_sick(6) => 63  
compute_sick(7) => 127  
compute_sick(8) => 255  
compute_sick(9) => 511  
compute_sick(10) => 1023  
compute_sick(11) => 2047  
compute_sick(12) => 4095  
compute_sick(13) => 8191  
compute_sick(14) => 16383  
compute_sick(15) => 32767  
compute_sick(16) => 65535  
compute_sick(17) => 131071  
compute_sick(18) => 262143  
compute_sick(19) => 524287  
compute_sick(20) => 1048575  
compute_sick(21) => 2097151
```

In just three weeks, over 2 million people are sick! (This is what Blown To Bits means by *exponential growth*. We will see important computational problems that get exponentially “harder” as the problems gets bigger.)

## Countdown

```
import time
def countdown():
    for i in range(1, 11)
        print(11 - i)
        time.sleep(1) # pauses for 1 sec.
```

Why can't we just use 10, 0 here and print i instead?

```
countdown()
⇒ 10
⇒ 9
⇒ 8
...
⇒ 1
```

This value gets smaller as i gets bigger.

## Countdown! (an easier way)

```
import time
def countdown():
    for i in range(10, 0, -1):
        print(i)
        time.sleep(1) # pauses for 1 sec.
```

Now i gets smaller at each iteration.

```
countdown()
⇒ 10
⇒ 9
⇒ 8
...
⇒ 1
```