



CSCI 141

Lecture 12:
More turtles

Opening the black box: introduction to functions

Announcements

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- Bring your questions to Wednesday's lecture - QOTDs, coding questions, etc.

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- Exam material: range(functions)

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- Exam material: range(functions)
 - that is, 0 up to but not including writing your own functions (this should be partway through today's lecture)

Goals

- Be able to write programs that make turtles draw simple shapes
- Be able to choose which type of loop (while or for) is best for a given problem.
- Know the syntax for defining your own **functions**
- Know how to define and use functions that take no arguments and return no values
- Know how to define use **parameters** to refer to the input arguments of a function

QOTD

```
for i in range(4):  
    for j in range(3, 6):  
        print("*", end = " ")  
    print()
```

QOTD

```
v = 1
for i in range(1, 6):
    v = v * i
```

Which of the following programs end with v having the same value as the program above?

Program A:

```
v = 1
i = 0
while i < 5:
    i += 1
    v = v * i
```


QOTD

```
v = 1
for i in range(1, 6):
    v = v * i
```

Which of the following programs end with v having the same value as the program above?

Program B:

```
v = 2
for i in range(1, 5):
    v = v * i
```

QOTD

```
v = 1
for i in range(1, 6):
    v = v * i
```

Which of the following programs end with v having the same value as the program above?

Program C:

```
v = 1
for i in range(5):
    v = v * (i + 1)
```

QOTD

```
v = 1
for i in range(1, 6):
    v = v * i
```

Which of the following programs end with v having the same value as the program above?

Program D:

```
v = 1
i = 1
while i <= 5:
    v = v * i
    i += 1
```

A question about `for` loops



```
for value in [1, 16, 4]:  
    print(value)  
    value = value * 10
```

(for_quirk.py)

Last time: Turtles!



Last time: Turtles!



Creating and Using Objects

```
import turtle  
scott = turtle.Turtle()
```

What is this about?

No new syntax here:
We import a module called `turtle`
that has a function called `Turtle`

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what **is** an object? what can it **do**?

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(whiteboard: diagram of assignment statement)

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```
# move the turtle forward 10 units:  
scott.forward(10)  
# turn the turtle left 90 degrees:  
scott.left(90)
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*functions that belong to an object are called its **methods***

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*functions that belong to an object are called its **methods***

What methods do Turtles have? Lots!

Check the docs:

<https://docs.python.org/3.3/library/turtle.html?highlight=turtle>

Modules vs Objects

```
import random  
num = random.randint(0, 9)
```

```
import turtle  
scott = turtle.Turtle()  
scott.forward(100)
```

Modules vs Objects

import a module → `import random`
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import turtle
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Modules vs Objects

import a module → `import random`

call one of its functions → `num = random.randint(0, 9)`

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Demo: make more than one turtle

Algorithms with Turtles

Task: Write pseudocode for an algorithm to draw a square with side length 100:

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1. Move forward 100

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Task: Write pseudocode for an algorithm to draw a square with side length 100:

1. Move forward 100
2. Turn left 90 degrees

Algorithms with Turtles

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1. Move forward 100
2. Turn left 90 degrees
3. Move forward 100

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4. Turn left 90 degrees
5. Move forward 100
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7. Move forward 100
8. (Turn left 90 degrees)

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8. (Turn left 90 degrees)



Can we do better?

Algorithms with Turtles

Task: Write pseudocode for an algorithm to draw a square with side length 100:

Repeat 4 times:

1. move forward 100
2. turn left 90

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2. turn left 90



Demo

Demo

- `turtle_for.py`: Create a turtle and draw a square with a for loop
- `turtle_while.py`: Create a turtle and draw a square with a while loop

while vs for

Are for loops **always** better?

while vs for

Task: Generate and print random integers between 1 and 10 (inclusive) until one of the random numbers exceeds 8.

Would you use a for loop or a while loop?



while vs for

Task: Ask the user for a number (**n**), then print 100 random numbers between 0 and **n**.

Would you use a for loop or a while loop?



while vs for

Task: Sum the numbers from 1 to 340, leaving out those divisible by 5.

Would you use a for loop or a while loop?



Functions, Revisited

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print("Hello, World!")
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print, input, type, len, int, str, ...
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```
print("Hello, World!")
```

- Built-in functions so far:

```
print, input, type, len, int, str, ...
```

- We can import more functions:

```
import math
```

```
import turtle
```

```
math.sqrt(4)
```

```
turtle.Turtle()
```

Functions, Revisited

What **is** a function, anyway?

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print("Hello world")
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print( "Hello world" )
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Input(s):

- 0 or more values
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Return value:

- none

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```
print("Hello world")
```

Input(s):

- 0 or more values
- (optional) sep and end keywords



Return value:

- none

Effects: prints arguments to the screen,
with given separator and end

Functions, Revisited

What **is** a function, anyway?

It's a chunk of code with a name.

- It *may* take **arguments** as input
- It *may* do something that has an effect
- It *may* **return** a value

```
input("Enter a number:")
```

Input(s):

- none, or
- a string to print as a prompt



Return value:

- the input from the user

Effects: prompts for user input and reads it from the keyboard

Functions, Revisited

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- It *may* take **arguments** as input
- It *may* do something that has an effect
- It *may* **return** a value

```
type(6/2)
```

Input(s):

- a value



Return value:

- the type of the value

Effects: none

Functions, Revisited

What **is** a function, anyway?

It's a chunk of code with a name.

- It *may* take **arguments** as input
- It *may* do something that has an effect
- It *may* **return** a value

```
math.sin(math.pi/2)
```

Input(s):

- a number



math.sin



Return value:

- the sine of the value

Effects: none

Functions, Revisited

What **is** a function, anyway?

It's a chunk of code with a name.

- It *may* take **arguments** as input
- It *may* do something that has an effect
- It *may* **return** a value

Input(s):

- a number



Return value:

- none

Effects: moves the turtle forward by the given number of units

Functions, Revisited

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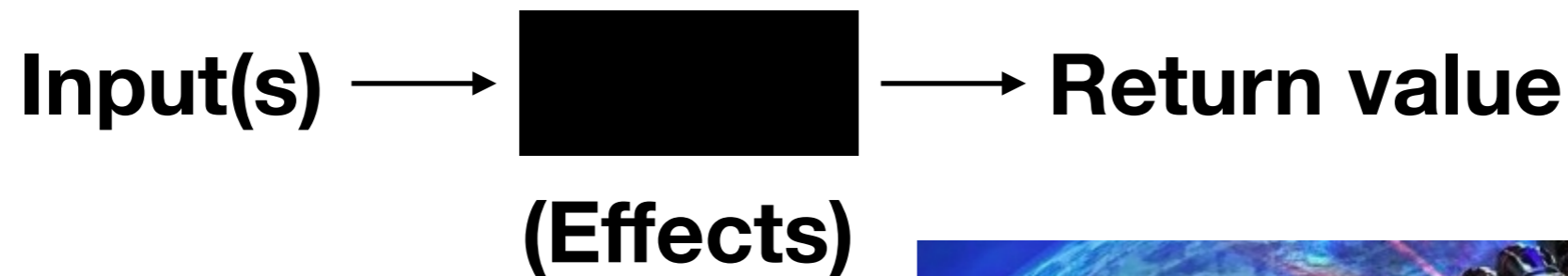
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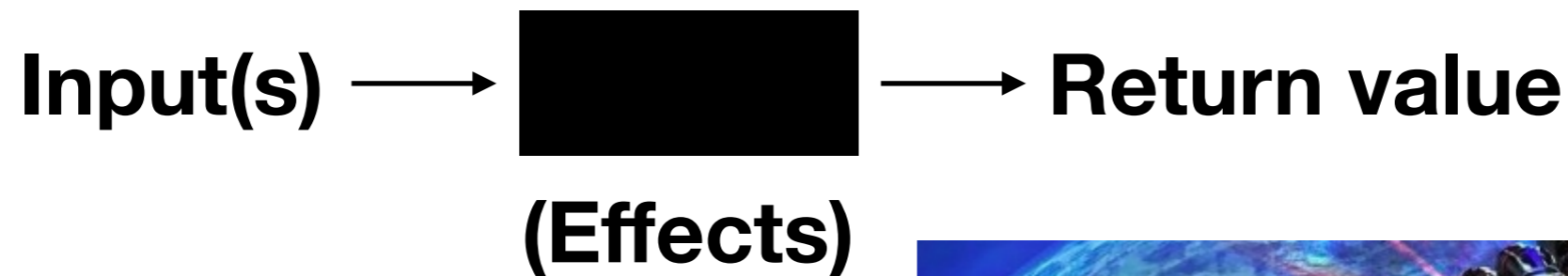
This is a **great** situation to be in!



Functions, Revisited

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- So far we've treated functions as “**black boxes**”, code someone else wrote that does stuff for us.
- All we know are the inputs, effects, and return value.
- We don't know how it's done.



This is a **great** situation to be in!

A bunch of (complicated), powerful stuff is wrapped up in a nice, easy-to-use package.



What if

You want a nice easy-to-use function that does something complicated, but **nobody else has written it for you...**

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Soon, you will have the **power** to write your **own** functions.



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Writing Functions: Syntax

```
def name(parameters):  
    statements
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Two important questions:

1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?

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Writing Functions: Syntax

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Two important questions:

1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?
2. How does the function return a value?

Let's **dodge** these questions for a moment...

Functions: the simplest kind

No arguments, no return value:

```
def name() :  
    statements
```

Example:

```
def print_hello() :  
    print( "Hello, world!" )
```

Demo

- `hello_fn.py`

Demo

- `print_hello`
- definition does nothing except make the function exist
- call it
- can call it whenever/however many times
- can't call it before it's defined

Demo: Function to print a rectangle of # symbols

Input(s):

- none

— `print_rectangle` —

Return value:

- none

Effects: prints a 2x50 rectangle of #s to the screen

Demo: Function to print a rectangle of # symbols

- executing a def statement (function definition) has no effect except defining that function.
- after it is defined, a function can be used whenever and wherever in the program
- modify to ask user what character to print

Writing Functions: Syntax

```
def name(parameters):  
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Two important questions:

- 1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?**
2. How does the function return a value?

Let's **dodge** these questions for a moment...

Writing Functions: Syntax

1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?

def keyword

function name

def *name*(*parameters*):
statements

The diagram illustrates the syntax of a Python function definition. It shows two boxes at the top: 'def keyword' on the left and 'function name' on the right. Arrows point from these boxes to the corresponding parts of the function definition syntax below. The 'def' keyword is highlighted in green, and the 'function name' is highlighted in blue. The parameters and statements are shown in italics.

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1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?

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inputs

comma-separated
list of **parameters**:
variable names that
will refer to the input
arguments

Demo: Function to print a rectangle of a symbol passed in as an argument.

Input(s):

- character to make a rectangle out of

Return value:

- none

→ `print_rectangle` →

Effects: prints a 2x50 rectangle of the given character to the screen

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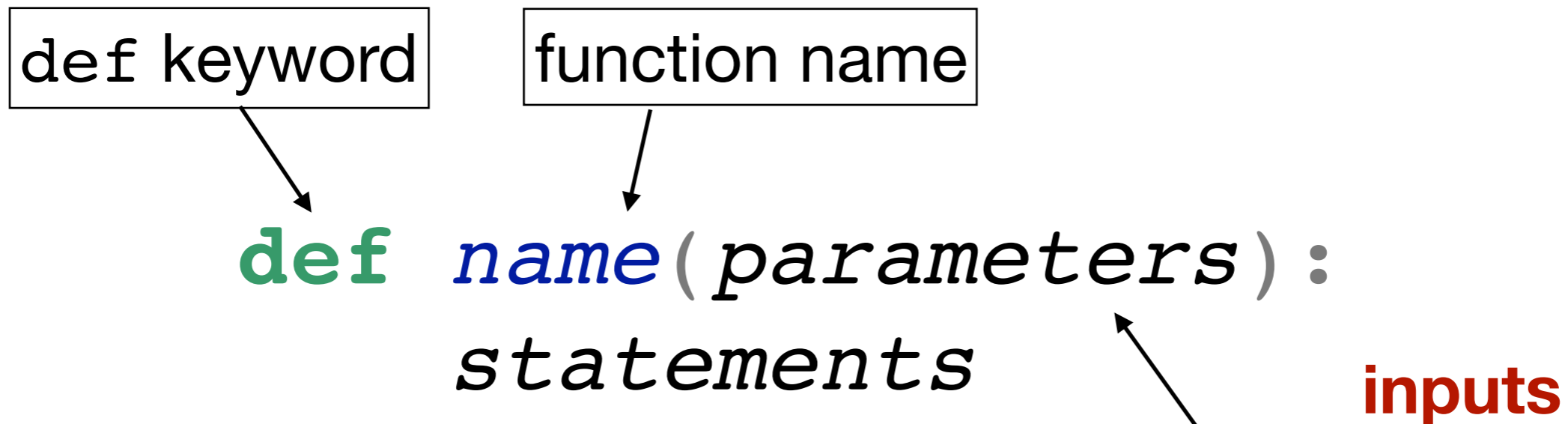
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Writing Functions: Syntax

1. How does the function use the arguments (inputs) passed to it?



Inside the function, the parameters act as **local variables** that refer to the arguments passed into the function.

comma-separated list of **parameters**: variable names that will refer to the input arguments

Demo: Function to draw a square using a turtle