

Worked Example: Function Generation

One way to graph a function $f(x)$ is to generate a set of x values and corresponding $y=f(x)$ values, and then send them to the *Express XY Graph* for display. To sequentially generate the x values, consider starting at a supplied lower bound $x=a$, and then stepping forward one point at a time by a specified increment Δx to a final upper bound $x=b$. We might choose to specify a certain number of uniform steps or divisions N to use instead, such that:

$$\Delta x \equiv \frac{b-a}{N}$$

Thus, all of the x values are generated as $x_i = a + i \cdot \Delta x$, for $i = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, N\}$. This process is easily implemented in an iterated loop, in which the $f(x)$ values are also evaluated within the loop at the same time. If the x and $f(x)$ values are indexed within the loop, then two arrays are generated containing all of the x and corresponding $f(x)$ values for the graph. Create a VI to implement this procedure for the function $f(x) = x + 2x \cdot \cos(x^2)$.

