

You can access these slides on the course Github:  
<https://github.com/natrask/ENM1050>

# **ENGR 1050**

# **Intro to Scientific Computation**

## **Lecture 02 – Lists, file I/O, and plotting**

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**Check our progress**

# So far we've learned ...

Printing: `print("something")`

Comments: `# this is a comment`

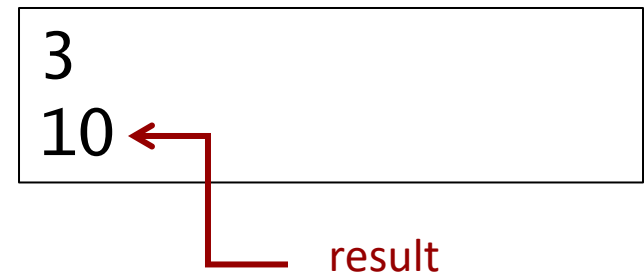
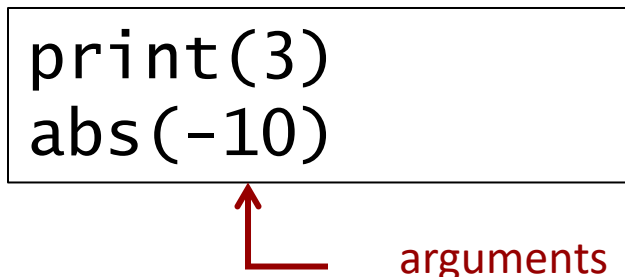
Variables: `my_name = "nat"`  
`my_num = 3.1415`  
`my_bool = True`

Operators: `my_num*4 = 12.566`  
`my_name*2 = "natnat"`

# Functions

A **function** is a sequence of statements that have been given a name

Functions **take** arguments and **return** results



# Python's Built-In Functions

<code>abs()</code>	<code>format()</code>	<code>list()</code>	<code>round()</code>
<code>all()</code>	<code>getattr()</code>	<code>locals()</code>	<code>set()</code>
<code>any()</code>	<code>globals()</code>	<code>map()</code>	<code>setattr()</code>
<code>ascii()</code>	<code>hasattr()</code>	<code>max()</code>	<code>slice()</code>
<code>bool()</code>	<code>hash()</code>	<code>min()</code>	<code>sorted()</code>
<code>delattr()</code>	<code>help()</code>	<code>next()</code>	<code>str()</code>
<code>dict()</code>	<code>hex()</code>	<code>object()</code>	<code>sum()</code>
<code>dir()</code>	<code>id()</code>	<code>oct()</code>	<code>super()</code>
<code>divmod()</code>	<code>input()</code>	<code>open()</code>	<code>tuple()</code>
<code>enumerate()</code>	<code>int()</code>	<code>pow()</code>	<code>type()</code>
<code>eval()</code>	<code>isinstance()</code>	<code>print()</code>	<code>vars()</code>
<code>exec()</code>	<code>issubclass()</code>	<code>range()</code>	<code>zip()</code>
<code>filter()</code>	<code>iter()</code>	<code>repr()</code>	<code>__import__()</code>
<code>float()</code>	<code>len()</code>	<code>reversed()</code>	

# Check the docs!

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html`. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. Below the browser window, the Python documentation page is displayed. The page has a dark theme. On the left side, there is a sidebar with navigation links: "Previous topic Introduction", "Next topic Built-in Constants", and "This Page" with sub-links "Report a Bug" and "Show Source". The main content area has the title "Built-in Functions" in a large, bold font. Below the title, a paragraph states: "The Python interpreter has a number of functions and types built into it that are always available. They are here in alphabetical order." Below this paragraph is a table titled "Built-in Functions" that lists various built-in functions in alphabetical order, grouped by their first letter (A, B, C, E, F, G, H, L, M, N, O, R, S, T). Each function name is underlined, indicating it is a link to its documentation page.

docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html

Resource Scheduler... Grants TRASK, Nathaniel -... Adobe Acrobat

Python » English » 3.12.5 » 3.12.5 Documentation » The Python Standard Library » Built-in Functions

## Built-in Functions

The Python interpreter has a number of functions and types built into it that are always available. They are here in alphabetical order.

Built-in Functions			
<b>A</b> <a href="#">abs()</a> <a href="#">aiter()</a> <a href="#">all()</a> <a href="#">anext()</a> <a href="#">any()</a> <a href="#">ascii()</a>	<b>E</b> <a href="#">enumerate()</a> <a href="#">eval()</a> <a href="#">exec()</a>	<b>L</b> <a href="#">len()</a> <a href="#">list()</a> <a href="#">locals()</a>	<b>R</b> <a href="#">range()</a> <a href="#">repr()</a> <a href="#">reversed()</a> <a href="#">round()</a>
<b>B</b> <a href="#">bin()</a> <a href="#">bool()</a> <a href="#">breakpoint()</a> <a href="#">bytearray()</a> <a href="#">bytes()</a>	<b>F</b> <a href="#">filter()</a> <a href="#">float()</a> <a href="#">format()</a> <a href="#">frozenset()</a>	<b>M</b> <a href="#">map()</a> <a href="#">max()</a> <a href="#">memoryview()</a> <a href="#">min()</a>	<b>S</b> <a href="#">set()</a> <a href="#">setattr()</a> <a href="#">slice()</a> <a href="#">sorted()</a> <a href="#">staticmethod()</a> <a href="#">str()</a> <a href="#">sum()</a> <a href="#">super()</a>
<b>C</b> <a href="#">callable()</a> <a href="#">chr()</a> <a href="#">classmethod()</a> <a href="#">compile()</a>	<b>G</b> <a href="#">getattr()</a> <a href="#">globals()</a>	<b>N</b> <a href="#">next()</a>	<b>T</b> <a href="#">tuple()</a> <a href="#">type()</a>
<b>H</b> <a href="#">hasattr()</a> <a href="#">hash()</a> <a href="#">help()</a> <a href="#">hex()</a>	<b>O</b> <a href="#">object()</a> <a href="#">oct()</a> <a href="#">open()</a> <a href="#">ord()</a>		

<https://docs.python.org/3/library/functions.html>

# Debugging

Programming is complicated! We all make mistakes.

**Errors** are called **bugs**.

Finding and **removing bugs** is called **debugging**.

# Code style

To limit errors and make debugging easy, your code should always be

- readable
- consistent
- commented and/or documented

Code that is easy to read and understand is far more likely to be correct!



# Code approach

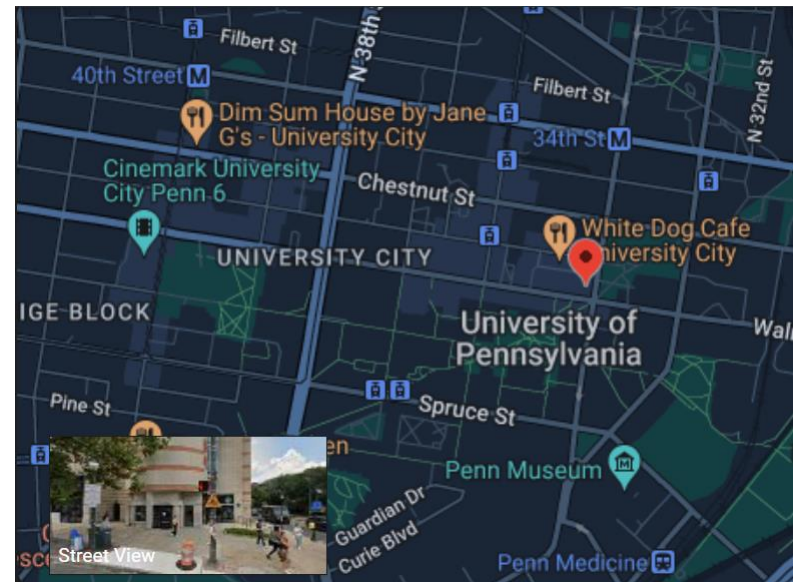
- Start with a plan
- Outline your code using comments (pseudocode)
- Fill in chunks of the code and check as you go

# Office Hours

We'll be holding the following OH

- Dr. Trask hours
  - Nat's office: PICS 532
  - Tu 11-12
  - Th 11-12
- TA hours
  - PICS conference room 517
  - Option 1: Wed 12-130
  - Option 2: Fri 11-1
- To listen in on Zoom
  - **Wed OH**  
Meeting ID: 746 8391 6021  
Passcode: 1YN4nn

All OH will be held in the Penn Institute for Computational Science (PICS)



- **3401 Walnut (1 door west of the starbucks), 5<sup>th</sup> floor**
- **Swipe access coming soon**

# **Introducing Our first simulator**

**(Preview of what we'll build toward in the next  
couple weeks)**

# Introducing Our first simulator

A **differential equation** is an equation relating a function to its derivatives and describes the evolution of a system over time

$$F = ma \quad \longrightarrow \quad m\ddot{x} = F(x)$$

High school physics

Differential equation version

In engineering, we will derive models that give lots of complicated equations relating derivatives

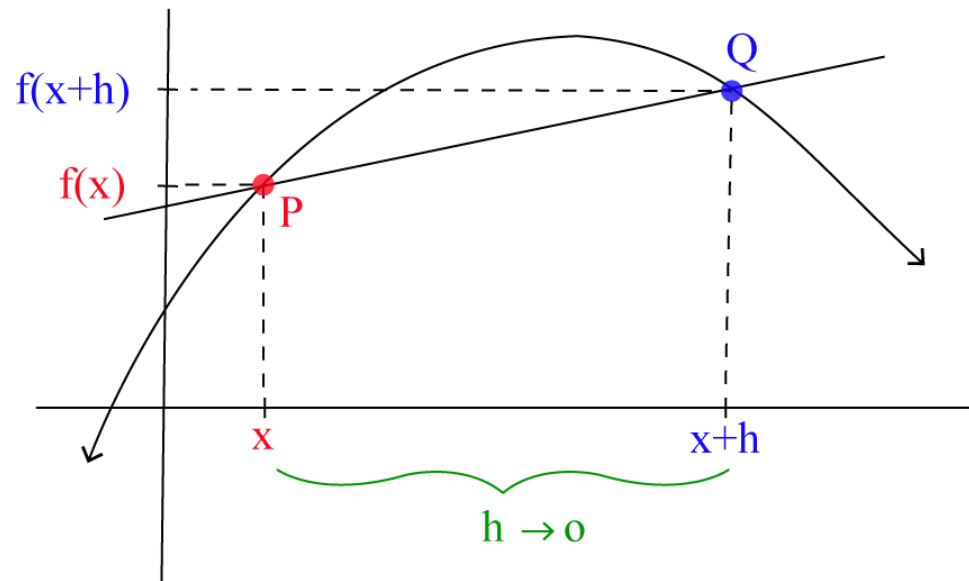
$$G(x, \dot{x}, \ddot{x}, \dddot{x}, \dots) = 0$$

# Introducing Our first simulator

**How do we get this onto a computer?**

In calc you'll learn the definition of a derivative

$$\dot{x}(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h}$$



# The explicit Euler approximation

Given a differential equation:

$$\dot{x} = f(x)$$

Approximate the derivative:

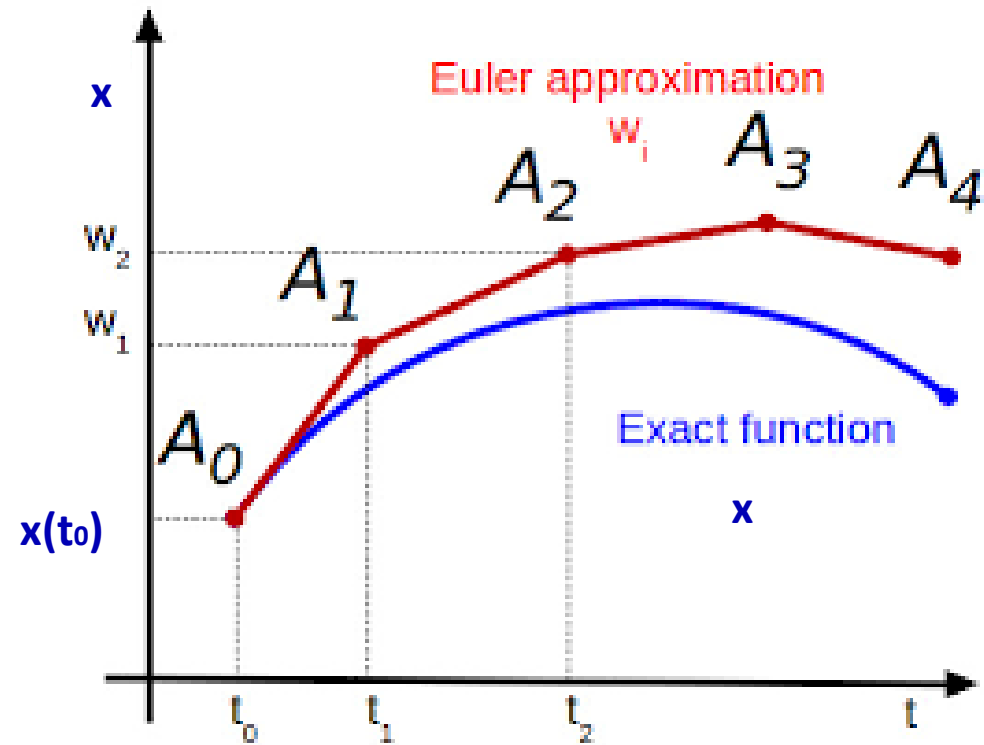
$$\dot{x}(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{x(t+h) - x(t)}{h}$$

Substitute it in at time n

$$\frac{x(t_{n+1}) - x(t_n)}{t_{n+1} - t_n} = f(x(t_n))$$

Reorganize to get an update rule

$$x(t_{n+1}) = x(t_n) + (t_{n+1} - t_n)f(x(t_n))$$



# Lists, loops, ifs, plots: ingredients of a simulator

Store solution as a **list** of points

```
xsol = [x0, x1, x2, x3, x4]
```

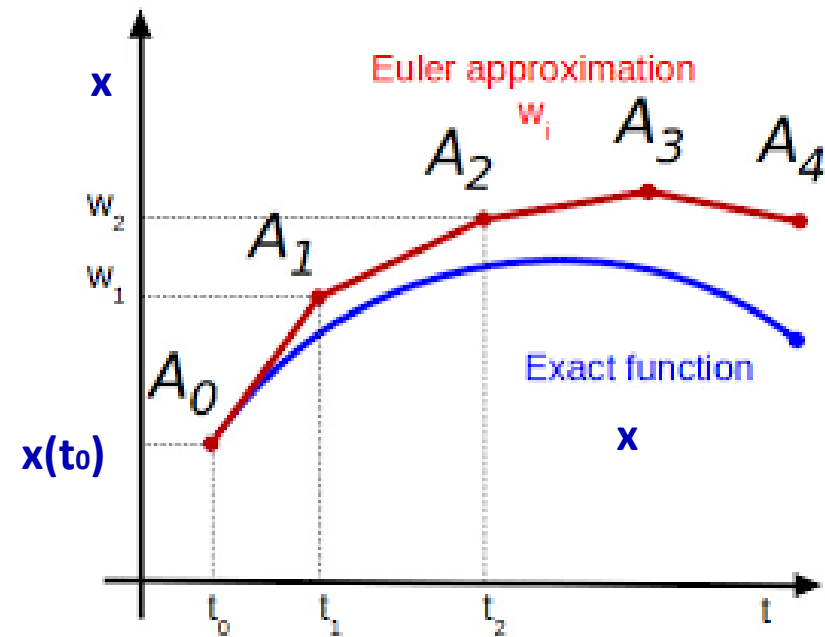
Use **for loops** to update answer at each step

$$x(t_{n+1}) = x(t_n) + (t_{n+1} - t_n)f(x(t_n))$$

Use **if statements** check if we're at final time

```
if (tn < t4):
```

To visualize prediction, **plot** solution



**These are the basic building blocks for writing programs,  
and what we'll focus on in the next few lectures**

# **Today – lists and plots**



# Last Time: Variable Types

`str` (string)

- Ex: "ENGR 1050", 'a', "Nat"

`int` (integer)

- Ex: 2, 73, -122

`float` (floating point number)

- Ex: 3.14, -18.0

`bool` (boolean)

- can be `True` or `False` only

# Variables

- Reference them by the name

```
a_number = 23
```

```
a_number + 2
```

- Variables and strings are not the same thing

```
a_string = "hello"
```

```
print(a_string)
```

```
print(hello)
```

# Another type of variable: Lists

A **list** is a sequence of values

- each **element** (value) is identified by an **index** (starting from 0)

Create a list by naming it and assigning values in (square) brackets, with values separated by commas

```
list_of_ints = [10, 20, 30, 50]  
print(list_of_ints[0]) % outputs 10
```

# Another type of variable: Lists

A **list** is a sequence of values

- each **element** (value) is identified by an **index** (starting from 0)
- the elements of the list can be of any type

```
tens = [10, 20, 30, 40]  
TAs = ["abdu1lah", "michelle", "alfredo"]  
empty = []
```

- lists can have mixed types and even other lists (nested list)

```
mixed = ["hello", 2.0, 5, [10, 20]]
```

# Lists are useful for plotting

Prompt from your math class:

Plot the curve  $f(x) = x$

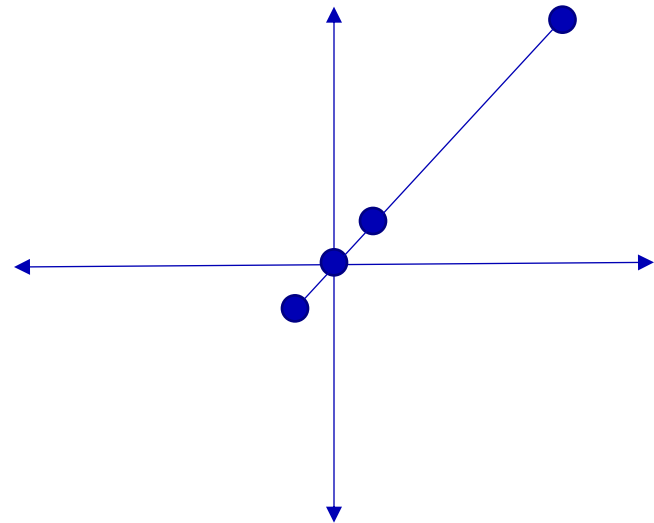
## Algorithm:

1. Check some points

$$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 1, f(-1) = -1, f(10) = 10$$

2. Plot those points

3. Connect them with a line/curve



# Lists are used to store (x,y) pairs to plot

Prompt from your math class:

Plot the curve  $f(x) = x$

## Algorithm:

1. Check some points

$$f(0) = 0, f(1) = 1, f(-1) = -1, f(10) = 10$$

2. Plot those points

3. Connect them with a line/curve

## In-Class: 02\_Plotting

Do this with a partner. Turn in as a pair on Canvas.

Tips for pair programming:

- Switch off who is typing.
- The person who is not typing should:
  - Make comments or suggest potential solutions
  - Be “devil’s advocate”: what are potential issues with what is being typed
  - Suggest other things to explore

**At-Home:** posted on Canvas. Do this individually.