



14.1. Introduction

Computers are often used to automate repetitive tasks. Repeating identical or similar tasks without making errors is something that computers do well and people do poorly.

Repeated execution of a sequence of statements is called **iteration**. Because iteration is so common, Python provides several language features to make it easier. We've already seen the `for` statement in a previous chapter. This is a very common form of iteration in Python. In this chapter we are going to look at the `while` statement — another way to have your program do iteration.

14.1.1. Learning Goals

- To understand indefinite iteration
- To solve problems involving convergence

14.1.2. Objectives

- To apply the while loop for indefinite iteration
- To be able to identify while loops that are likely to be infinite loops

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