

Lecture 3 Activity

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1 Python

1.1 About Python

Python is a programming language which is as capable as it is accessible. In my opinion,

- it is as easy to use as *BASIC* (the first programming language I ever learnt), and
- it is sophisticated enough to do pretty much anything the programmer wants to do.

1.2 First script

A good first script to try is

```
name = input("What is your name? ")
for i in range(1,10):
    print("Hello",name)
```

which asks for the user's name, assigns the input string to the variable 'name' then outputs 'Hello (name)' 9 times. I think it's quite easy to see why!

2 The perfect formula?

On a different note, the formula

$$e^{i\pi} + 1 = 0$$

is considered by some to be the perfect mathematical formula, linking the fundamental concepts 0, 1, e , π , addition and equality in a very simple expression. I do quite like it, although I'm not as struck by it as some people are.