

Functions I

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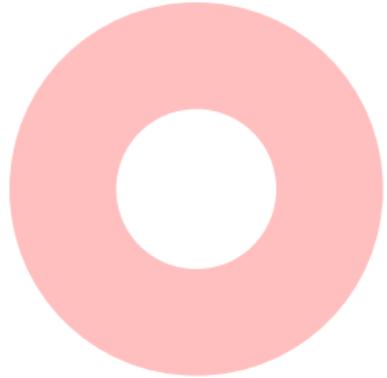
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Recall the area of a doughnut...

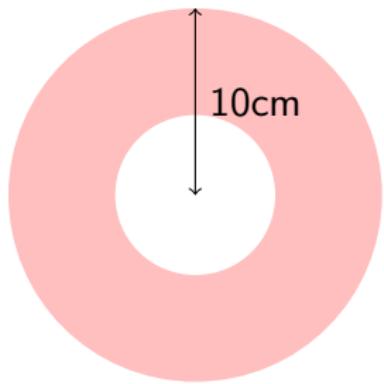
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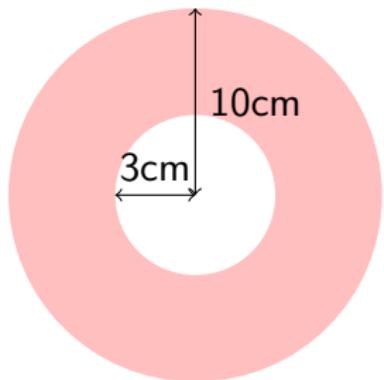
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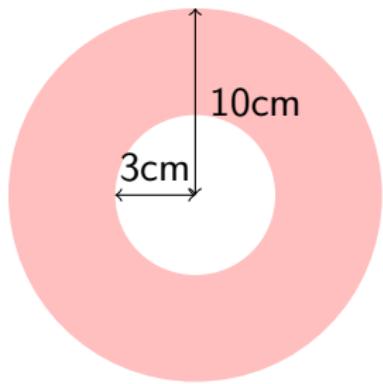
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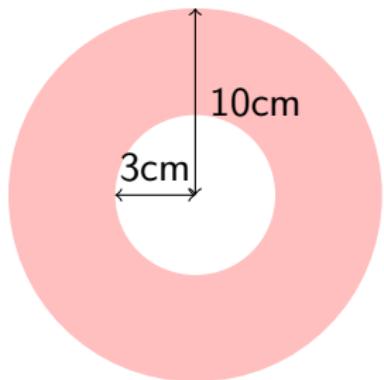


You could do this

$$\text{pi} * 10^2 - \text{pi} * 3^2$$

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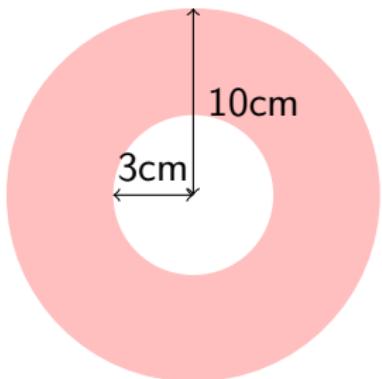
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But this would be better

$$\text{circle_area}(10) - \text{circle_area}(3)$$

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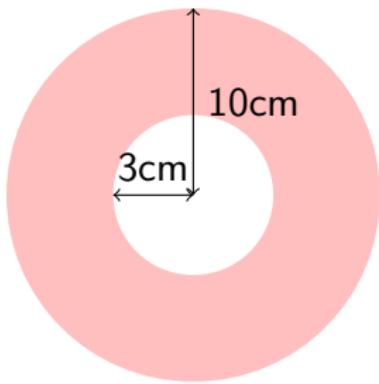
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`circle_area (10) - circle_area (3)`

Functions are used in place of their explicit *algorithms*

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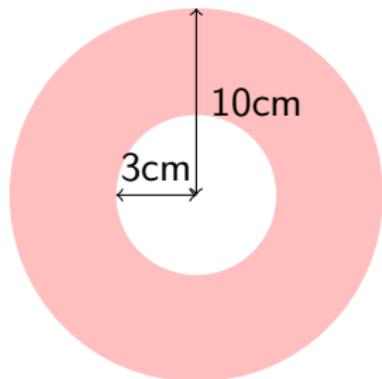
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Some Terminology:

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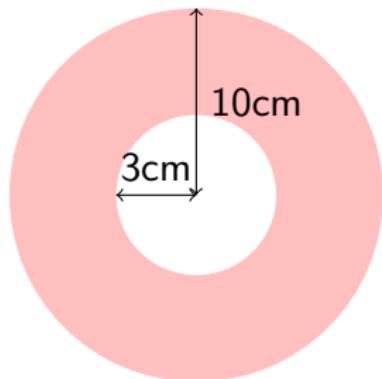
Some Terminology:

- Functions are **called**

"call `circle_area`"

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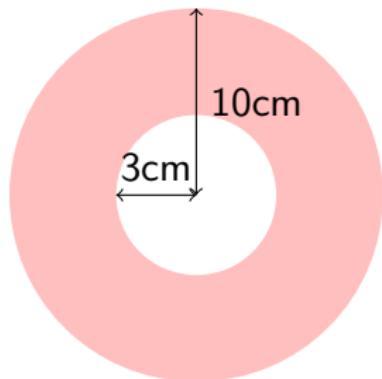
Functions are used in place of their explicit *algorithms*

Some Terminology:

- Functions are **called** "call `circle_area()`"
- Input parameters are **passed** "pass 10"

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You could do this

`pi*10^2 - pi*3^2`

But this would be better

`circle_area(10) - circle_area(3)`

Functions are used in place of their explicit *algorithms*

Some Terminology:

- Functions are **called** "call `circle_area()`"
- Input parameters are **passed** "pass 10"
- Output values are **returned** "returns 314.159"

Builtin Functions

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Most languages have already defined functions

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Matlab has a *lot* of builtin functions

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abs(), **max()**, **mean()**, **floor()**

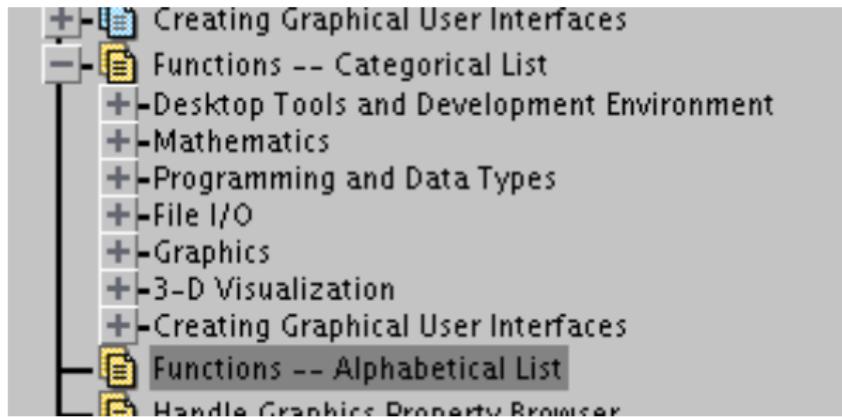
Builtin Functions

Most languages have already defined functions

Matlab has a *lot* of builtin functions

abs(), max(), mean(), floor()

Your best reference is the Matlab Help system



Rolling your own

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Possible contents of `circle_area.m`

```
function area = circle_area( radius )
% function area = circle_area( radius )
%
% Computes the area of a circle

area = pi * radius^2
```

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- Any serious language allows "user-defined functions"
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Let's unpack it...

Anatomy of a Function

```
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tells matlab we
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output parameter

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function name

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radius)

input parameter

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% function area = circle_area( radius )
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% Computes the area of a circle
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area = pi * radius ^2
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Anatomy of a Function

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output parameter

function name

function

area

= circle_area(

radius)

input parameter

```
% function area = circle_area( radius )
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```
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```

```
% Computes the area of a circle
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```
area = pi * radius ^2
```

help comment

Anatomy of a Function

tells matlab we are defining a function

output parameter

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function

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radius)

input parameter

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```
%
```

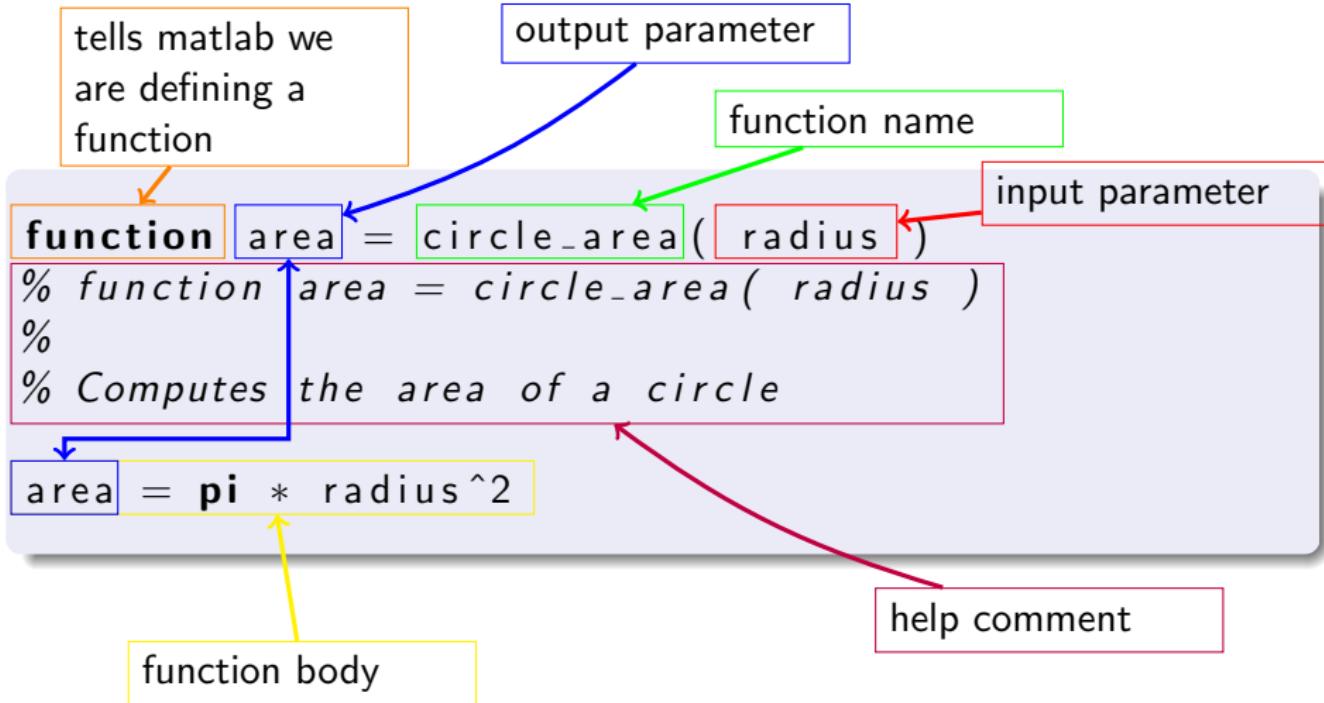
```
% Computes the area of a circle
```

area = pi * radius ^2

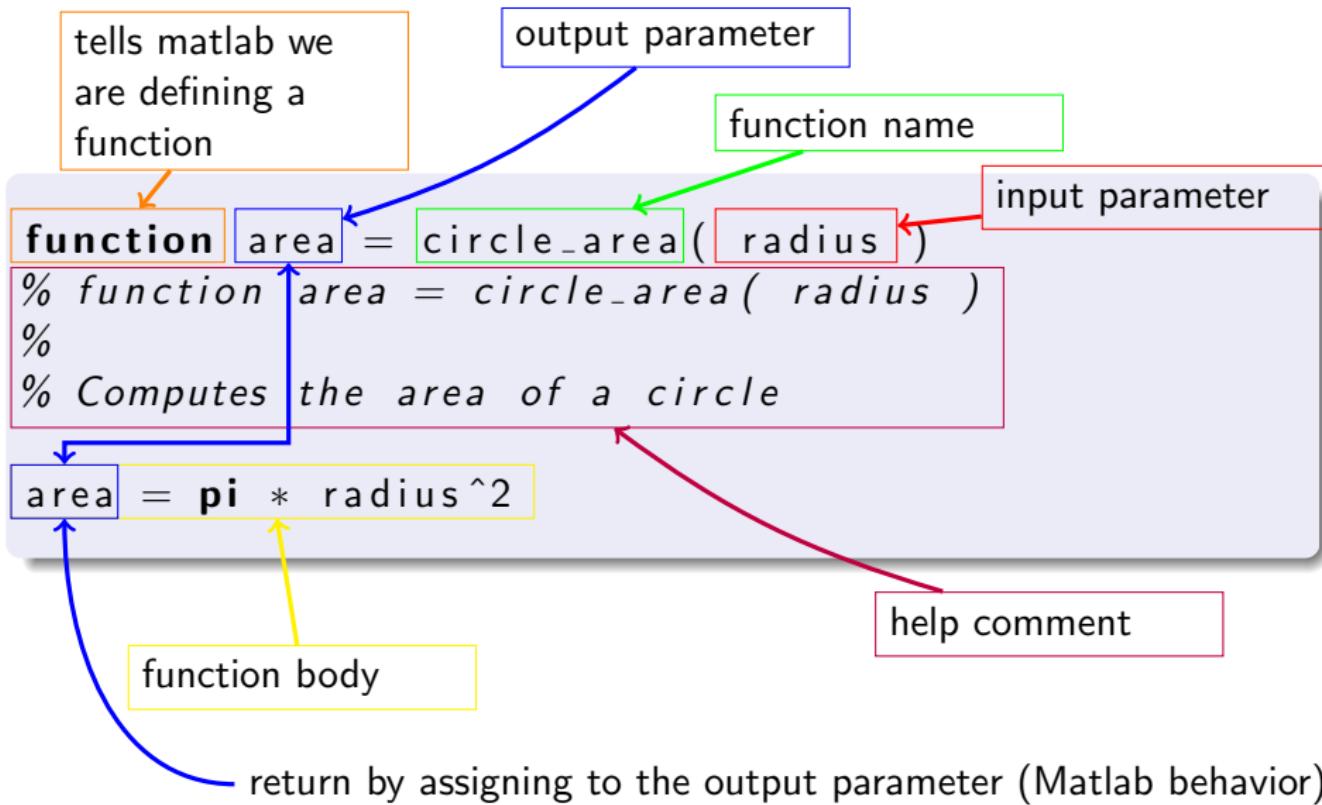
function body

help comment

Anatomy of a Function



Anatomy of a Function



Other Languages

Common

C

```
float circle_area(float radius)
{
    float area;

    area = MATH_PI * radius * radius;

    return area;
}
```

Python

```
def circle_area(radius):
    area = math.pi * radius^2

    return area
```

Other Languages

Less Common

FORTRAN

```
real function circle_area(radius)
c Compute the area of a circle
    real radius
    parameter(pi = 3.14159)
    circle_area = pi * radius**2
    return
```

Haskell

```
circle_area :: Num a => a -> a
circle_area radius = pi * radius^2
```