
Drawing with Turtle

Lecture 04.04

By Marina Barsky

All code examples:

[turtle_setup.py](#)

[red_square.py](#)

[polygon.py](#)

[birthday_cake.py](#)

[star_turtle_algorithm.py](#)

[flower.py](#)

[circles.py](#)

[squares.py](#)

[nested_star_loop.py](#)

Sketch Pad

- Want graphics? In Python, we give commands to a "turtle" to draw on a digital canvas!

```
import turtle
```



Make sure that your program is not called *turtle.py*, and there is no program called *turtle.py* in your project

Our first turtle

```
import turtle
```

```
screen = turtle.Screen()  
screen.setup(500, 500, 40, 50)  
screen.bgcolor("lightgreen")
```

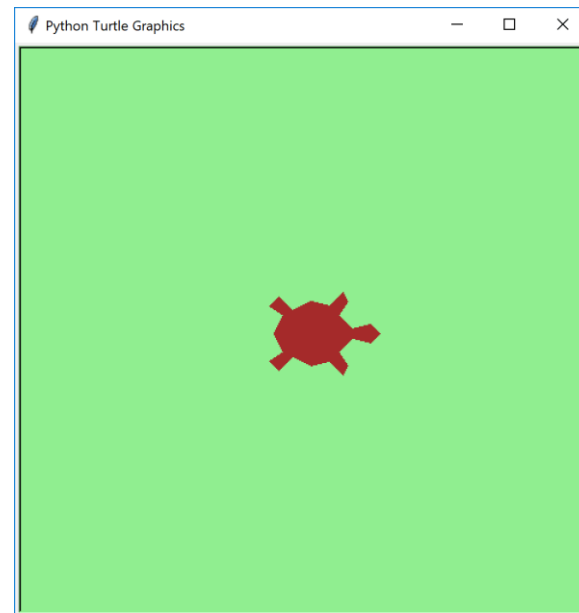
*# get a screen to draw on
width, height, left, top*

```
alex = turtle.Turtle() # create artistic turtle  
alex.shape("turtle")  
alex.shapesize(4)  
alex.color("brown")
```

```
turtle.done()
```

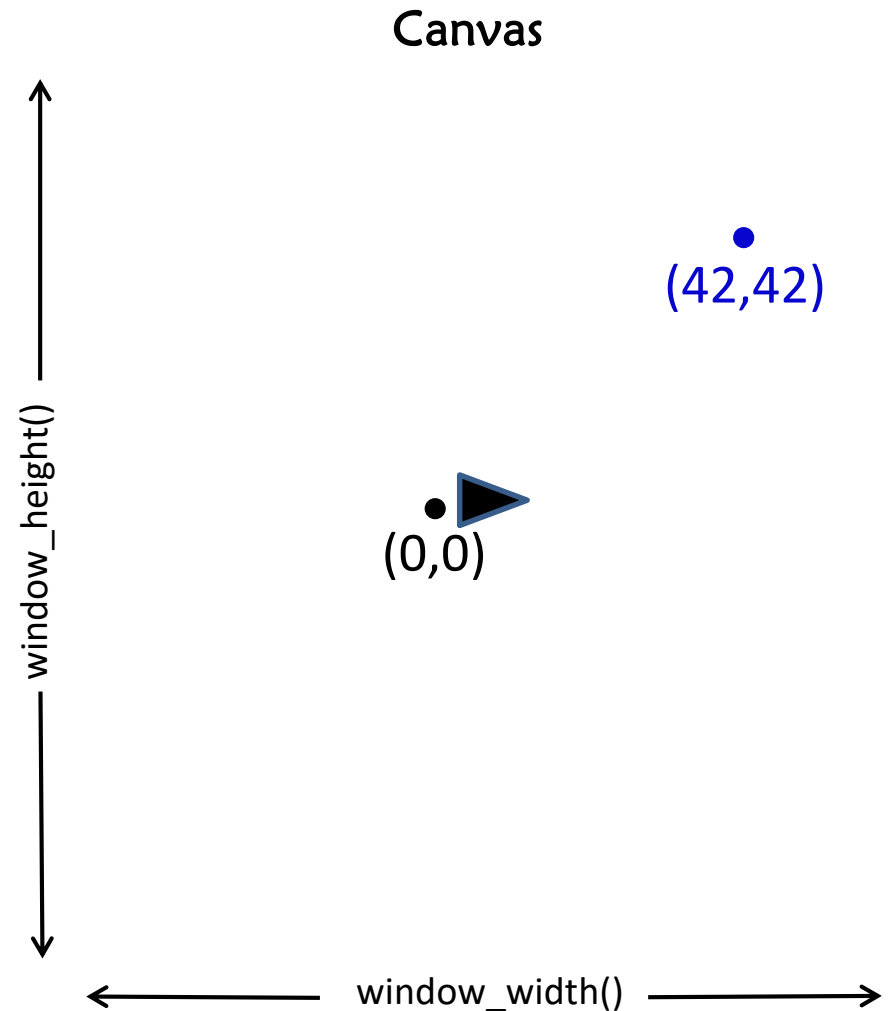
↕ OR

```
turtle.exitonclick()
```



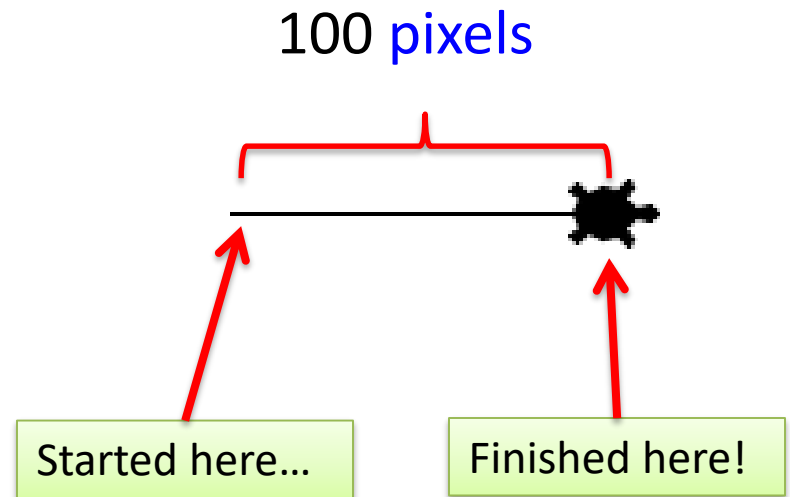
Coordinate system

- Canvas operates in x-y coordinate plane
 - (0,0) is the center
- `alex.reset()`
 - Delete any drawings, reset the screen, re-center the turtle
 - Turtle resets to face right (or east)



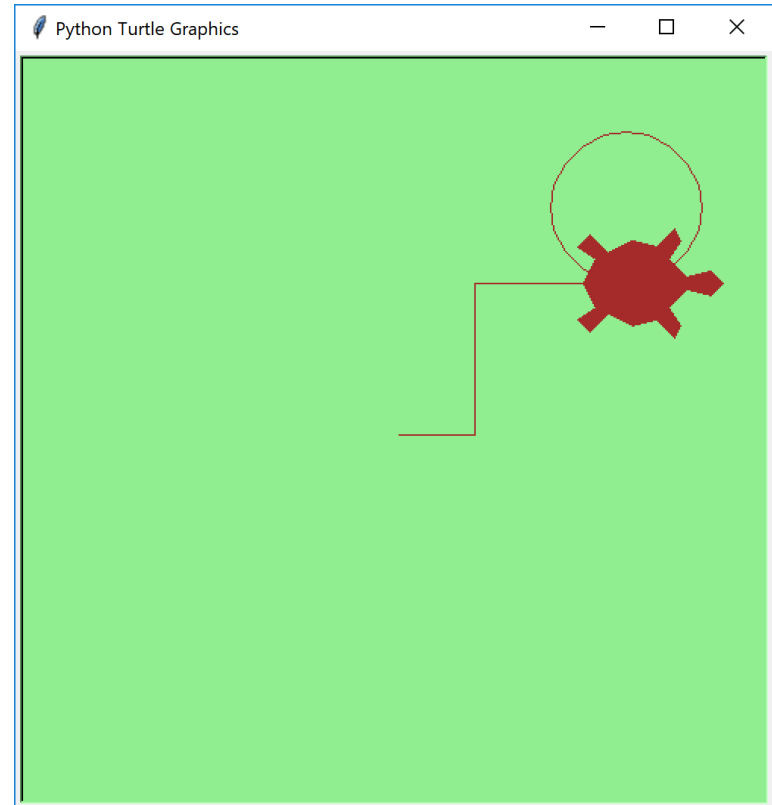
Moving turtle (and drawing)

```
# ... setup  
alex = turtle.Turtle()  
alex.reset() # home()  
alex.forward(100)
```



Sketching turtle path

```
alex.forward(50)
alex.left(90)
alex.forward(100)
alex.right(90)
alex.forward(100)
alex.circle(50)
```



[turtle_setup.py](#)

Explanation

`alex.forward(50)`

In pixels

NOTE: `backward(n)` moves the turtle back

`alex.left(90)`

In degrees

`alex.forward(100)`

`alex.right(90)`

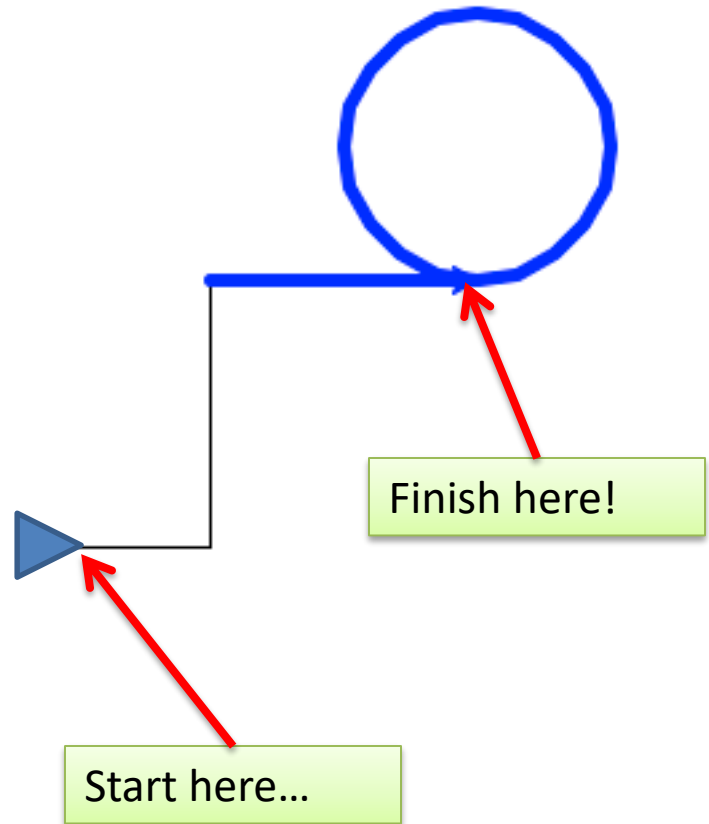
In degrees

`alex.forward(100)`

`alex.circle(50)`

Starts drawing circle to the left of the turtle

Radius is specified In pixels



Pen up, Pen down

```
alex.reset()  
alex.fd(100)  
alex.lt(90)  
alex.up()  
alex.fd(100)  
alex.lt(90)  
alex.down()  
alex.fd(100)  
turtle.done()
```


Explanation

```
alex.reset()
```

```
alex.fd(100)
```

Same as `forward()`

```
alex.lt(90)
```

Same as `left()`

```
alex.up()
```

Lifts the pen off the canvas

```
alex.fd(100)
```

```
alex.lt(90)
```

```
alex.down()
```

Puts the pen down on the canvas

```
alex.fd(100)
```

```
turtle.done()
```

Finished here!



Started here...

Turtle Graphics

```
import turtle
pen = turtle.Turtle()
```

You may need some more commands:

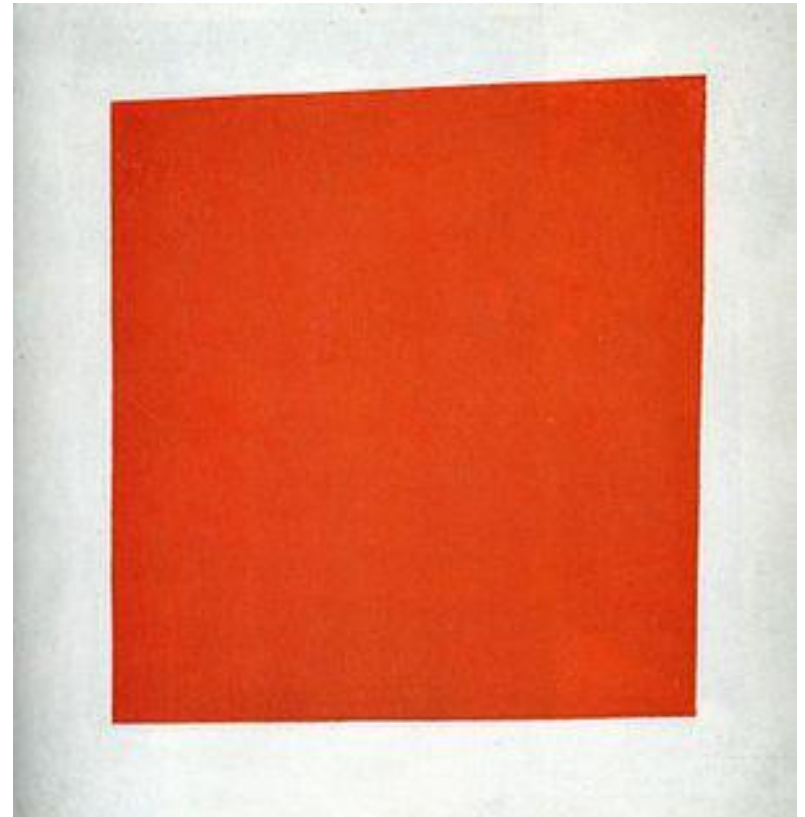
- `pen.dot()`
- `pen.setheading(to_angle)`
 - Set the orientation of the turtle to *to_angle*
- `pen.tracer(0, 0)`
 - Turn turtle animation on/off
- `pen.speed(0)`

0 - east
90 - north
180 - west
270 - south

"fastest": 0
"fast": 10
"normal": 6
"slow": 3
"slowest": 1

Red square by Kazimir Malevich, 1915

- *Suprematism* believed in the radical reduction of painting to nothing but shape and color
- Paintings would depict nothing, state nothing, **resist all aesthetic conventions**
- They would **spring free** as the revolution itself

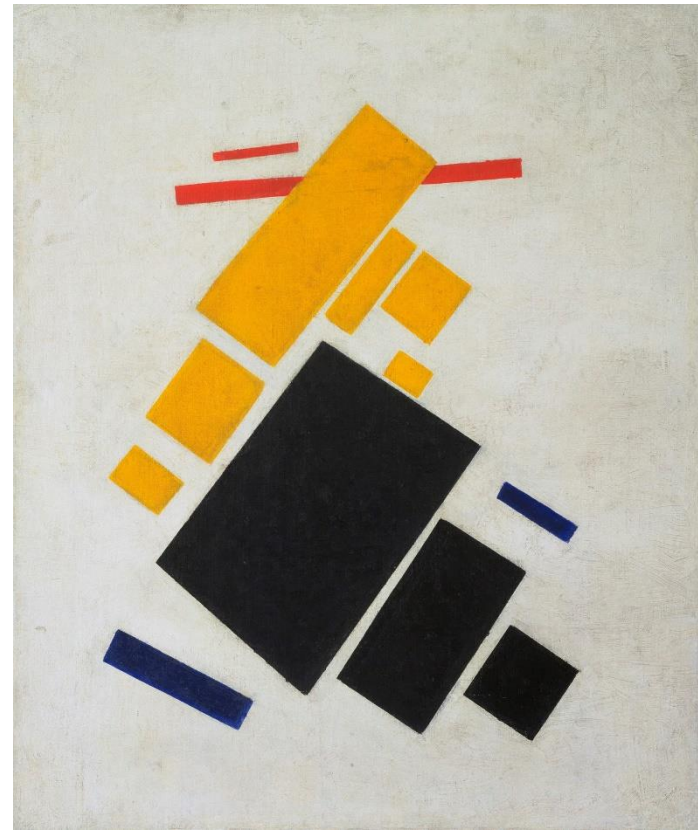


Red Square:
Painterly Realism of a Peasant Woman
in Two Dimensions

Suprematism: shapes and colors



Two Dimensional Self Portrait



Airplane Flying

Artistic turtle

```
import turtle
```

```
screen = turtle.Screen()
```

```
screen.setup(500, 500)
```

```
screen.colormode(255)
```

```
screen.bgcolor(221, 226, 222)
```

Color can be specified as a color string, or as a mix of (Red, Green, Blue)

```
pen = turtle.Turtle()
```

```
pen.hideturtle()
```

No more animals – just a pen (and a brush)

Red square: version 1

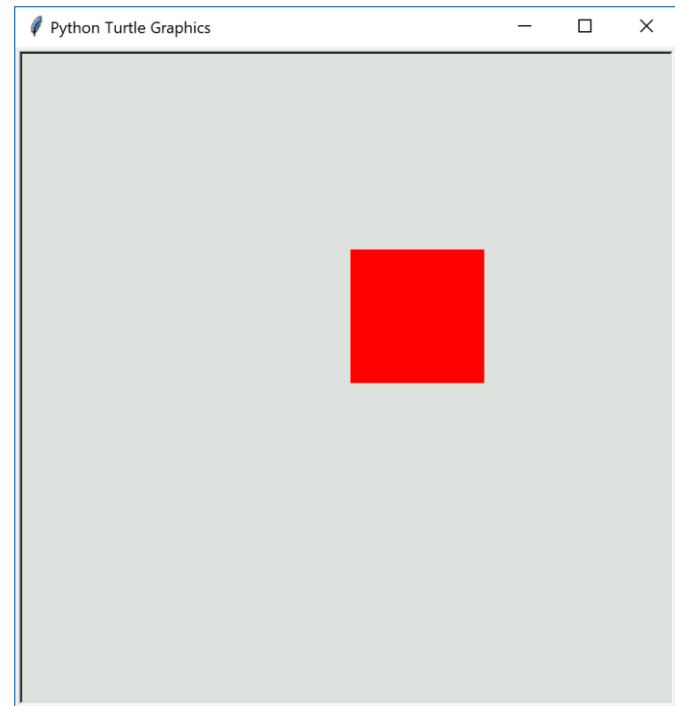
```
# drawing red square
pen.color("red")
pen.fillcolor("red")

pen.begin_fill()
# start drawing
pen.forward(100)
pen.left(90)

pen.forward(100)
pen.left(90)

pen.forward(100)
pen.left(90)

pen.forward(100)
pen.left(90)
# end drawing
pen.end_fill()
```



Identifying repeating patterns

```
# drawing red square  
pen.color("red")  
pen.fillcolor("red")  
  
pen.begin_fill()  
# start drawing  
pen.forward(100)  
pen.left(90)  
  
pen.forward(100)  
pen.left(90)  
  
pen.forward(100)  
pen.left(90)  
  
pen.forward(100)  
pen.left(90)  
# end drawing  
pen.end_fill()
```

What commands do we want to repeat?

How many times do we want to repeat?

Red square: version 2: with function and loop

```
def draw_square(t, side, color):  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(4):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(90)  
    t.end_fill()
```

Pen variable

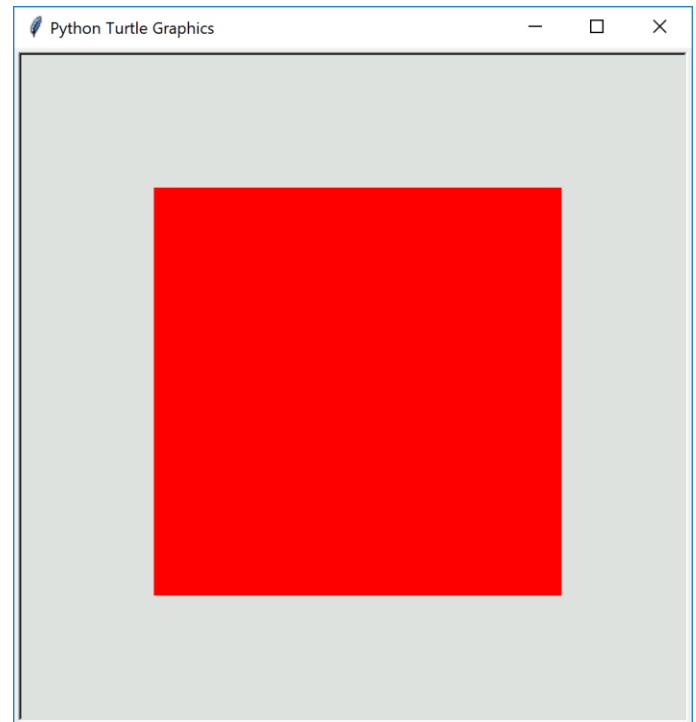
Side len

Square color

Loop body:
repeat 4 times

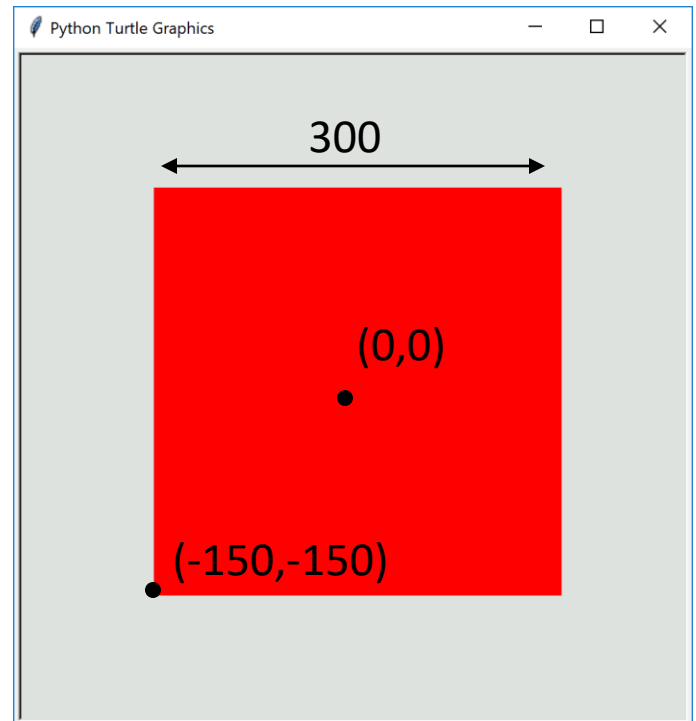
Red square: version 2: center the square

```
def draw_square(t, side, color):  
    t.goto(-side/2, -side/2)  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(4):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(90)  
    t.end_fill()
```



Red square: version 2: center the square

```
def draw_square(t, side, color):  
    t.goto(-side/2, -side/2)  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(4):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(90)  
    t.end_fill()
```

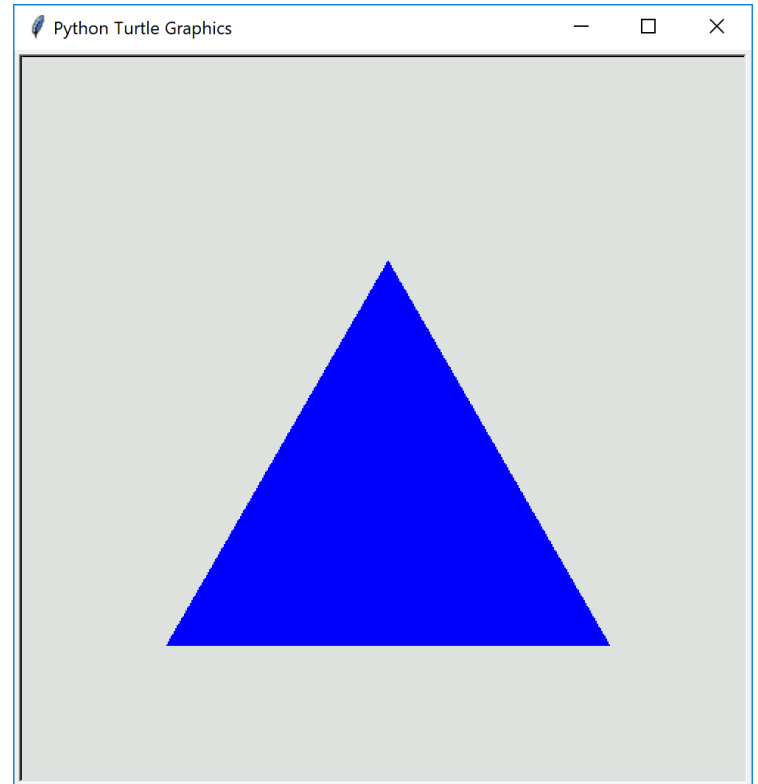


Completed version in [red_square.py](#)

Draw triangle

```
def draw_triangle(t, side, color):  
    t.goto(-side/2, -side/2)  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(3):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(120)  
    t.end_fill()
```

```
draw_triangle(pen, 300, "blue")
```



What is the difference between
rectangle and triangle?

Could we create any regular n-gon?

```
def draw_triangle(t, side, color):  
    t.goto(-side/2, - side/2)  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(3):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(120)  
    t.end_fill()
```

What should we change to
make it generic?

Generic n-gon

```
def draw_ngon(t, n, side, color):  
    """  
    Draws an arbitrary n-sided polygon  
    Parameters:  
        t: turtle pen  
        n: number of sides of the polygon  
        side: length of each side  
        color: fill color  
    """  
    t.color(color)  
    t.fillcolor(color)  
  
    t.begin_fill()  
    for i in range(n):  
        t.forward(side)  
        t.left(360/n)  
    t.end_fill()
```

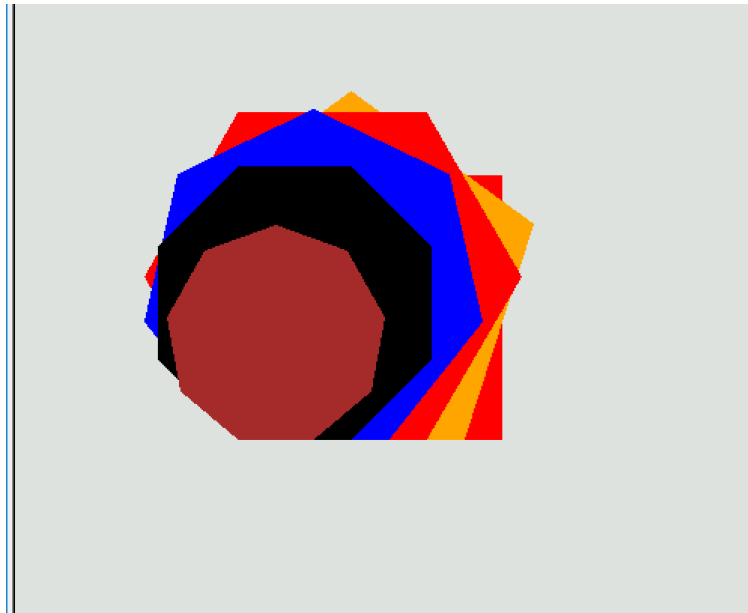
How many times to repeat?

How many degrees
should we turn?

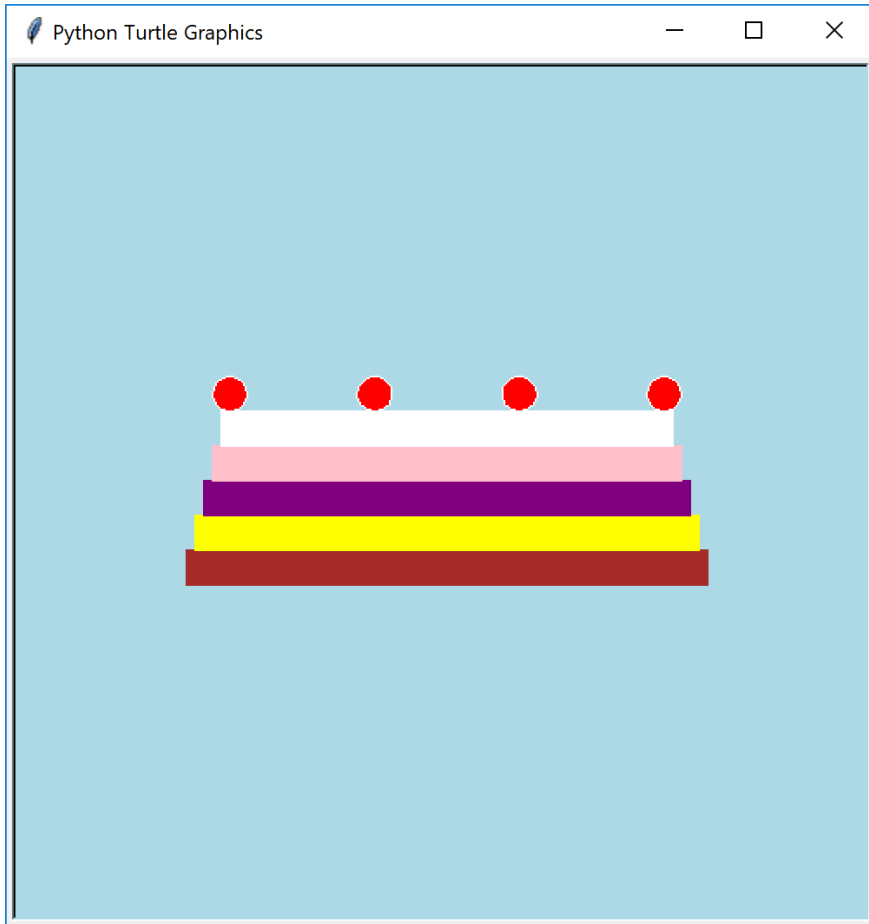
Completed version in [polygon.py](#)

N-gon art

```
# stacking polygons
colors = ["red", "blue", "black", "orange",
          "purple", "yellow", "green", "brown"]
pen.goto(-100, -100)
curr_side_len = 200
for n in range(4, 10):
    curr_side_len -= 25
    draw_ngon(pen, n, curr_side_len,
              random.choice(colors))
```

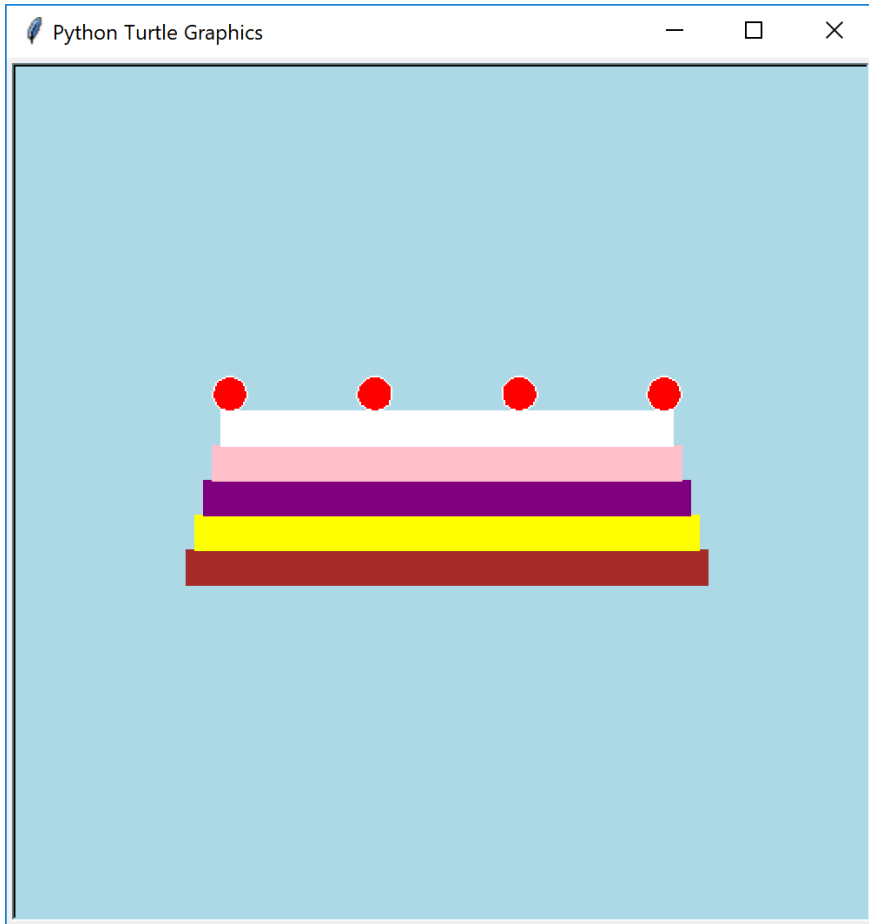


Birthday cake



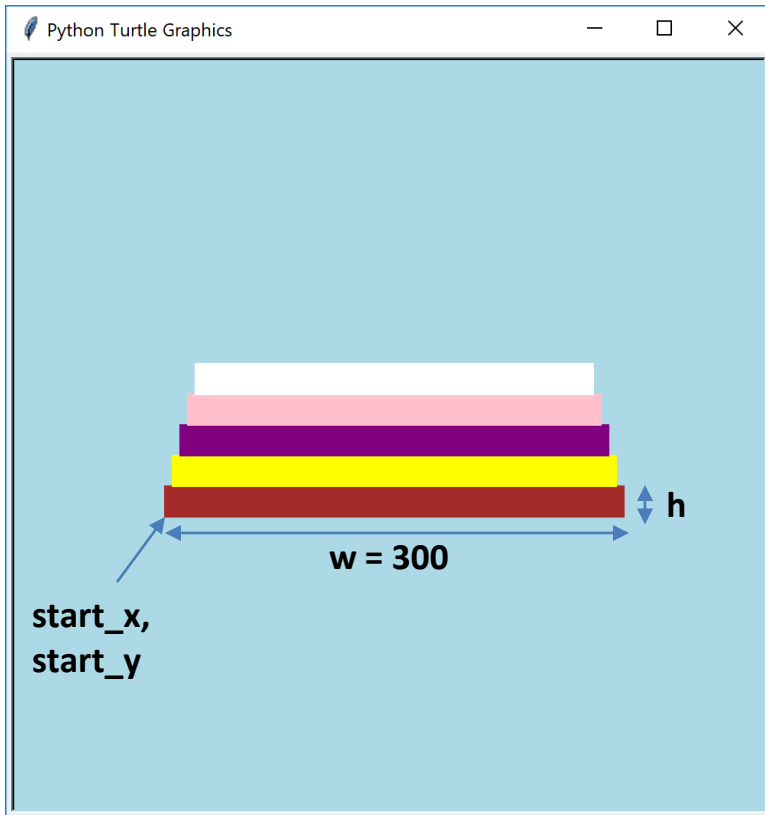
Completed version in [birthday_cake.py](#)

Loop pattern design recipe



1. Draw the desired shape on paper
2. Mark distances and dimensions
3. Identify repeating patterns: this goes into the body of the loop
4. Identify what changes from one repetition to another: make this change using accumulator variable (defined and initialized outside the loop)
5. Identify number of repetitions: loop header

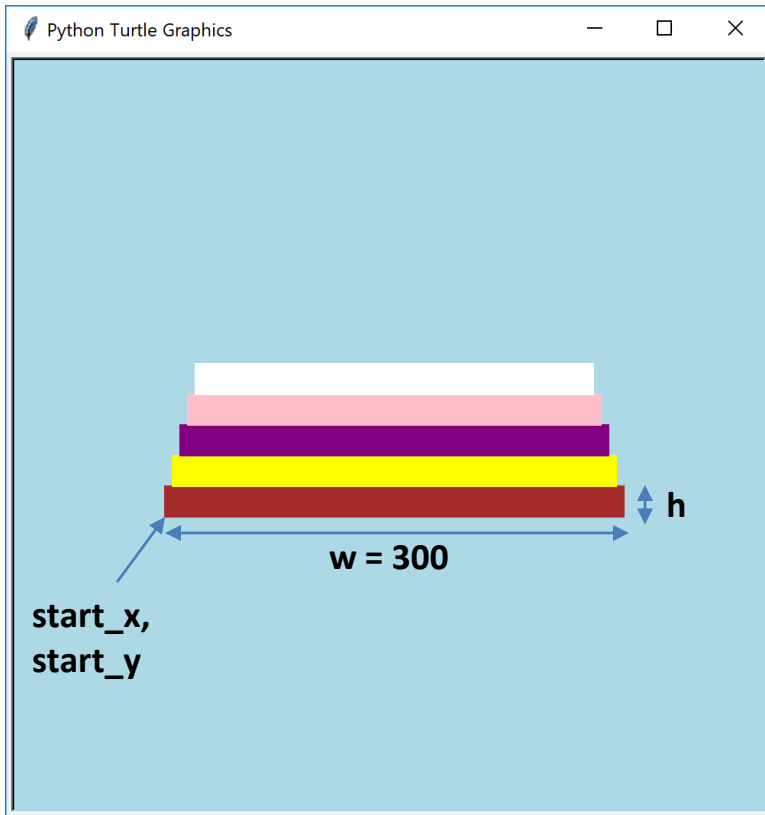
As it applies to birthday cakes ...



Draw picture and mark coordinates and dimensions

```
colors = ["brown", "yellow",  
          "purple", "pink", "white"]  
w = 300  
h = 20  
start_x = -w/2  
start_y = -len(colors)*h/2
```

Code rectangle with current w,h

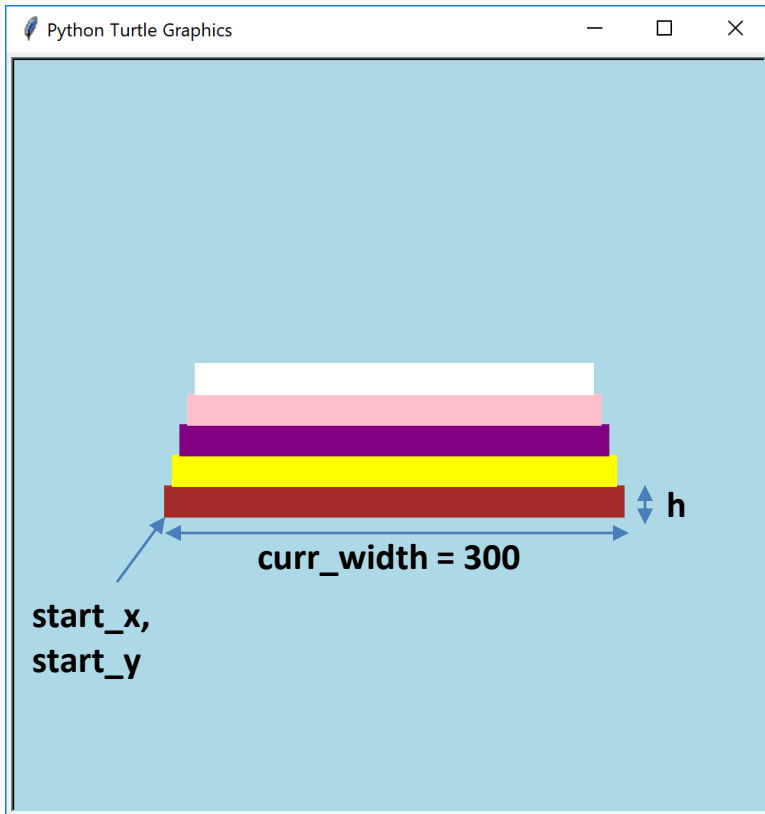


```
pen.goto(start_x, start_y)
pen.color(colors[i])
pen.fillcolor(colors[i])
```

```
pen.begin_fill()
pen.forward(w)
pen.left(90)
pen.forward(h)
pen.left(90)
pen.forward(w)
pen.left(90)
pen.forward(h)
pen.left(90)
pen.end_fill()
```

There are total 5 rectangles to draw

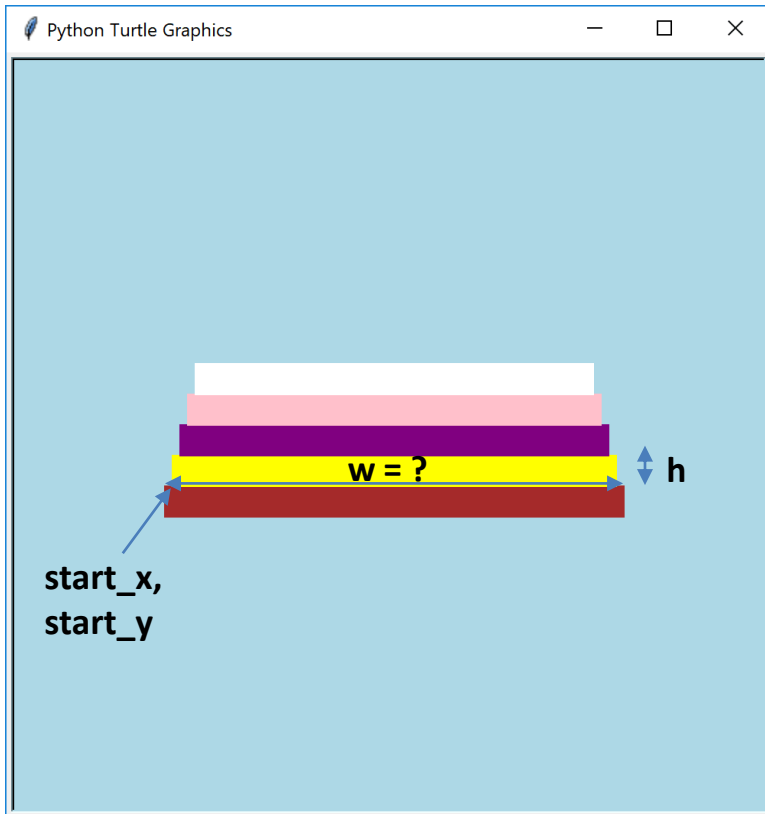
```
for i in range(len(colors)):  
    pen.goto(start_x, start_y)  
    pen.color(colors[i])  
    pen.fillcolor(colors[i])  
  
    pen.begin_fill()  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.end_fill()
```



What changes at each iteration?

```
for i in range(len(colors)):  
    pen.goto(start_x, start_y)  
    pen.color(colors[i])  
    pen.fillcolor(colors[i])
```

```
    pen.begin_fill()  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.end_fill()
```



How *start_x* changes?

How *start_y* changes?

How *w* changes?

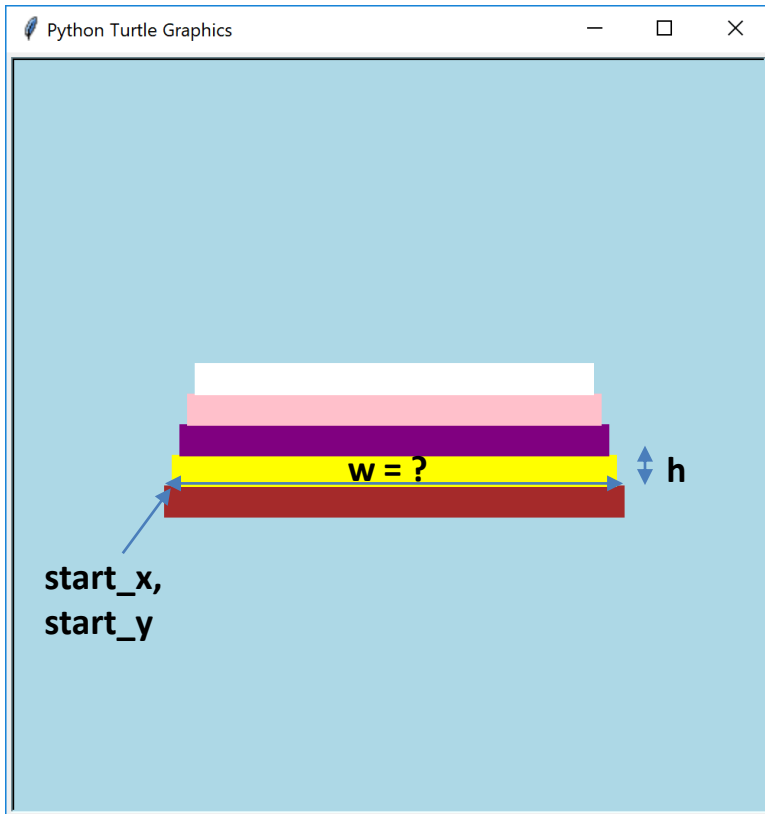
What changes at each iteration?

```
for i in range(len(colors)):  
    pen.goto(start_x, start_y)  
    pen.color(colors[i])  
    pen.fillcolor(colors[i])
```

```
    pen.begin_fill()  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(w)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.forward(h)  
    pen.left(90)  
    pen.end_fill()
```

```
    start_x += 5  
    start_y += h
```

```
    w -= 10
```

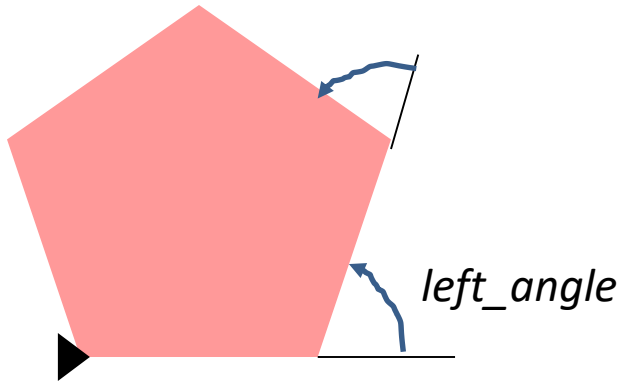


Fast turtle!



- You can adjust the speed of the turtle with **speed()** or with **tracer()**
- **tracer(n)**
 - Sets drawing to update every "regular" n^{th} screen update
 - Use larger values for faster updates
- **tracer(1)**
 - Default – Slowest update
 - To speed up drawing, set to a higher value
- **tracer(0)**
 - Disables screen updates.
 - After you draw, call the **update()** function to force drawing to appear on screen

Designing n-star algorithm



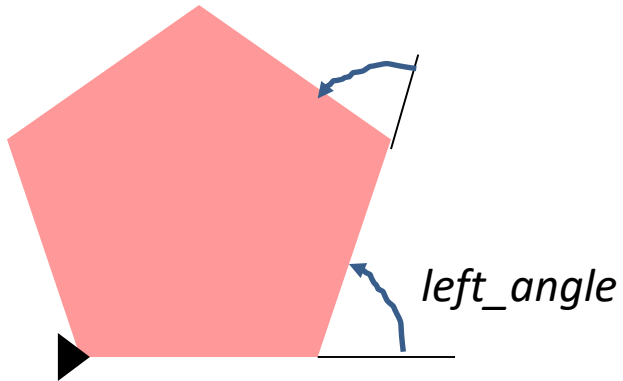
We want to design an algorithm for drawing a generic n-star ($n \geq 5$)

The logic starts with a **polygon**

- How many times did turtle turn to draw a pentagon (5-gon)?
- It ends facing the same direction – so how many degrees did it turn left in total?
- What is the angle at each turn?

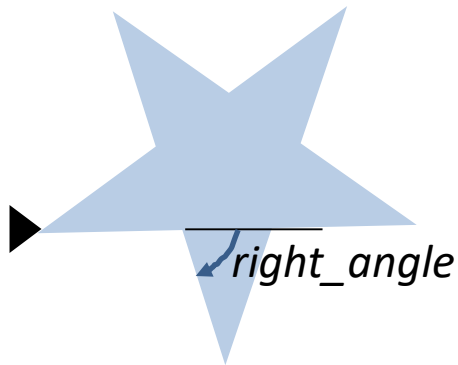


Designing n-star algorithm

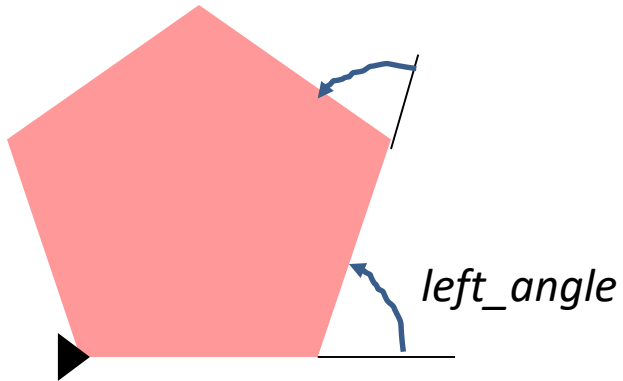


To draw a full star with n rays:

- How many times did turtle turn to the **right**?

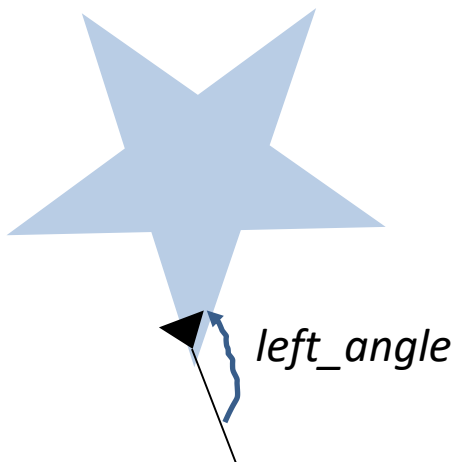


Designing n-star algorithm

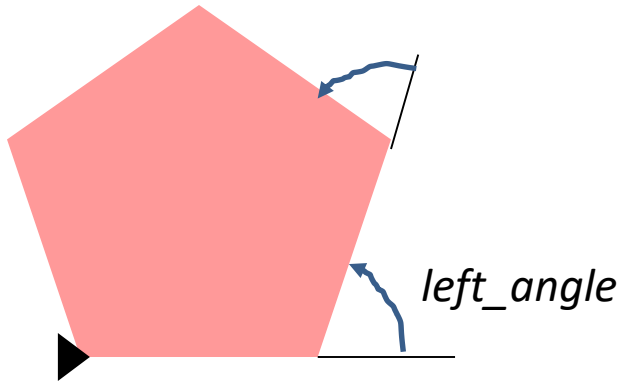


To draw a full star with n rays:

- How many times did turtle turn to the **right**?
n times
- How many times did it turn to the **left**?
n times

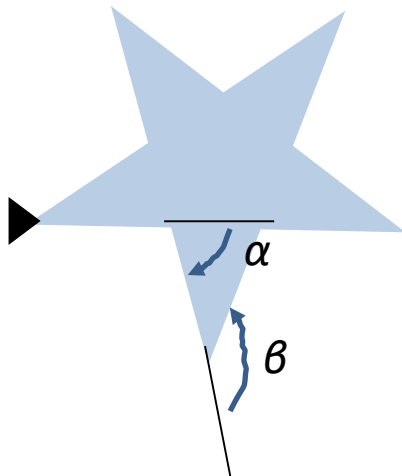


Designing n-star algorithm



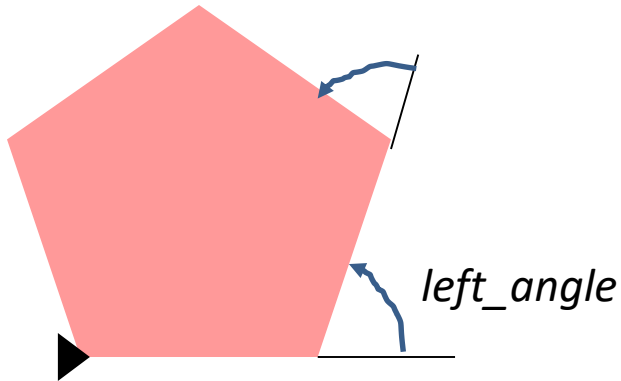
To draw a full star with n rays:

- Turn turtle n times to the **right**
- Turn turtle n times to the **left**
- The turtle ends facing the original direction -- making a complete left turn by 360 degrees



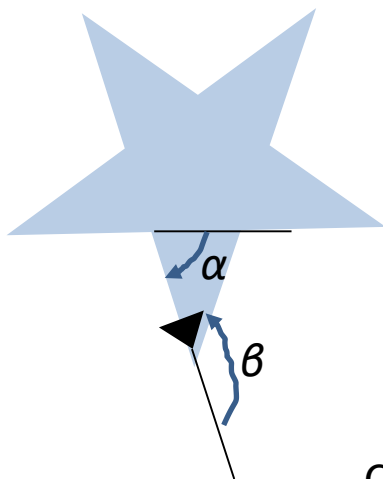
$$\beta = 2\alpha$$

Designing n-star algorithm



To draw a full star with n rays:

- The turtle made a complete left turn by 360 degrees
- But each $left_angle = 2 * right_angle!$



• Therefore:

$$n * \beta - n * \alpha = 360$$

• Thus:

$$right_angle = 360/n$$

$$left_angle = 2 * right_angle$$

Completed version in [star_turtle_algorithm.py](#)

Inspirations

- Interesting drawings can be obtained by running the same drawing routine multiple times
 - Circles forming a flower: [flower.py](#)
 - Circles forming a circular ornament: [circles.py](#)
 - Lines forming a square ornament: [squares.py](#)

- Nested loops are also useful here:
 - Multiple stars forming a circular ornament: [nested_star_loop.py](#)