

# Programs with Loops, The while and do-while Loops

ESC101: Fundamentals of Computing

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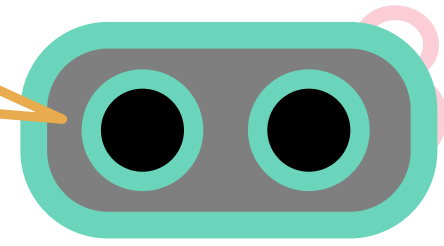
# Announcements

- Major Quiz 1 tomorrow (L-20, 12:00-12:50). Instructions already shared
- Must write your name on answer sheets (minor/major quizzes/exams)
  - Your responsibility. If you miss, it makes it very hard/impossible for us to locate it



# Recap: for Loop

Brackets essential if you want me to do many things while looping



General form of the for loop

```
for(init_expr; stopping_expr; update_expr){
```

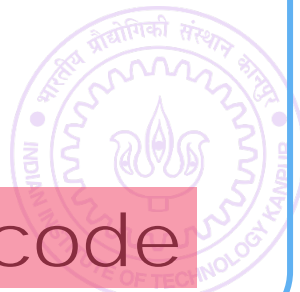
```
statement1;  
statement2;  
...
```

```
}  
statement3;  
statement4;  
...
```

Initialization expression is executed only once

What this piece of code means?

1. First do what is told in initialization expression
2. Then check the stopping expression
3. If stopping expression is true  
Execute all statements inside braces  
Execute update expression  
Go back to step 2  
Else stop looping and execute rest of code



```

int i;
float rsum = 0.0; // sum of reciprocals
for (i=1; i<=4; i=i+1) {
    rsum = rsum + (1.0/i);
}
printf("sum of reciprocals is %f", rsum);

```

i	rsum
5	2.0833333..

$$rsum = 1 + 1/2 + 1/3 + 1/4$$

1. Evaluate `init_expr`; i.e., `i=1`;
2. Evaluate `test_expr` i.e., `i<=4` **TRUE**
3. Enter **body of loop** and execute.
4. Execute `update_expr`; `i=i+1`; i is 2
5. Evaluate `test_expr` `i<=4`: **TRUE**
6. Enter body of loop and execute.
7. Execute `i=i+1`; i is 3
8. Evaluate `test_expr` `i<=4`: **TRUE**
9. Enter body of loop and execute.
10. Execute `i=i+1`; i is 4
11. Evaluate `test_expr` `i<=4`: **TRUE**
12. Enter body of loop and execute.
13. Execute `i=i+1`; i is 5
14. Evaluate `test_expr` `i<=4`: **FALSE**
15. Exit loop & jump to `printf`

sum of reciprocals is 2.083333



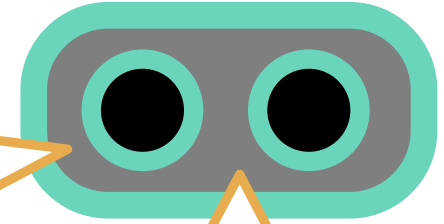
# The for Loop: More on its syntax..

Many forms possible for the init/stopping/update expressions. Some examples:

```
for (i=1;i <= 10; i+=2)
```

```
for (i=1;i <= 64; i*=2)
```

`init_expr` can also be before the start of for loop  
`update_expr` can also be inside the body of for loop



Learn more by practicing 😊

```
for (i=-5,i <= 10; i++)
```

```
for (i=10;i >= 0; i--)
```

```
for (i=1,j=2;i <= 10 && j <= 20; i++,j=j+2)
```

Multiple loop counter variables for the init/ stopping/update expressions

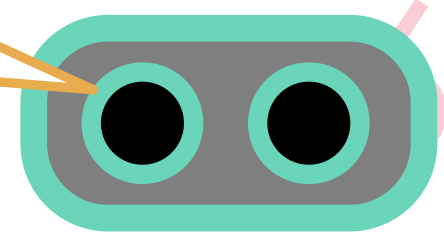
```
for (i=1;i <= 10; i++){  
    for(j=1; j<= i; j++){  
    }  
}
```

Inner loop's counter can depend on outer loop counter's current value



# The while loop

Brackets essential if you want me to do many things while looping



General form of a while loop

```
while(stopping_expr){
```

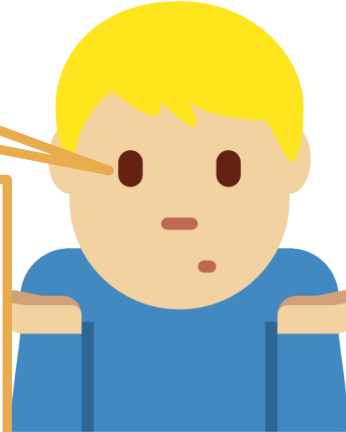
```
statement1;  
statement2;  
...
```

```
}
```

```
statement3;  
statement4;  
...
```

So what is the difference between for and while?

In general not much – it is a matter of style. Often we use while **when we don't exactly know how many iterations will loop run** (but usually it can be done with for loop too)



What this piece of code does?

1. First check the **stopping expression**
2. If stopping expression is true  
Execute **all statements inside braces**  
Go back to step 2  
Else stop looping and execute **rest of code**

# The while loop in action..

```
int a;  
scanf("%d", &a); /* read into a */  
while ( a != -1) {  
    scanf("%d", &a); /*read into a inside loop*/  
}
```

INPUT

4  
15  
-5  
-1  
-3

-1

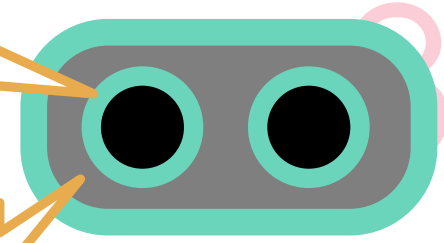
Trace of memory location a

- One scanf is executed every time body of the loop is executed.
- Every scanf execution reads one integer.



# The do-while loop

Brackets essential if you want me to do many things while looping



General form of a do-while loop

Notice additional semi-colon

```
do{  
    statement1;  
    statement2;  
    ...  
}while(stopping_expr);  
statement3;  
statement4;  
...
```



When to use do-while instead of while?

Yet another minor quiz question



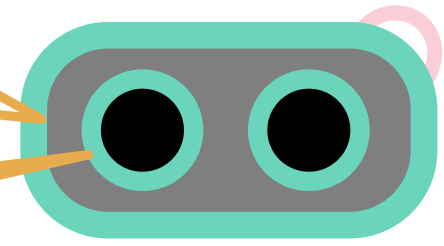
What this piece of code does?

1. First execute statements inside braces
2. Then check stopping criterion
2. If stopping expression is true  
Execute all statements inside braces  
Go back to step 2  
Else stop looping, execute rest of code



# The use of do-while

Notice proper indentation for while and do-while loops



The do-while loop is equivalent to a while loop. Example: *read integers until -1 and ...*

while and do-while are equally powerful, sometimes one looks prettier, easier to read than the other

*until -1 and ...*

```
int num, sum = 0;
scanf("%d", &num);
while(num != -1){
    sum += num;
    scanf("%d", &num);
}
printf("%d", sum);
```

```
int num, sum = 0;
do{
    scanf("%d", &num);
    if(num != -1)
        sum += num;
}while(num != -1);
printf("%d", sum);
```

Some more examples, tips, and  
guidelines on using loops



# Properly Divide Task into Subtasks

Consider printing the pattern shown on right

Step 1: Divide problem into smaller tasks that are very similar and have to be repeated

Often, more than one way may seem possible. Not all may be implementable

For this problem, column-wise printing will be hard. But **row-wise printing** seems like an implementable idea. Row  $i$  can be printed using the following for loop

```
1
1 2
1 2 3
1 2 3 4
...
1 2 3 4 ... 10
```

```
for(j = 1; j <= i; j++)
    printf("%d ", j);
printf("\n");
```

```
for(i=1;i<=10;i++){
    for(j = 1; j <= i; j++)
        printf("%d ", j);
    printf("\n");
}
```

Example of nested for

Can repeat the above for  $i = 1$  to  $i = 10$  using an outer loop



# Order of statements is important

- ◆ Given positive real numbers  $r$  and  $a$ , and a positive integer,  $n$ , the  $n^{\text{th}}$  term of the geometric progression with  $a$  as the first term and  $r$  as the common ratio is  $ar^{n-1}$ .
- ◆ Write a program that given  $r$ ,  $a$ , and  $n$ , displays the first  $n$  terms of the corresponding geometric progression.



# Order of statements is important

```
int main(){
    int n, i; float r, a, term;
    // Reading inputs from the user
    scanf("%f", &r);
    scanf("%f", &a);
    scanf("%d", &n);
    term = a;
    for (i=1; i<=n; i=i+1) {
        printf("%f\n", term); // Displaying  $i^{th}$  term
        term = term * r;    // Computing  $(i + 1)^{th}$  term
    }
    return 0;
}
```

# Order of statements is important

```
int main(){
    int n, i; float r, a, term;
    // Reading inputs from the user
    scanf("%f", &r);
    scanf("%f", &a);
    scanf("%d", &n);
    term = a;
    for (i=1; i<=n; i=i+1) {
        term = term * r;
        printf("%f\n", term);
    }
    return 0;
}
```

**Careful:** Changing the order of statements changes the meaning of the program.

Computation of

$a, ar, \dots, ar^{n-1}$  (previous program)

$ar, ar^2, \dots, ar^n$  (this program)

# The break keyword

Allows us to stop execution and exit immediately

Even if the stopping condition is not met

If we did not have break, infinite loop!

Can be used inside a for loop, while loop, or do-while loop

## When to use break

Avoid if possible

Can make code error-prone and hard to read

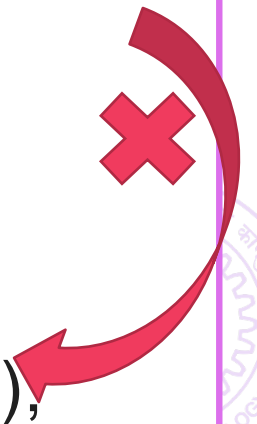
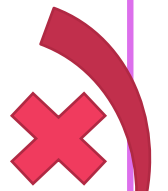
Used when one stopping condition not enough

Or sometimes to make code more elegant

Allows us to avoid specifying a stopping condition

Note: Here, the else not even needed since Mr C. neglects all remaining statements in loop body upon encountering break;

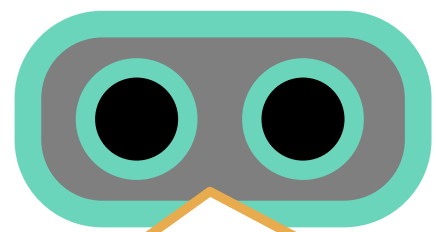
```
int num, sum = 0;
while(1){
    scanf("%d",
    &num);
    if(num == -1)
    break;
    sum += num;
}
printf("%d",sum);
```



# Adding break

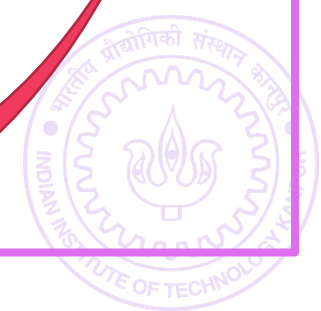
If we did not have break this would have been an infinite loop since no stop\_expr

```
for(init_expr; stop_expr; upd_expr){  
    statement1;  
    statement2;  
    ...  
}  
statement3;  
statement4;
```



Remember, the order is  
stop\_expr → body →  
update → stop\_expr → ...

```
init_expr;  
for(;;){  
    if(!(stop_expr)) break;  
    statement1;  
    statement2;  
    ...  
    upd_expr;  
}  
statement3;  
statement4;
```





# The continue keyword

Allows us to skip the rest of the statements in body of the loop

Upon encountering continue, Mr C thinks that body of loop is over

Loop not exited (unlike break)

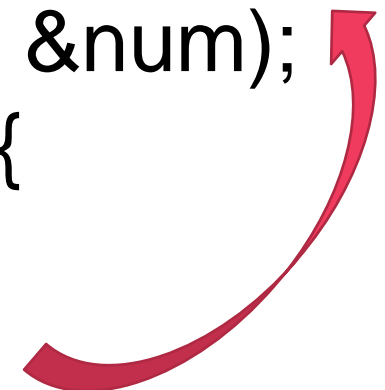
If we say continue **in for loop**, update\_expr evaluated, then stop condition checked

If we say continue **in while** or **do-while** loop, then stop condition checked

In all cases, rest of body not executed

Read 100 integers and print sum of only positive numbers

```
int sum = 0, i, num;
for(i = 1; i <= 100; i++){
    scanf("%d", &num);
    if (num < 0){
        continue;
    }
    sum += num;
}
```



# Careful use

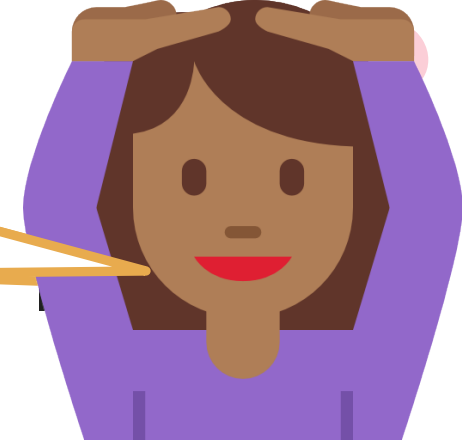
If there are nested loops, `continue` statements apply only to the inner loop

Be careful not to create an infinite loop using `continue` if you bypass any update steps.

If we have a sequence of numbers, it will reach the step we wanted to reach using `continue` statement

Much better, always update counter whether skipping the `sum += num` step using `continue` or not

e



```
for (i = 0; i < 100; i++) {
    for (j = 0; j < 100; j++) {
        if (...) continue;
    }
    statement1;
}
statement2
```

A diagram with a red arrow pointing from the `continue;` line in the inner loop to the `i++;` line in the outer loop. A red 'X' is placed over the `i++;` line, indicating that the counter is not updated.

```
int i = 0, sum = 0, num;
while (i < 100) {
    i++;
    scanf("%d", &num);
    if (num < 0) continue;
    sum += num;
}
```

A diagram with a red arrow pointing from the `continue;` line to the `i++;` line, indicating that the counter is updated.

# Careful using break, continue

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**Excessive use** of break and continue can make your program **error-prone**, and **hard for you to correct**

If you have 10 break statements inside the same loop body, you will have a hard time figuring out which one caused your loop to end

If you have 10 continue statements inside the same loop body, you will have a hard time figuring out why body statements are not getting executed.

Should not misuse break, continue - used in moderation these can result in nice, beautiful code

We will see some elegant alternatives to break, continue



# Break and Continue: Summary

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**Break** helps us **exit loop immediately**

In for loops, even update\_expr or stop\_expr not checked – just exit

In while, do-while loops, even stop\_expr not checked – just exit

**Continue** helps us **skip the rest of the body of loop**

In for loops, after Mr C receives a continue statement, he evaluates the update\_expr (if it's inside for() part), then checks the stop\_expr and so on

...

In while loops, after Mr C receives a continue statement, he checks the stop\_expr

Loop not exited just because of continue, stop\_expr still controls exit

**Warning:** Break legal only in body of loops and switch

Illegal inside body of if, if-else statements

**Warning:** Continue legal only in body of loops

Illegal inside body of if, if-else, switch statements

