while Loop Lesson
CS1313 Fall 2018

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while Loop Example #1

#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    const int minimum_number_of_clowns = 0;
    const int program_success_code = 0;
    const int program_failure_code = -1;
    int number_of_sad_clowns;
while Loop Example #2

```c
printf("What is the number of sad clowns?\n");
scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
while (number_of_sad_clowns <
    minimum_number_of_clowns) {
    printf("ERROR: you can't have a");
    printf(" negative number of sad clowns!\n");
    printf("So really, what is the");
    printf(" number of sad clowns?\n");
    scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
} /* while (number_of_sad_clowns < ...) */
printf("The number of sad clowns is valid.\n");
return program_success_code;
} /* main */
```
while Loop Example #3

% gcc -o clowns_idiot_while clowns_idiot_while.c
% clowns_idiot_while

What is the number of sad clowns?
-5
ERROR: you can't have a negative number of sad clowns!
So really, what is the number of sad clowns?
-4
ERROR: you can't have a negative number of sad clowns!
So really, what is the number of sad clowns?
0
The number of sad clowns is valid.
Repetition and Looping

Repetition means performing the same set of statements over and over.

The most common way to perform repetition is via looping.

A loop is a sequence of statements to be executed, in order, over and over, as long as some condition continues to be true.
C has a loop construct known as a `while` loop:

```
while (condition) {
    statement1;
    statement2;
    ...
}
```

The condition of a `while` loop is a Boolean expression completely enclosed in parentheses – just like the condition of an `if` block.

The sequence of statements between the `while` statement’s block open and block close is known as the `loop body`.
while Loop Behavior

while (condition) {
    statement1;
    statement2;
    ...
}

A while loop has the following behavior:
1. The condition is evaluated, resulting in a value of either true (1) or false (0).
2. If the condition evaluates to false (0), then the statements inside the loop body are skipped, and control is passed to the statement that is immediately after the while loop’s block close.
3. If the condition evaluates to true (1), then:
   a. the statements inside the loop body are executed in sequence.
   b. When the while loop’s block close is encountered, the program jumps back up to the associated while statement and starts over with Step 1.
while Loop vs. if Block

A `while` loop is **SIMILAR** to an `if` block, **EXCEPT:**

1. **UNLIKE** an `if` block, the **keyword** is `while`.

2. **UNLIKE** an `if` block, when a `while` loop gets to its block close, it **jumps back up** to the associated `while` statement.

3. **UNLIKE** an `if` block, a `while` loop has **EXACTLY ONE** clause, which is analogous to the `if` clause. A `while` loop **CANNOT** have anything analogous to an `else if` clause nor to an `else` clause.
**while Loop Flowchart**

```java
statement_before;
while (condition) {
    statement_inside1;
    statement_inside2;
    ...
}
statement_after;
```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main ()
{
    const int minimum_number_of_clowns = 0;
    const int program_success_code = 0;
    const int program_failure_code = -1;
    int number_of_sad_clowns;
}
while Loop Example #2

```c
define("minimum_number_of_clowns", 0);

printf("What is the number of sad clowns?\n");
scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
while (number_of_sad_clowns <
    minimum_number_of_clowns) {
    printf("ERROR: you can't have a negative number of sad clowns!\n");
    printf("So really, what is the number of sad clowns?\n");
    scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
} /* while (number_of_sad_clowns < ...) */
printf("The number of sad clowns is valid.\n");
return program_success_code;
} /* main */
```
while Loop Example #3

```bash
% gcc -o clowns_idiot_while clowns_idiot_while.c
% clowns_idiot_while
What is the number of sad clowns?
-5
ERROR: you can't have a negative number of sad clowns!
So really, what is the number of sad clowns?
-4
ERROR: you can't have a negative number of sad clowns!
So really, what is the number of sad clowns?
0
The number of sad clowns is valid.
```
while Loop Example Flowchart

printf("What is the number of sad clowns?\n");
scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
while (number_of_sad_clowns < minimum_number_of_clowns) {
    printf("ERROR: you can't have a");
    printf(" negative number of sad clowns!\n");
    printf("So really, what is the");
    printf(" number of sad clowns?\n");
    scanf("%d", &number_of_sad_clowns);
} /* while (number_of_sad_clowns < ...) */
printf("the number of sad clowns is valid.\n");

Prompt for # sad clowns.

Input # sad clowns.

# sad clowns < 0

False

True

Output error.

Prompt again.

Input # sad clowns again.

Output valid.
Execute Body How Many Times?

```java
while (condition) {
    statement1;
    statement2;
    ...
}
```

If the condition evaluates to false (0), then the loop body won’t be executed at all (that is, zero times).

If the condition evaluates to true (1), then the loop body may be executed at least one more time.
An Infinite Loop #1

An *infinite loop* is a loop whose condition never evaluates to false.

```c
#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    const int computers_number = 5;
    const int program_success_code = 0;
    int users_number;

    printf("Enter an integer:\n");
    scanf("%d", &users_number);
    printf("I had %d.\n", computers_number);
    while (users_number < computers_number) {
        printf("Your number is less than mine!\n");
    } /* while (users_number < computers_number) */
    return program_success_code;
} /* main */
```
An Infinite Loop #2

% gcc -o infiniteloop infiniteloop.c
% infiniteloop
Enter an integer:
6
I had 5.
% infiniteloop
Enter an integer:
5
I had 5.
% infiniteloop
Enter an integer:
4
I had 5.
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
Your number is less than mine!
...

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Aside: How to Kill a Program in Unix

On most Unix systems, including ssh.ou.edu, you can quit out of a program that is currently executing by typing:

```
Ctrl - C
```
Kinds of Statements Inside while Loop

Between the while statement’s block open and its associated block close, there can be any kind of executable statements, and any number of them.

For example:
- printf statements;
- scanf statements;
- assignment statements;
- if blocks;
- while loops.

There are several other kinds of executable statements that can occur inside a while loop, some of which we’ll learn later in the semester.
Statements Inside while Loop

In the event that the `while` condition evaluates to true (1), then the statements inside the `while` loop body will be executed one by one, in the order in which they appear in the `while` loop.
No Declarations Inside while Loop

Notice that a while loop **SHOULDN’T** contain declaration statements, because the while statement is an executable statement, and ALL declarations **MUST** come before ANY executable statements.
Compound Statement a.k.a. Block #1

A compound statement is a sequence of statements, with a well-defined beginning and a well-defined end, to be executed, in order, under certain circumstances.

A while loop is a compound statement, just like an if block. We’ll see others later.

Although a while loop is actually a sequence of statements, we can treat it as a single “super” statement in some contexts.

Compound statements are also known as blocks.
Compound Statement a.k.a. Block #2

In C, a compound statement, also known as a block, is delimited by curly braces.
That is, a compound statement/block begins with a block open

{  
and ends with a block close

}
Another while Loop Example #1

#include <stdio.h>

int main ()
{ /* main */
    const int minimum_number =  1;
    const int maximum_number  = 100;
    const int computers_number =  32;
    const int close_distance  =  5;
    const int very_close_distance =  1;
    const int negative_distance = -1;
    const int no_distance  =  0;
    const int program_success_code =  0;
    int users_number, users_distance;
    int users_last_distance = negative_distance;
    char correct_number_hasnt_been_input = 1;
Another while Loop Example #2

```c
printf("I'm thinking of a number between %d and %d.\n", minimum_number, maximum_number);
while (correct_number_hasnt_been_input) {
    printf("What number am I thinking of?\n");
    scanf("%d", &users_number);
    if ((users_number < minimum_number) ||
        (users_number > maximum_number)) {
        printf("Hey! That's not between %d and %d!\n", minimum_number, maximum_number);
        printf("I'll pretend you didn’t say that.\n");
    } /* if ((users_number < minimum_number) || ...) */
    else if (users_number == computers_number) {
        printf("That's amazing!\n");
        correct_number_hasnt_been_input = 0;
    } /* if (users_number == computers_number) */
```

Another while Loop Example #3

```c
else {
    users_distance =
        abs(users_number - computers_number);
    if (users_distance == very_close_distance) {
        printf("You're incredibly hot!\n");
    } /* if (users_distance == very_close_distance) */
    else if (users_last_distance < no_distance) {
        printf("Not bad for your first try.\n");
    } /* if (users_last_distance < no_distance) */
    else if (users_distance < users_last_distance) {
        printf("You're getting warmer ....\n");
    } /* if (users_distance < users_last_distance) */
    else if (users_distance > users_last_distance) {
        printf("Ouch! You’re getting colder.\n");
    } /* if (users_distance > users_last_distance) */
    else {
        printf("Uh oh. You made no progress.\n");
    } /* if (users_distance > ...)...else */
    users_last_distance = users_distance;
} /* if (users_number == computers_number)...else */
} /* while (correct_number_hasnt_been_input) */
printf("Good for you!\n");
return program_success_code;
} /* main */
```
Another while Loop Example #4

```bash
% gcc -o warmercolder warmercolder.c
% warmercolder
I'm thinking of a number between 1 and 100.
What number am I thinking of?
0
Hey! That's not between 1 and 100!
I'll pretend you didn’t say that.
What number am I thinking of?
101
Hey! That's not between 1 and 100!
I'll pretend you didn’t say that.
What number am I thinking of?
50
Not bad for your first try.
What number am I thinking of?
40
You're getting warmer ....
What number am I thinking of?
60
Ouch! You’re getting colder.
```
Another while Loop Example #5

What number am I thinking of?
30
You're getting warmer ....
What number am I thinking of?
35
Ouch! You're getting colder.
What number am I thinking of?
33
You're incredibly hot!
What number am I thinking of?
31
You're incredibly hot!
What number am I thinking of?
32
That's amazing!
Good for you!
Yet Another while Loop Example #1

```c
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdlib.h>

int main ()
{
    const int initial_sum          =  0;
    const int increment            =  1;
    const int program_success_code =  0;
    const int program_failure_code = -1;
    int initial_value, final_value;
    int count;
    int sum;
```
Yet Another `while` Loop Example #2

```c
printf("What value would you like to ");
printf("start counting at?\n");
scanf("%d", &initial_value);
printf("What value would you like to ");
printf("stop counting at,\n");
printf(" which must be greater than ");
printf("or equal to %d?\n", initial_value);
scanf("%d", &final_value);
if (final_value < initial_value) {
    printf("ERROR: the final value %d is less\n", final_value);
    printf(" than the initial value %d.\n", initial_value);
    exit(program_failure_code);
} /* if (final_value < initial_value) */
```
Yet Another while Loop Example #3

```c
sum   = initial_sum;
count = initial_value;
while (count <= final_value) {
    sum = sum + count;
    count = count + increment;
} /* while (count <= final_value) */
printf("The sum of the integers from");
printf(" %d through %d is %d.\n",
    initial_value, final_value, sum);
return program_success_code;
} /* main */
```
Yet Another while Loop Example #4

```
% gcc -o whilecount whilecount.c
% whilecount
What value would you like to start counting at?
1
What value would you like to stop counting at, which must be greater than or equal to 1?
0
ERROR: the final value 0 is less than the initial value 1.
% whilecount
What value would you like to start counting at?
1
What value would you like to stop counting at, which must be greater than or equal to 1?
5
The sum of the integers from 1 through 5 is 15.
```
States & Traces #1

The **state** of a program is the set of values of all of its variables at a given moment during execution; that is, it’s a **snapshot** of the memory that’s being used.

The state also includes information about **where you are** in the program when that snapshot is taken.

A **trace** of a program is a listing of the state of the program after each statement is executed.

Tracing helps us to examine the behavior of a piece of code, and so it sometimes can be useful in debugging.
States & Traces #2

Suppose that, in the previous example program, the user input 1 for initial_value and 5 for final_value.

Let’s examine the program fragment around the loop.

```c
sum   = initial_sum;
count = initial_value;
while (count <= final_value) {
    sum = sum + count;
    count = count + increment;
} /* while (count <= final_value) */
```
States & Traces #3

sum = initial_sum;
count = initial_value;
while (count <= final_value) {
    sum = sum + count;
    count = count + increment;
} /* while (count <= final_value) */

If we number these statements, we get:

1   sum = initial_sum;
2   count = initial_value;
3   while (count <= final_value) {
    4       sum = sum + count;
    5       count = count + increment;
} /* while (count <= final_value) */
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```java
1   sum = initial_sum;
2   count = initial_value;
3   while (count <= final_value) {
4       sum = sum + count;
5       count = count + increment;
6   } /* while (count <= final_value) */
```

### Snapshot of Trace Comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Iteration #</th>
<th>After stmt #</th>
<th>Value of sum</th>
<th>Value of count</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>garbage</td>
<td>Haven’t entered loop yet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Haven’t entered loop yet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to true (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>new sum = old sum + count = 0 + 1 = 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>new count = old count + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Jump back up to stmt #3 to start iteration #2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tracing the Loop #2

1. `sum = initial_sum;`
2. `count = initial_value;`
3. `while (count <= final_value) {
   4.       sum = sum + count;
   5.       count = count + increment;
   6. } /* while (count <= final_value) */`

### Snapshot of Trace Comments

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Iteration #</th>
<th>After stmt #</th>
<th>Value of sum</th>
<th>Value of count</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to true (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td><code>new sum = old sum + count = 1 + 2 = 3</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td><code>new count = old count + 1 = 2 + 1 = 3</code></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jump back up to stmt #3 to start iteration #3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
```
1   sum   = initial_sum;
2   count = initial_value;
3   while (count <= final_value) {
4       sum = sum + count;
5       count = count + increment;
6   } /* while (count <= final_value) */
```

### Snapshot of Trace

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Iteration #</th>
<th>After stmt #</th>
<th>Value of sum</th>
<th>Value of count</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to true (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>new sum = old sum + count = 3 + 3 = 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>new count = old count + 1 = 3 + 1 = 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Jump back up to stmt #3 to start iteration #4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tracing the Loop #4

1. `sum = initial_sum;`
2. `count = initial_value;`
3. `while (count <= final_value) {
   4. `sum = sum + count;
   5. `count = count + increment;
   6. `}

/* while (count <= final_value) */

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snapshot of Iteration #</th>
<th>After stmt #</th>
<th>Trace Value of sum</th>
<th>Value of count</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to true (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>new sum = old sum + count = 6 + 4 = 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>new count = old count + 1 = 4 + 1 = 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jump back up to stmt #3 to start iteration #5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tracing the Loop #5

1   sum   = initial_sum;
2   count = initial_value;
3   while (count <= final_value) {
   4       sum = sum + count;
   5       count = count + increment;
4   } /* while (count <= final_value) */

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Snapshot of Iteration #</th>
<th>After stmt #</th>
<th>Trace Value of sum</th>
<th>Trace Value of count</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to true (1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>new sum = old sum + count = 10 + 5 = 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>new count = old count + 1 = 5 + 1 = 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Jump back up to stmt #3 to start iteration #6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Condition evaluates to false (0), loop exited</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>