

CSE 142 Computer Programming I

Loops

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K-1

Loop Design

The first question is, "What is the loop body?"

The next question is, "What is the termination test?"

The third question is, "Should the termination test come at the top of the loop or at the bottom?"

The final problem is translating those answers into C.

K-2

Some Examples

Just type back (exactly) the line of input the user typed.

Loop body?

Read one character; print that character

Termination test?

The character read is '\n'

Test Location?

I want to print the '\n', so I want to enter the loop body at least once ⇒ At the bottom

K-3

Writing That in C

```
do {
    scanf ("%c", &nextChar);
    Printf ("%c", nextChar);
} while (nextChar != '\n');
```

K-4

Example 2

Flush (throw away) the rest of the input line.

Loop body?

Read one character

Termination test?

The character read is '\n'

Test Location?

Read the character then test ⇒ At the bottom

K-5

Writing That in C

```
do {
    scanf ("%c", &nextChar);
} while (nextChar != '\n');
```

K-6

Example 3

A rule of thumb is that money invested at X% will double in about $72 / X$ years. Is that (roughly) right?

Loop body?

Simulate one year passing: Multiply current amount by $(1+X/100)$; increment counter of number of years by 1.

Termination test?

Stop as soon as the money has doubled

Test Location?

Ambiguous: "stop after n years" (bottom) and "stop before going another year" (year) are the same

K-7

Writing That in C

```
currentAmount = 1.0;
numYears = 0;
do {
    currentAmount = currentAmount * (1+X/100.0);
    numYears = numYears + 1;
} while (currentAmount < 2.0);
```

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Writing That in C (Again)

```
currentAmount = 1.0;
numYears = 0;
while (currentAmount < 2.0){
    currentAmount = currentAmount * (1+X/100.0);
    numYears = numYears + 1;
}
```

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Example 4: Simple Adding Machine

Evaluate expressions like "238 + 18 - 10 + 18"

Loop body?

Tricky: 238 + 18 - 10 + 18

Read an operator; read an operand; update expression value

Termination test?

Stop when no more [operator, value] pairs left in put

Test Location?

Top: There may not be any iterations of the loop body_{K-10}

Writing That in C

```
nItemsRead = scanf("%d", &currentValue);
// test for input error
while (* still more input *) {
    opChar = GetNextOpchar();
    nItemsRead = scanf("%d", &nextOperand);
    // test for input error
    currentValue = Operate (currentValue, opChar, nextOperand);
}
```

K-11

Example 5:

Event-Driven Programming

Modern programs tend to be "event-driven"

Program starts, sets itself up.

Program enters a loop, waiting for some event or command to happen:

mouse click, key click, timer, menu selection, etc.

Program performs operation ("handles" the event or command)

Program goes back to its wait loop

K-12

Simple Command Interpreter

Repeatedly read in "commands" and handle them.

Input (symbolized by single characters)

a -- execute command A by calling *process_A()*
b -- execute command B by calling *process_B()*
q -- quit

Pseudocode for main loop:

get next command
if a, execute command A
if b, execute command B
if q, signal quit

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Command Interpreter Loop Control Schema

repeat until quit signal

use variable "done" to indicate when done

```
set done to false
do {
    body statements
    if quit command, set done to true
} while done is false
```

K-14

Command Interpreter

```
int main(void) {
    int FALSE=0;
    int TRUE=1;
    char command;
    int done;

    done = FALSE;
    do {
        command = ReadCommand(); /* get command from user */

        if (command == 'A'){
            processA (); /* execute command A */
        } else if (command == 'B') {
            processB (); /* execute command B */
        } else if (command == 'Q') {
            done = TRUE; /* quit */
        } else {
            printf("Unrecognized command\n");
        }
    } while (! done);

    return 0;
}
```

K-15

Example 6

Print a line with n asterisks (e.g., "*****")

Loop body?

Print one asterisk
Update count of number printed so far

Termination test?

Stop when number printed == n

Test Location?

Top: Allows n=0 (and n<0 in a way)

K-16

Writing That in C

```
for (starCount=0; starCount<n; starCount = starCount+1) {
    printf ("**");
}
```

Loop body executes for values of iteration variable (starCount) 0, 1, 2, ..., n-1

K-17

Example 6

Print the following:

```
N *****
N-1 *****
N-2 *****
*****
*****
*****
***
**
*
```

Loop body?

Print one row of n stars

Termination test?

Stop when n == 0

Test Location?

Top (allows for 0 rows total)

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