## REPETITION

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# REPETITION, OR *ITERATION*, IS THE MOST IMPORTANT CONCEPT WE'LL STUDY IN THIS CLASS

- The key to the power of computer programming is to recognize repetitive patterns and generalize those patterns
- Example: print the numbers 1-10 in the Console
- The only way we could do this knowing what we know now would be to use 10 separate println() statements

#### THE BRUTE FORCE SOLUTION

```
println(1);
println(2);
println(3);
println(4);
println(5);
println(6);
println(7);
println(8);
println(9);
println(10);
```

#### THE BRUTE FORCE SOLUTION: LIMITATIONS

- The brute force solution is correct...but what if we wanted all the numbers from 1 to 1000?
- Brute force involves way too much work (and way too much code!)
- Instead, we should look for a repetitive pattern
- Here, we want to do the same thing to each of the values starting with 1 and going up to 10 (print them to the console)

#### REPETITION IN PROGRAMMING: THE KEY

- We need to write the operation to be performed in a general way (using a variable)
- Here, the operation to be performed is println(x);
- We want to do that for all the values from 1 to 10

#### **USING A VARIABLE IN THIS SOLUTION**

```
int x = 1;
   println(x);
   x += 1;
  println(x);
 6 x += 1;
   println(x);
 8 x += 1;
9 println(x);
10 x += 1;
println(x);
12 x += 1;
13 println(x);
14 x += 1;
15 println(x);
16 x += 1;
17 println(x);
18 x += 1;
19 println(x);
20 x += 1;
21 println(x);
```

#### WHAT OPERATIONS ARE BEING REPEATED?

Done once at the beginning:

```
int x = 1;
```

Done ten times in a row:

```
println(x);
x += 1;
```

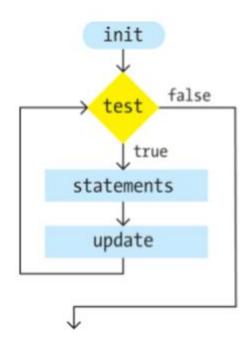
## THE for STATEMENT IN PROCESSING

Purpose: repeatedly execute a block of code a specific number of times

```
for (int x = 1; x <= 10; x++) {
    println(x);
}</pre>
```

What if we wanted all the numbers from 1 to 1000? Much easier this way!

## THE for STATEMENT IN PROCESSING: THE LOGIC



```
for (init; test; update) {
   statements
}
```

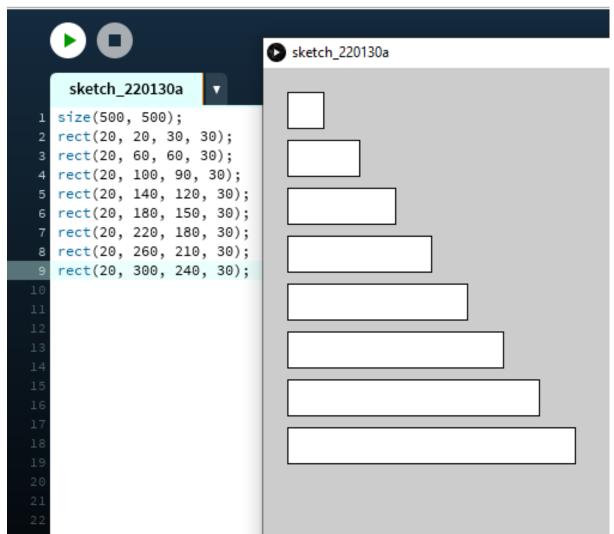
### WHERE'S THE REPETITION?



#### WHERE'S THE REPETITION IN THE CODE?

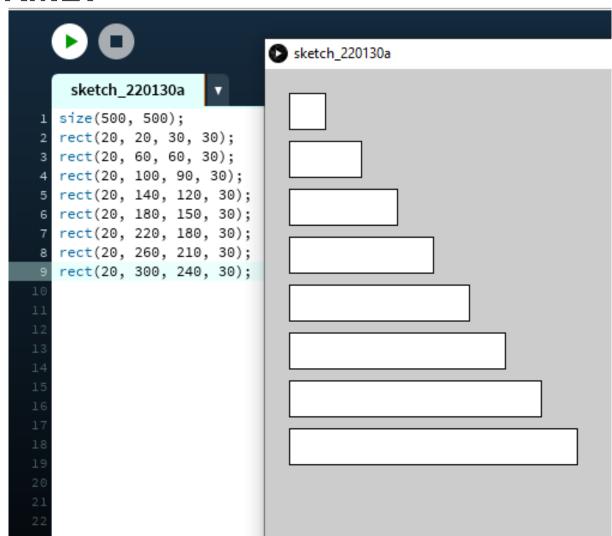
Consider this example – what does it do?

What is changing from line to line, and what is staying the same?



#### WHAT'S CHANGING? WHAT'S THE SAME?

- The vertical position of each rectangle changes
- The width of each rectangle changes
- But the horizontal position and length of each rectangle stays the same
- How can we generalize this idea and use repetition?

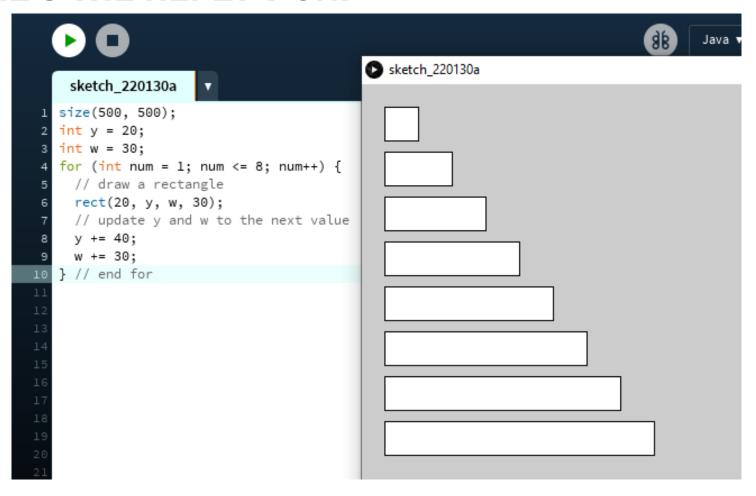


#### **GENERALIZING WITH VARIABLES**

- Write the statement once, with variables for what changes and constants for everything else
- We can use y for the vertical position and w for the width of the rectangle

- y should start at 20 and w should start at 30
- Draw the rectangle, then increase y by 40 and increase w by 30
- Repeat this once for each rectangle to be drawn (in this case, that means 8 times)

#### **HERE'S THE REPETITION!**



- What if we want to make5 rectangles, or 12?
- Just change the number of times the loop is executed!

## AS SERIES OF for LOOPS

These for loops are adjacent. The vertical circles are drawn by the first loop, and the horizontal circles are drawn by the second loop.



## REMEMBER NESTED if STATEMENTS?

#### From Lab 2:

```
int x = 0;

void setup() {
    frameRate(10);
} // end setup

void draw() {
    if (keyPressed) {
        if (key == '+') {
            x++;
      }
      else if (key == '-') {
            x--;
      }
      print("x now = ");
      println(x);
} // end if (keyPressed)

} // end draw
```

The if and else if that check for the + and - keys are nested inside if (keyPressed). That's why the closing curly brace for if (keyPressed) comes after the closing curly braces for if (key == '+') and if (key == '-').

## WE CAN EMBED for LOOPS, TOO!

The number of repetitions is multiplied!

- The outer for loop starts
- Then the entire inner for loop runs until the condition x <= width is false</p>
- Then the outer for loop updates (y += 40) and the entire inner for loop runs again until the condition x <= width is false</p>
- Then the outer for loop updates again. The process repeats until the outer for loop's condition (y <= height) is false</p>
- Be careful with syntax! The outer loop's closing curly brace comes after the inner loop's closing curly brace

