

BLG 102E

Introduction to Scientific Computing and Engineering

SPRING 2025

WEEK 4

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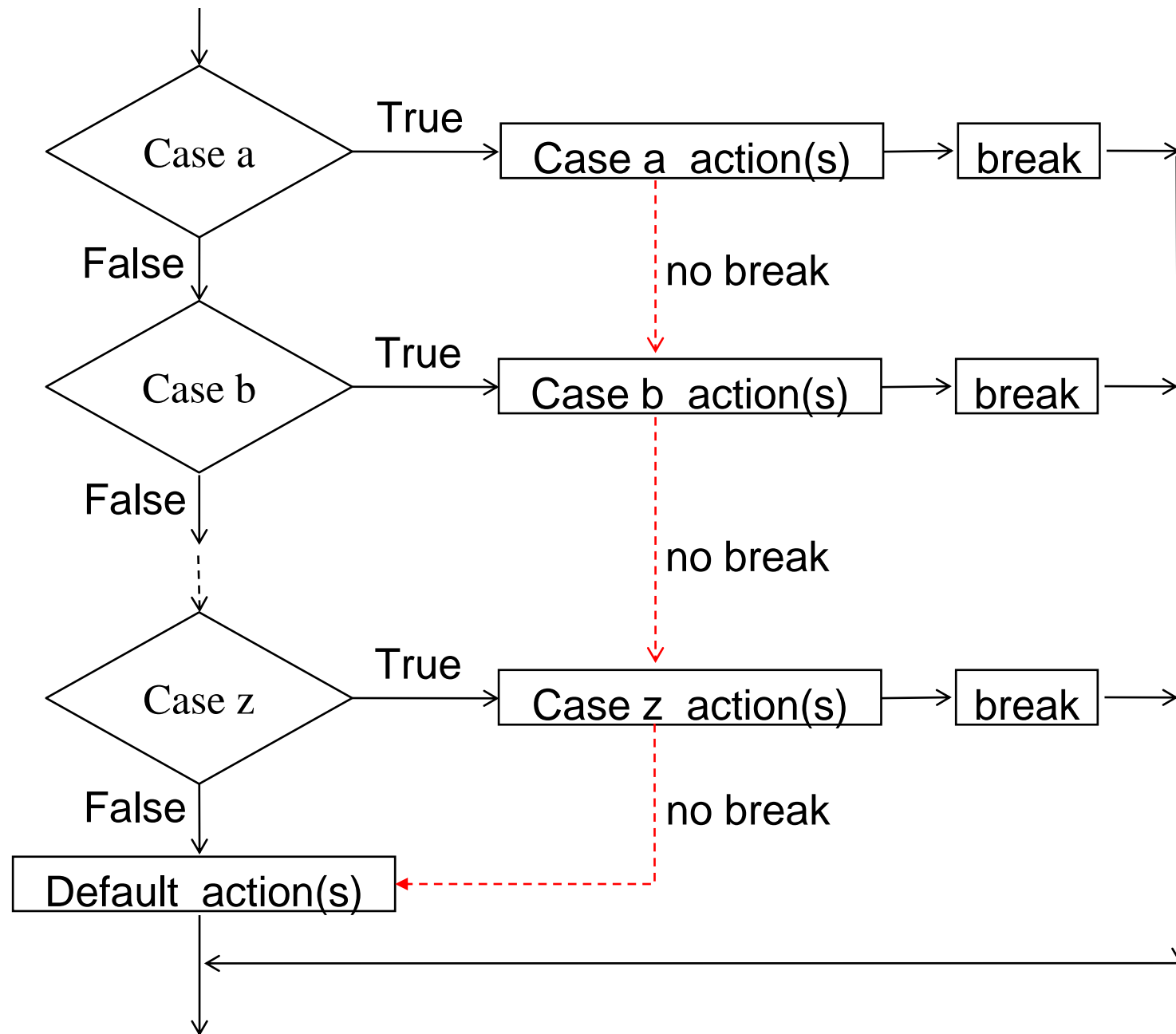


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Switch Statement

- Flowchart of the switch statement

```
switch (value) {  
  case 1:  
    actions  
  case 2:  
    actions  
  
  ...  
  
  default:  
    actions  
}
```



Days Switch

```
switch (month) {  
    case 1:  
        days = 31;  
        break;  
    case 2:  
        days = leap ? 29 : 28;  
        break;  
    case 3:  
        days = 31;  
        break;  
  
    ...  
    ...  
  
    case 11:  
        days = 30;  
        break;  
    case 12:  
        days = 31;  
        break;  
}
```

```
switch (month) {  
    case 2:  
        days = leap ? 29 : 28;  
        break;  
    case 4:  
    case 6:  
    case 9:  
    case 11:  
        days = 30;  
        break;  
    default:  
        days = 31;  
        break;  
}
```

Enumerations

- define multiple named constants in sequence
- as a type

```
enum ENUM_NAME { NAME1 = VAL1, NAME2 = VAL2, . . . } ;
```

- variable definition:

```
enum ENUM_NAME VARIABLE_NAME = INITIAL_VALUE;
```

Enumeration Values

- if no value given, previous + 1

```
enum month_e { JAN = 1, FEB, MAR, . . . , DEC } ;
```

- if no value given for first item, start from 0

```
enum month_e { JAN, FEB, MAR, . . . , DEC } ;
```

Enumeration Example

```
enum month_e {JAN = 1, FEB = 2, ... , DEC = 12};
```

```
enum month_e month = FEB;
```

Days Switch

```
switch (month) {  
    case FEB:  
        days = leap ? 29 : 28;  
        break;  
    case APR:  
    case JUN:  
    case SEP:  
    case NOV:  
        days = 30;  
        break;  
    default:  
        days = 31;  
        break;  
}
```

Type Aliases

- give an existing type a new name

```
typedef OLD_NAME NEW_NAME;
```

- both names can be used interchangeably

Type Alias Example

```
enum month_e { JAN = 1, FEB, MAR, APR, ... , DEC };  
  
typedef enum month_e month_t;  
  
month_t month = FEB;
```

Characters

- data type for characters: char
- literals written within single quotes

```
char gender = 'F';
```

Character Values

- one-byte numeric value: ASCII number

```
char gender = 'F';
```

```
// same as:
```

```
char gender = 70;
```

- only reliable with English letters

Character Expressions

- numeric operations allowed

```
letter - 'A'    // order in alphabet
```

```
digit - '0'     // convert character digit to number
```

```
num + '0'       // convert numeric digit to char
```

I/O

- format specifier: %c

New York Taxi Fare with Distance Unit

- switch-on price:
\$2.50
- per unit distance price:
\$0.50 per 0.2 miles
- d : travel distance (in miles)

$$2.50 + 0.50 \cdot \left\lceil \frac{d}{0.2} \right\rceil$$

**Generalize so that it will
work with both km and
mile as distance unit!**

HOW ???

New York Taxi Fare I/O

- enter distance in miles or km

```
double distance_inp = 0.0; // travel distance input
char unit;                // distance unit (k or m)

printf("Enter distance: ");
scanf("%lf %c", &distance_inp, &unit);
```

New York Taxi Fare Program

```
switch (unit) {  
    case 'm':  
    case 'M':  
        distance = distance_inp;  
        break;  
    case 'k':  
    case 'K':  
        distance = distance_inp / KM_PER_MILE;  
        break;  
    default:  
        printf("unknown unit");  
        return 1;  
}
```


Loops (Repetitions)

Factorial: Algorithm

Write a program to calculate the factorial of a number.

- **INPUT:** An integer number n (where $n \geq 0$).
- **OUTPUT:** Factorial of the n .
- **PROCESSING:** Factorial is computed as the following.

$$N! = 1 * 2 * 3 * 4 * \dots * N$$

$$0! = 1$$

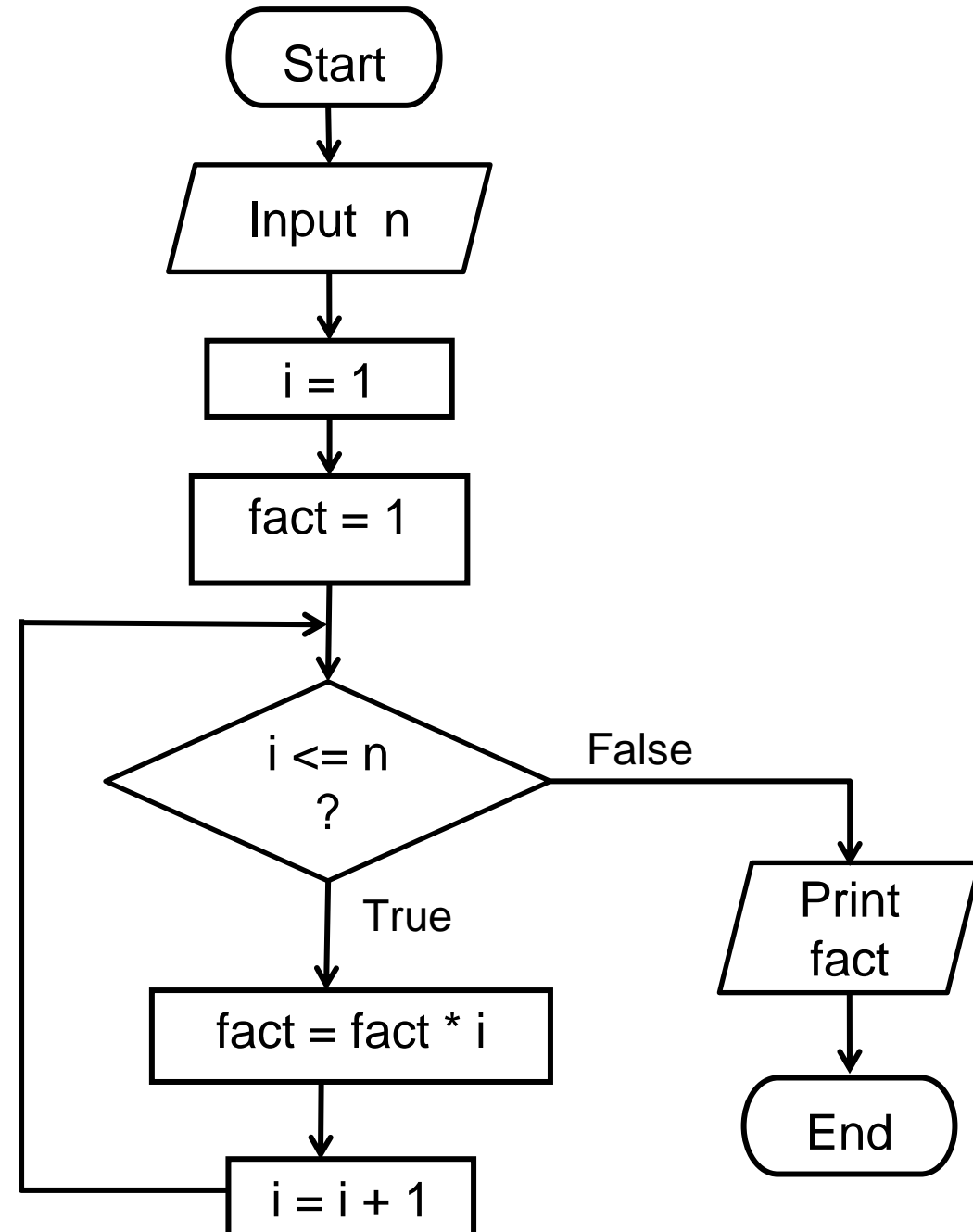
Factorial: Algorithm

Variables:

n : Number (loop limit)

i : Loop counter

fact : Factorial result



Iterative Statement

- execute a block repeatedly based on a condition: **loop**

```
while (CONDITION) {  
    BLOCK  
}
```

- stop when the condition becomes false

Factorial: Variables

```
int n = 0;
```

```
int i = 0;
```

```
int fact = 0;
```

```
printf("Enter a number: ");
```

```
scanf("%d", &n);
```

Factorial: Iteration

- what should we do at every iteration?
- extend the multiplication and generate the next multiplier

```
fact = fact * i;
```

```
i = i + 1;
```

Factorial: Stopping

- How long should we repeat?
- As long as i is less than or equal to n

$$i \leq n$$

Factorial: Loop

- iteration:

```
while (i <= n) {  
    fact = fact * i;  
    i = i + 1;  
}
```

- we have to set fact and i before the loop

Factorial: Initial Values

```
i = 1;    // Initialize loop counter
fact = 1; // Initialize factorial

while (i <= n) {
    fact = fact * i;
    i = i + 1;
}
```

Factorial Code

```
/* A program to calculate factorial. */
#include <stdio.h>

int main()
{
    int n;
    int i;
    int fact;

    printf("Enter a number : ");
    scanf("%d", &n);

    i = 1;    // initialize loop counter
    fact = 1; // initialize factorial

    while (i <= n) {
        fact = fact * i;
        i = i + 1;
    }

    printf("Factorial : %d \n", fact);
    return 0;
}
```

Skipping Loop


- if the condition is false to begin with,
the block will not be executed at all
- example: incorrect condition

```
while (i > n) {  
    fact = fact * i;  
    i = i + 1;  
}
```

Infinite Loop

- we have to make sure that the condition will eventually be false
- otherwise: **infinite loop**
- example: decrement i instead of incrementing

```
i = 1;    // Initialize loop counter  
fact = 1; // Initialize factorial
```

```
while (i <= n) {  
    fact = fact * i;  
    i = i - 1;   
}
```

Flag Variables

- **flag**: boolean variable to indicate the status of a condition

```
i = 1;    // Initialize loop counter
fact = 1; // Initialize factorial
bool keep_on = true;

while (keep_on) {
    fact = fact * i;
    i = i + 1;
    keep_on = i <= n ? true : false;
}
```

Average Value

- get age values from the user
- report the average of the age values

$$\overline{x} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}$$

- we don't know how many values (n) the user will enter
- the user will enter 0 for age when finished

0: sentinel value

Average Value: Variables

```
int age = -1;           // user-entered age value
int age_total = 0;      // total of age values so far
int n = 0;              // number of age values so far
```

Average Value: Iteration

- what do we do at every iteration?
- get the next age value
- add the age value to the age total
- increase the count

```
printf("Age (0 to end): ");  
scanf("%d", &age);  
  
age_total += age;  
n++;
```


Average Value: Stopping

- when should we stop?
- when age is 0

```
while (age != 0) {  
    printf("Age (0 to end): ");  
    scanf("%d", &age);  
    age_total += age;  
    n++;  
}
```

Average Value: Initial Values

- what should be the initial values for age_total and n?
- both should be zero

Average Value: Result

- average: divide total by count

```
double age_avg = total / n;
```

- integer division

Average Value Code

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdbool.h>

int main() {
    int age = 0;           // user-entered age value
    int age_total = 0;     // total of age values so far
    int n = 0;             // number of age values so far
    double age_avg = 0.0;  // average age

    age_total = 0;
    n = 0;
    age = 1;

    while (age != 0) {
        printf("Age (0 to end): ");
        scanf("%d", &age);
        age_total += age;
        n++;
    }

    age_avg = (double)age_total / n;
    printf("Average age: %.11f\n", age_avg);
    return 0;
}
```

Average Value Problem

- what if the first value the user types is 0?
- division zero by zero error (runtime error)

```
if (n > 0) {  
    age_avg = (double) total / n;  
}
```

Average Value: Alternative

- ask the user how many values they will input

```
int n = 0;  
  
printf("Enter number of age values: ");  
scanf("%d", &n);
```

Counter Controlled Loops

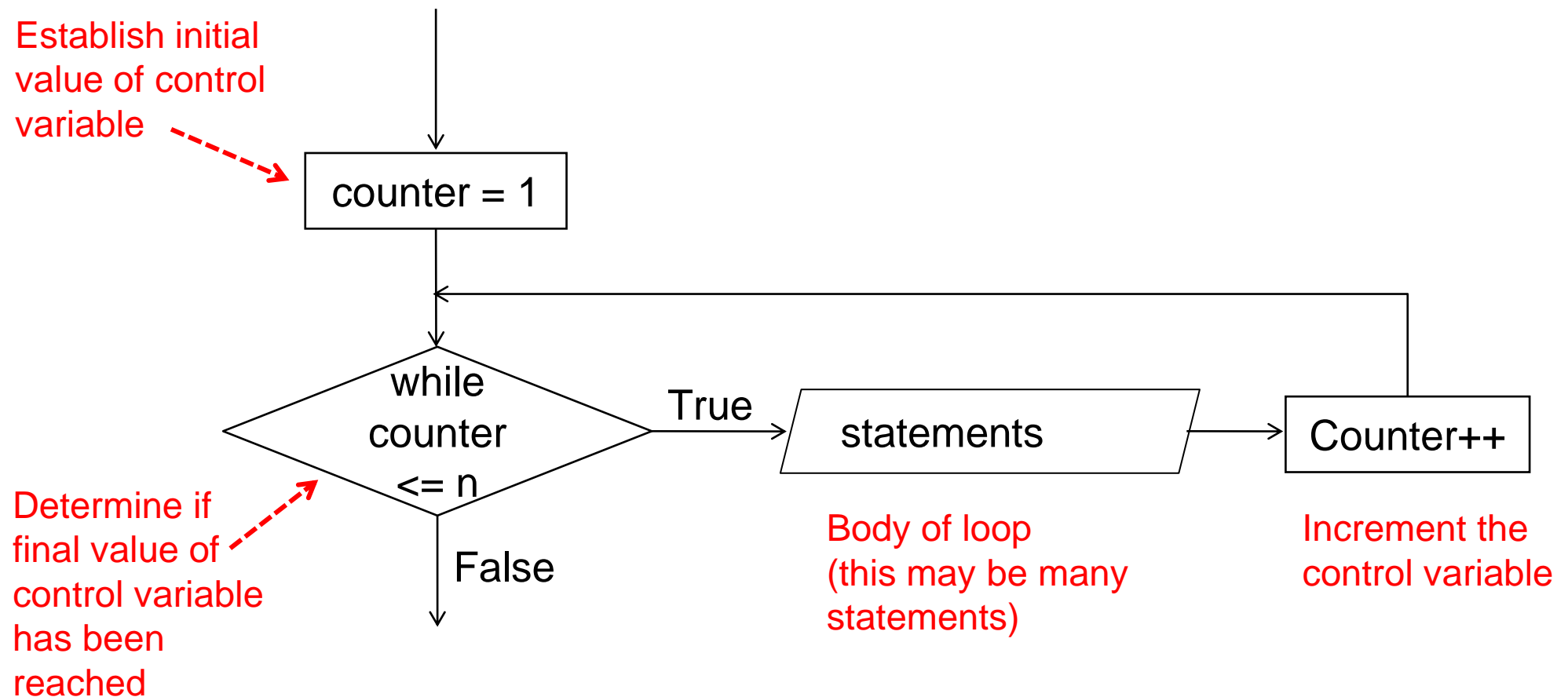
- when number of iterations is known

```
i = 1;  // INITIALIZATION
while (i <= n) {  // CONDITION
    statements
    i++;  // increment the counter
}
```

```
int counter = 1;           // initialization
while ( counter <= 10 )    // repetition condition
{
    printf( "%d\n", counter );
    counter++;              // increment
}
```

Counter Controlled Loops

- The following flow chart illustrates the **while loop**.



Common Mistake

- forgetting to update the variable

```
i = 1;  // INITIALIZATION
while (i <= n) {  // CONDITION
    BLOCK
}
```

for Loops

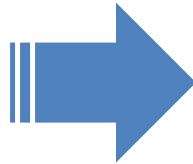
- **for**: combine initialization, condition, and update

```
for (INITIALIZATION; CONDITION; UPDATE) {  
    Statements  
}
```

- Expressions in the for statement are optional (they can be omitted.)
- But it is not recommended to omit them.

for Loop Example

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



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

Average Value Code

```
int i = 0;

age_total = 0;
for (i = 1; i <= n; i++) {
    printf("Age: ");
    scanf("%d", &age);
    age_total += age;
}
age_avg = (double) age_total / n;
```

Loop Variable

- loop variable can be defined at initialization
- can be used only within the loop

Loop Variable Example

```
int i = 0;

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

printf("%d\n", i); // prints 11
```

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

printf("%d\n", i); // error: i is undefined
```

Closed Ranges

- using `<=` in condition creates a closed range

```
for (i = a; i <= b; i++)
```

- range is $[a..b]$
- includes a and b
- repeated $b - a + 1$ times

Half-Open Ranges

- using $<$ in condition creates a half-open range

```
for (i = a; i < b; i++)
```

- range is $[a..b)$
- includes a , excludes b
- repeated $b - a$ times
- if $a = 0$, repeat b times
 - Very common in practice

Half-Open Range Example

```
age_total = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {
    printf("Age: ");
    scanf("%d", &age);
    age_total += age;
}
age_avg = (double) age_total / n;
```

Off-by-one Errors

- repeating once more or less than intended: **off-by-one error**
- very common problem

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 0; i <= 5; i++) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 5; i >= 0; i--) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 5; i > 0; i--) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 5; i > 0; i++) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 5; i > 5; i--) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 5; i < 5; i--) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```


Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 0; i < 9; i += 2) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

```
for (i = 0; i != 9; i += 2) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

Count Examples

- what's the output?

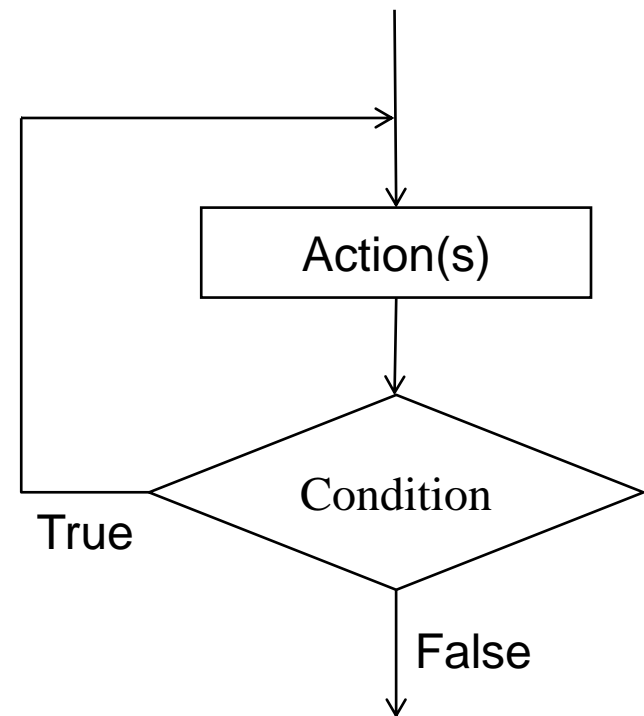
```
for (i = 1; i <= 20; i *= 2) {  
    printf("%d\n", i);  
}
```

do-while Loops

- test condition after executing block

```
do {  
    BLOCK  
} while (CONDITION);
```

- less common iterative statement



do-while Loops: Use Case

- possible use case: input validation
- check has to come after input is completed

```
do {  
    printf("Enter age (between 18 and 65): ");  
    scanf("%d", &age);  
} while (age < 18 || age > 65);
```

Breaking the Loop

- some programmers prefer handling loop conditions inside loop body.
- create an infinite loop,
get out of the loop when a condition is met
- condition to stop, not condition to continue


break Statement

- break
 - Causes immediate exit from a while, for, do...while or switch statement
 - Program execution continues with the first statement after the iteration or switch block that contains break
 - Common uses of the break statement
 - Escape early from a loop
 - Skip the remainder of a switch statement

break Statement

- get out of the **loop** that contains break

```
while (true)    {  
    ...  
    if (CONDITION)    {  
        break;  
    }  
    ...  
}  
...
```



Control jumps to the outside of loop

The diagram illustrates the execution of a `break` statement within a `while` loop. A red line originates from the `break;` statement, extends horizontally to the right, then vertically downwards, and finally horizontally to the left, ending with an arrowhead pointing to the `...` line immediately following the closing curly brace of the `while` loop. This visualizes the control flow exiting the loop structure.

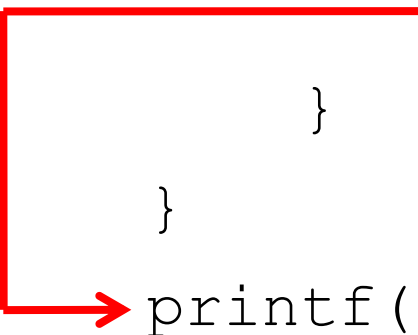
Example: break Statement

```
i = 1;    // Initialize loop counter  
fact = 1; // Initialize factorial
```

```
while (true) {  
    fact = fact * i;  
    i = i + 1;  
    if (i > n) {  
        break;  
    }  
}
```

Control
jumps to
the
outside of
loop

```
printf("Factorial : %d \n", fact);
```



Example: break Statement

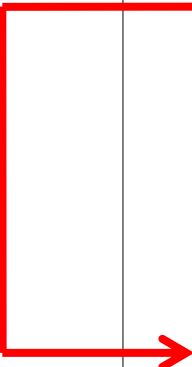
```
/* Using the break statement in a for statement */
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int x; // counter

    // loop 10 times
    for ( x = 1; x <= 10; x++ )
    {
        // if x is 5, terminate loop
        if ( x == 5 ) {
            break; // break loop (exit) only if x is 5
        } // end if

        printf( "%d ", x ); // display value of x
    } // end for

    printf( "\nBroke out of loop at x == %d\n", x );
    return 0;
}
```

Control jumps
to the outside
of loop



Program
Output

1 2 3 4
Broke out of loop at x == 5

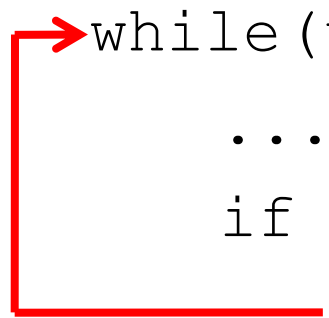
continue Statement

- `continue`
 - **Skips** the remaining statements in the body of a while, for or do...while statement that contains continue statement
 - **Proceeds with the next iteration of the loop**
 - while and do...while
 - Loop-continuation test is evaluated immediately after the continue statement is executed
 - for
 - Increment expression is executed, then the loop-continuation test is evaluated

continue Statement

Control goes
back to the
next iteration
of loop

```
→ while (true) {  
    ...  
    if (CONDITION) {  
        continue;  
    }  
    ...  
}  
...
```

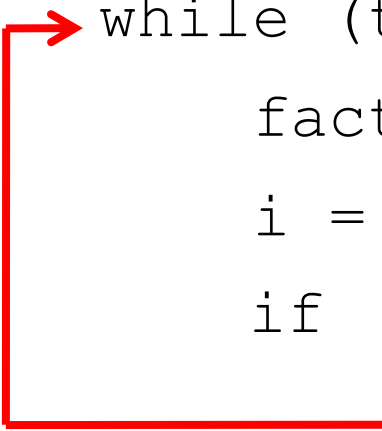


Example: continue Statement

```
i = 1;    // Initialize loop counter  
fact = 1; // Initialize factorial
```

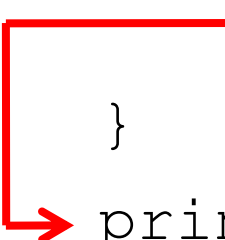
Control goes back to the next iteration of loop

```
while (true) {  
    fact = fact * i;  
    i = i + 1;  
    if (i <= n) {  
        continue;  
    }  
}
```



Control jumps to the outside of loop

```
    break;  
}  
printf("Factorial : %d \n", fact);
```



Example: continue Statement

```
/* Using the continue statement in a for statement */
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int x; // counter

    // loop 10 times
    for ( x = 1; x <= 10; x++ ) {

        // if x is 5, continue with next iteration of loop
        if ( x == 5 ) {
            continue; // skip remaining code in loop body
        } // end if

        printf( "%d ", x ); // display value of x
    } // end for

    printf( "\nUsed continue to skip printing the value 5\n" );
    return 0;
}
```

Control goes
back to next
iteration of
loop

x is
incremented

Program
Output

```
1 2 3 4 6 7 8 9 10
Used continue to skip printing the value 5
```

Nested Loops

- Loops can be *nested* (i.e. loop in another loop).
- Indentation is recommended to clarify the loop structure.
- Example: The outer loop is controlled by **i** counter, the inner loop is controlled by **j** counter.
- **j** changes more frequently.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int i, j; //Loop counters
    printf("I  J  10*I*J \n");
    printf("===== \n");
    for (i = 1; i <= 4; i++) { //outer loop
        for (j = 1; j <= 3; j++) { //inner loop
            printf("%d  %d  %d \n", i, j, 10*i*j);
        } //end of inner loop
        printf("----- \n"); //separator line
    } //end of outer loop
    return 0;
} //end of main
```

Screen Output

I	J	10*I*J
=====		
1	1	10
1	2	20
1	3	30

2	1	20
2	2	40
2	3	60

3	1	30
3	2	60
3	3	90

4	1	40
4	2	80
4	3	120

Example: Left Pyramid

- Program displays a left-aligned pyramid with **nested** loops.

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int i, j;    //Loop counters
    int N = 10; //Define number of rows
    for (i = 1; i <= N; i++) { //Control the rows
        for (j = 1; j <= i; j++) {
            printf("*"); //Control the columns
        }
        printf("\n"); //Newline after each row
    }
}
```

Screen
Output

```
*
* *
* * *
* * * *
* * * * *
* * * * * *
* * * * * * *
* * * * * * * *
* * * * * * * * *
* * * * * * * * * *
```


Example: Right Pyramid

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int i, j;
    int N = 10;

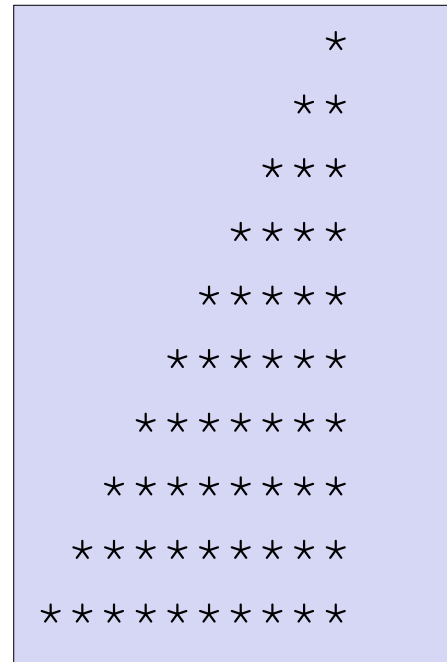
    for (i = 1; i <= N; i++)
    {
        for (j = 1; j <= N-i; j++)
            printf(" ");

        for (j = 1; j <= i; j++)
            printf("*");

        printf("\n");
    }

    return 0;
}
```

Screen Output



```
      *
     **
    ***
   ****
  *****
 *****
*****
*****
*****
*****
```

Extra Self Study Examples

Example: Determining a Prime Number

- The program below determines whether a given positive integer number is prime or not.
- If a number can not be divided by any other number, except 1 and itself, it is considered as a prime number.
(Prime numbers : 2, 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 17, 19, 23,)
- The program tries to divide the given number with all sequential numbers 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10, , up to one less than itself.

Program
Output 1

```
Enter an integer number :23  
23 is a prime number
```

Program
Output 2

```
Enter an integer number :45  
45 can be divided by 3 without a remainder  
45 is NOT a prime number
```

```
#include <stdio.h>
// Defining two constant symbols for logical comparisons.
#define TRUE 1 // we could use bool type from stdbool.h library as well.
#define FALSE 0
```

```
int main() {
    int x;    // user entered number
    int flag; // logical variable
    int i;    // divisor counter

    printf("Enter an integer number :"); scanf("%d", &x);

    flag = TRUE; // initial assumption (x is a prime)

    for (i=2; i < x; i++)
    {
        if (x % i == 0) // Check the divisibility of x by i
        {
            printf("\n %d can be divided by %d without a remainder \n ", x, i);
            flag = FALSE; // x is not a prime (because x is divisible by i).
            break; // exit from loop
        }
    } // end for

    if (flag == TRUE)
        printf("%d is a prime number \n", x); // x is undivisible.
    else
        printf("%d is NOT a prime number \n", x); // x is divisible.
    return 0;
} //end of main
```

Instead of $i < x$ condition,
 $i < x/2$ can make the loop faster.

Example: Counting Frequencies of Letter Grades

- Program calculates the total counts (frequencies) of **letter grades** entered from keyboard.

```
// fig04_07.c
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    char grade;      // one letter grade
    int aCount = 0;  // number of As
    int bCount = 0;  // number of Bs
    int cCount = 0;  // number of Cs
    int dCount = 0;  // number of Ds
    int fCount = 0;  // number of Fs

    printf( "Enter the letter grades.\n" );
    printf( "Enter 0 to end input.\n" );

    // Endless loop until user enters 0 as sentinel
    while ( 1 ) {
        grade = getchar(); // Read one char from keyboard
        if (grade == '0') break; // exit from loop
    }
}
```

Part 1 of 3

```
// determine which grade was input
switch ( grade ) { // switch nested in while
    case 'A': // grade was uppercase A
    case 'a': // or lowercase a
        ++aCount; // increment aCount
        break; // necessary to exit switch

    case 'B':
    case 'b':
        ++bCount;
        break;

    case 'C':
    case 'c':
        ++cCount;
        break;

    case 'D':
    case 'd':
        ++dCount;
        break;

    case 'F':
    case 'f':
        ++fCount;
        break;
```

Part 2 of 3

```
        default: // catch all other characters
            printf( "Incorrect letter grade entered." );
            printf( " Enter a new grade.\n" );
            break; // optional; will exit switch anyway

    } // end of switch

} // end of while

// output summary of results
printf( "\n Totals for each letter grade are: \n" );

printf( "A: %d \n", aCount ); // display number of A grades
printf( "B: %d \n", bCount ); // display number of B grades
printf( "C: %d \n", cCount ); // display number of C grades
printf( "D: %d \n", dCount ); // display number of D grades
printf( "F: %d \n", fCount ); // display number of F grades

return 0;
} // end of main
```

Program
Output

Enter the letter grades.

Enter 0 to end input.

a

b

c

C

A

d

f

C

E

Incorrect letter grade entered. Enter a new grade.

D

A

b

0



Sentinel

Totals for each letter grade are:

A: 3

B: 2

C: 3

D: 2

F: 1

Example: Sum of Even Numbers

- Program calculates the sum of even numbers from 2 to N.

```
/* Summation with the for loop */
#include <stdio.h>
int main()
{
    int sum = 0; // initialize sum
    int number;  // number to be added to sum

    for ( number = 2; number <= 100; number += 2 )
    {
        sum += number; // add number to sum
    }

    printf( "Sum is %d\n", sum ); // output sum
    return 0;
}
```

Sum = 2+4+6+8+ . . . +100 = 2550

Program
Output

Sum is 2550

Example: Computing Taylor Series

Write a C program to calculate and display the $\cos(x)$ value, by using the following Taylor series.

$$\sum_{k=0}^N \frac{(-1)^k x^{2k}}{(2k)!}$$

Program should get the followings from user.

N : number of terms

X : degree

k is the looping counter.

The purpose is to calculate $\cos(x)$, without using the built-in $\cos(x)$ function.

Example: Computing Taylor Series

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h> // for pow

int main() {
    double k, N, t, factorial;
    double X, fsum=0;

    printf("Enter N and X : ");
    scanf("%lf %lf", &N, &X);

    X = X*3.14 / 180; // Convert degree to radian.
    for (k = 0; k <= N; k++) {
        faktoriyel = 1;
        for (t = 1; t <= 2 * k; t++)
            factorial = factorial * t;
        fsum = fsum + pow(-1, k) * pow(X, 2 * k) / factorial;
    }
    printf("Result = %f \n", fsum);
    return 0;
}
```

Screen
Output

Enter N and X : **50** **30**
Result = 0.866158

Square Root: Algorithm

1. $g = 1$

2. if $|g^2 - x| < 10^{-3}$ then g is the result, stop.

3. $g' = \frac{g + \frac{x}{g}}{2}$

4. replace g with g' and go to step 2

Square Root: Variables

```
double x = 0.0; double  
    guess = 0.0;  
double improved_guess = 0.0;  
  
printf("Number: ");  
scanf("%lf", &x);
```

Square Root: Iteration

- what should we do at every iteration?
- improve the guess

```
improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;  
guess = improved_guess;
```

Square Root: Stopping

- when should we stop?
- when the guess is close enough

```
#define TOLERANCE 1e-3  
  
fabs(guess * guess - x) < TOLERANCE
```

- how long should we repeat?
- as long as the guess is **not** good enough

Square Root: Loop

- iteration:

```
while (fabs(guess * guess - x) >= TOLERANCE) {  
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;  
    guess = improved_guess;  
}
```

- we have to set the initial guess before the loop

Square Root: Initial Value

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
while (fabs(guess * guess - x) >= TOLERANCE) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    guess = improved_guess;
}
```

Square Root: Calculation

- improved_guess variable is not necessary

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
while (fabs(guess * guess - x) >= TOLERANCE) {
    guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
}
```

Square Root Code

```
#include <stdio.h>    // printf, scanf
#include <math.h>      // fabs

#define TOLERANCE 1e-3

int main() {
    double x = 0.0;
    double guess = 0.0;

    printf("Number: ");
    scanf("%lf", &x);

    guess = 1.0;    // initial guess
    while (fabs(guess * guess - x) >= TOLERANCE) {
        guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    }

    printf("%f\n", guess);
    return 0;
}
```

Skipping Loop

- if the condition is false to begin with,
the block will not be executed at all
- example: incorrect condition

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
while (fabs(guess * guess - x) < TOLERANCE) {
    guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
}
```

Infinite Loop

- we have to make sure that the condition will eventually be false
- otherwise: **infinite loop**
- example: set tolerance to $1 \text{ e} - 30$

Alternative Algorithm

- stop when guess cannot be improved anymore
- improved guess is very close to the current guess
- when should we continue?

```
fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE
```

Square Root Alternative: Loop

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
while (fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    guess = improved_guess;
}
```

- what should be the initial value for improved_guess? some value to
- make sure that we enter the loop

Square Root Alternative: Initial Values

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
improved_guess = guess + 2 * TOLERANCE;
while (fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    guess = improved_guess;
}
```

- after the first iteration, at the time of check
improved_guess - guess is always 0

Square Root Alternative: Fix

- replace current guess only if there is an improvement

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
improved_guess = guess + 2 * TOLERANCE;
while (fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    if (fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE) {
        guess = improved_guess;
    }
}
```

- checking the same condition twice

Square Root Alternative: Flag

```
guess = 1.0;    // initial guess
bool improving = true;
while (improving) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    if (fabs(improved_guess - guess) >= TOLERANCE) {
        guess = improved_guess;
    } else {
        improving = false;
    }
}
```

Square Root Code: Break

```
guess = 1.0; // initial guess
while (true) {
    improved_guess = (guess + (x / guess)) / 2;
    if (fabs(improved_guess - guess) < TOLERANCE) {
        break;
    }
    guess = improved_guess;
}
```