

COMP1511 PROGRAMMING FUNDAMENTALS

# LECTURE 3

Control Flow

Getting harder...

IF Statements

Loop de loop

# LAST WEEK:::

## LAST WEEK, WE TALKED:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Started looking at C
- Our first Hello! program
- Compiling and running your code
- **printf()** and **scanf()**
- Variables (**int, double, char**)
- Maths :)

# THIS LECTURE IS IN

## TODAY...

- IF statements
- Logical Operators
- Chaining `if` and `else`
- Loop, loop, loop, loop, loop
  - While

66

## WHERE IS THE CODE?



**Live lecture code can be found here:**

[HTTPS://CGI.CSE.UNSW.EDU.AU/~CS1511/26T1/LIVE/WEEK\\_2](https://cgi.cse.unsw.edu.au/~cs1511/26T1/LIVE/WEEK_2)

# REHASH OUR INPUT/OUTP UT

**QUICK REHASH!**

- Let's have a quick rehash of what we learnt last week :)

# DECISION TIME... ASKING THE COMPUTER TO MAKE A DECISION...

## IF STATEMENTS

- Sometimes we want to make decisions based on what information we have at the time
- We can let our program branch between sets of instructions
- In C this is the `if` statement



# WHAT KINDS OF PROBLEMS DO WE SOLVE WITH IF?

DECISION PROBLEMS  
(YES/NO)

- A decision problem is a question with a YES/NO answer
- This is the perfect time to use an IF statement to help make the decision
- Eg. Is a number even? Is a number larger than 10? Is a number prime? etc.

# IF STATEMENT

IT IS LIKE A  
QUESTION AND AN  
ANSWER

- First we ask the question - this is our condition
- If the answer to our question (condition) is YES, then we run the code in the curly brackets

```
1 // The code inside the curly brackets
2 // runs IF the expression is TRUE (not zero)
3
4 if (condition) {
5     do something;
6     do something else;
7 }
```

# WHAT IF THE ANSWER IS NO?

**THERE ARE OPTIONS,  
THERE ARE ALWAYS  
OPTIONS**

- If the answer to our question (condition) is NO, then we can add an else statement to let the computer know which other code may run

```
1 if (condition){  
2     // code to run if the condition is true OR  
3     // anything other than 0  
4 } else {  
5     // run some other code instead  
6     // else is entered if the previous code  
7     // results in 0 (false)  
8 }
```

# WHAT IF THE ANSWER IS NO... AGAIN?

## MORE OPTIONS

- If the answer to our question (condition) is NO, and the answer to our question (condition) in the else is also NO, then we can chain some if and else together to make an else if and create even more options in choosing which code to run...

```
1 if (condition_one){  
2     // code to run if the condition_one is true OR  
3     // anything other than 0  
4 } else if (condition_two){  
5     // code to run if condition_one is FALSE (results in a 0)  
6     // AND condition_two is TRUE (anything other than 0)  
7 } else {  
8     // code to run if both  
9     // condition_one AND condition_two are FALSE (0)  
10 }  
11
```

# HOW DO WE ASK GOOD QUESTIONS?

## RELATIONAL OPERATORS

**NOTICE: IN C, WE HAVE == AND =**

**THESE ARE NOT THE SAME AND DO  
NOT MEAN WHAT YOU ARE USED TO  
IN MATHS!**

**USING = WHEN YOU ASSIGN  
VALUES  
USING == WHEN YOU ARE  
CHECKING FOR EQUIVALENCE**

- Relational Operators work with pairs of numbers:
  - < less than
  - > greater than
  - <= less than or equal to
  - >= greater than or equal to
  - == equals
  - != not equal to
- All of these will result in 0 if false and a 1 if true

# I LIKE QUESTIONS, HOW DO I ASK TWO QUESTIONS AT THE SAME TIME? LOGICAL OPERATORS

The first two are used between two questions (expressions):

- **&&** AND: if both expressions are true then the condition is TRUE (equates to 1 if both sides equate to 1)
- **||** OR: if any of the two expressions are true then the condition is TRUE (is 1 if either side is 1)

This is used in front of an expression:

- **!** NOT: reverse the expression (is the opposite of whatever the expression was)

# SOME EXAMPLES

LET'S TRY THIS OUT...

- True (1) or False (0)?
- Let's do a quick "Kahoot!"

# IF / ELSE IF / ELSE

LET'S LOOK AT SOME  
CODE AND A DEMO

- IF statements with logical operators:  
`if_logic.c`
- IF statements with char:  
`lower.c`
- Harder IF logic and chaining if and else together:  
`energy_guessing_game.c`

# **LET'S PUT OUR SKILLS TO THE TEST**

**LET'S CODE! (SOLVE  
THE PROBLEM FIRST)**

We have decided to run a competition to see how many free energy drinks were given out at 0-Week. Students that guess the right number of free energy drinks win! You get told whether your guess was less than, more than or the winning guess :)

Extend the problem - if you are within 5 of the correct number, you win the guessing game...

# BREAKING DOWN THE PROBLEM INTO A SUM OF SIMPLE PARTS

We have decided to run a competition to see how many free energy drinks were given out at O-Week. Students that guess the right number of free energy drinks win! You have three guesses, but you get told whether your guess was less than, more than or the winning guess :)

Extend the problem - if you are within 5 of the correct number, you win the guessing game...

## 1. The Scenario:

a. You are guessing the total number of free energy drinks given out

## 2. Logic

a. Exact match “Jackpot! You Win %d number of drinks!”

b. Within 5 “So close! You win five free energy drinks!”

c. Too high “Not even close, too high we want to sleep at night!”

d. Too low “Not even close, too low and need more energy!”

# BREAKING DOWN THE PROBLEM INTO A SUM OF SIMPLE PARTS

We have decided to run a competition to see how many free energy drinks were given out at O-Week. Students that guess the right number of free energy drinks win! You have three guesses, but you get told whether your guess was less than, more than or the winning guess :)

Extend the problem - if you are within 5 of the correct number, you win the guessing game...

1. Define constants .... which ones?
2. Core logic
  - a. Ask student for their guess (what function?)
  - b. If that guess is equal to the winning number
    - i. Print “Jackpot! You Win %d number of drinks!”
  - c. Else if that guess is greater than or less than the winning number +-5
    - i. Print “So close! You win five free energy drinks!”

# BREAKING DOWN THE PROBLEM INTO A SUM OF SIMPLE PARTS

We have decided to run a competition to see how many free energy drinks were given out at O-Week. Students that guess the right number of free energy drinks win! You have three guesses, but you get told whether your guess was less than, more than or the winning guess :)

Extend the problem - if you are within 5 of the correct number, you win the guessing game...

## 2. Core logic

- a. Else if less than the winning number
  - i. Print “Not even close, too low and need more energy!”
- b. Else if more than the winning number
  - i. Print “Not even close, too high we want to sleep at night!”

# **BREAKING DOWN THE PROBLEM INTO A SUM OF SIMPLE PARTS**

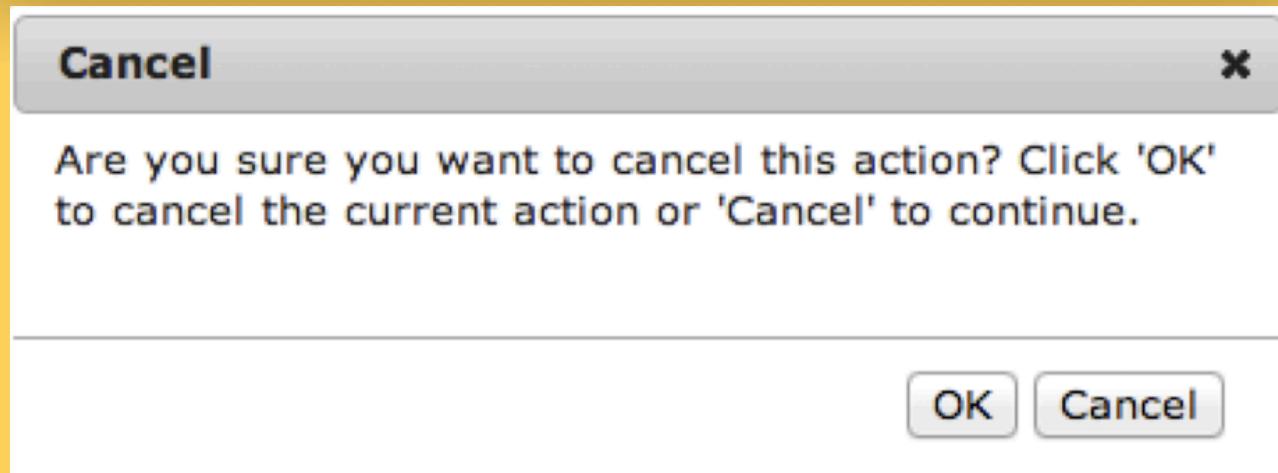
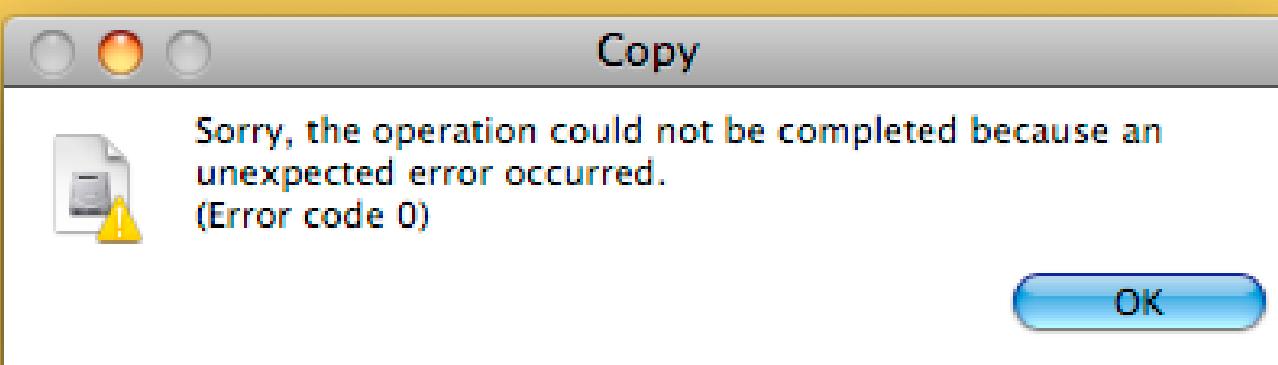
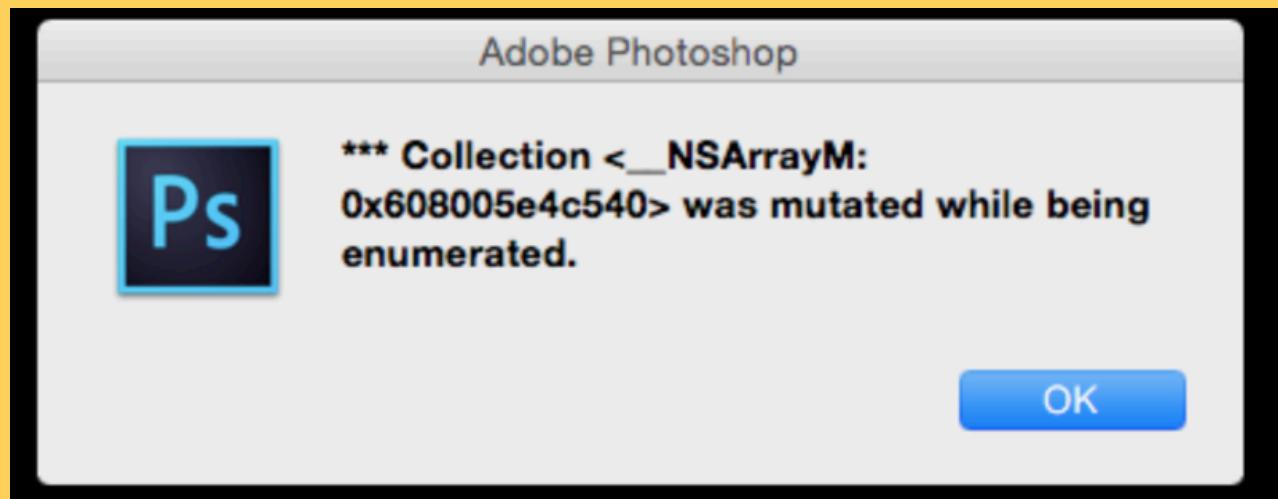
We have decided to run a competition to see how many free energy drinks were given out at O-Week. Students that guess the right number of free energy drinks win! You have three guesses, but you get told whether your guess was less than, more than or the winning guess :)

Extend the problem - if you are within 5 of the correct number, you win the guessing game...

What should we consider?

- Does it matter the order in which you check the guess?

# BREAKING THINGS



It is really good practice to think about how it is possible to break your code? What can go wrong?

- Try and counter for these breaks!
- Important to have good error messages:
  - Tells the user exactly what has gone wrong
  - How can they fix it?
  - What is happening!?

# LET'S TRY IT WITH SCANF()

- Gives us the ability to scan stuff in from the terminal (standard input)
- We have to tell the computer what we expect to `scanf()` - is it an int, a char, or a double?
- But since `scanf()` is a function does it return something?
  - Yes, `scanf()` returns the number of input values that are scanned
  - If there is some input failure or error then it returns EOF (end-of-file) - we will look at this more later on!
  - This can be useful to check for any errors

# WHEN DO WE NEED TO LOOP?

## REPETITION

- Any time your program needs to keep doing something (repeating the same or similar action) until something happens and you may not know how many times that will be in advance
- Can you think of some examples in real life?
  - While there are songs in my playlist, keep playing the songs

# WHILE

## REPETITIVE TASKS SHOULDN'T REQUIRE REPETITIVE CODING

- C normally executes in order, line by line (starting with the main function after any `#` commands have been executed)
  - if statements allow us to “turn on or off” parts of our code
  - But up until now, we don't have a way to repeat code
- Copy-pasting the same code again and again is not a feasible solution
- Let's see an example where it is inefficient to copy and paste code...

# WHILE

**WHILE  
SOMETHING IS  
TRUE, DO  
SOMETHING**

- **while()** loops - can commonly be controlled in three ways:
  - Count loops
  - Sentinel loops
  - Conditional loops

```
1 while (expression) {  
2     // This will run again and again until  
3     // the expression is evaluated as false  
4 }  
5 // when the program reaches this }, it will  
6 // jump back to the start of the while loop
```

# WHILE

## CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

```
1 // 1. Initialise the loop control variable
2 // before the loop starts
3
4 while (expression) { // 2. Test the loop
5 // control variable,
6 // done within the
7 // (expression)
8
9 // 3. Update the loop control variable
10 // usually done as the last statement
11 // in the while loop
12 }
```

# TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

## TERMINATING YOUR LOOP

- It's actually very easy to make a program that goes forever
- Consider the following while loop:

```
1 // To infinity and beyond!
2
3 while (1 < 2) {
4     printf("<3 COMP1511 <3");
5 }
```

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

## COUNT LOOPS

- Use a variable to control how many times a loop runs - a "loop counter"
- It's an **int** that's declared outside the loop
- Its "termination condition" can be checked in the while expression
- It will be updated inside the loop

```
1 // 1. Declare and initialise a loop control
2 // variable just outside the loop
3 int count = 0;
4
5 while (count < 5) { // 2. Test the loop
6                         // control variable
7                         // against counter
8     printf("I <3 COMP1511");
9
10    //Update the loop control variable
11    count = count + 1;
12 }
```

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

## COUNT LOOPS

```
1 int scoops = 0;
2 int sum = 0;
3
4 // 1. Declare and initialise a loop control
5 // variable just outside the loop
6 int serves = 0;
7
8 while (serves < 5) { // 2. Test the loop
9                     // control variable
10                  // against counter
11     printf("How many scoops of ice cream have
12     you had?");
13     scan("%d", &scoops);
14     sum = sum + scoops;
15     printf("You have now had %d serves\n", serves);
16     printf("A total of %d scoops\n", sum);
17     serves = serves + 1; // 3. Update the loop
18                     // control variable
19 }
20 printf("That is probably enough ice-cream\n");
```

# SENTINEL VALUES

## WHAT IS A SENTINEL?

- When we use a loop counter, we assume that we know how many times we need to repeat something
- Consider a situation where you don't know the number of repetitions required, but you need to repeat whilst there is valid data
- A sentinel value is a 'flag value', it tells the loop when it can stop...
- For example, keep scanning in numbers until an odd number is encountered
  - We do not know how many numbers we will have to scan before this happens
  - We know that we can stop when we see an odd number

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

## SENTINEL LOOPS

- Sentinel Loops: can also use a variable to decide to exit a loop at any time
- We call this variable a "sentinel"
- It's like an on/off switch for the loop
- It is declared and set outside the loop
- Its "termination condition" can be checked in the while expression
- It will be updated inside the loop (often attached to a decision statement)

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

# SENTINEL LOOPS

```
1 int scoops = 0;
2 int sum = 0;
3
4 // 1. Declare and initialise a loop control
5 // variable just outside the loop
6 int end_loop = 0;
7
8 while (end_loop == 0) { // 2. Test the loop
9                     // control variable
10                printf("Please enter number of scoops today: ");
11                scan( "%d", &scoops);
12                if (scoops > 0) {
13                    sum = sum + scoops;
14                } else {
15                    end_loop = 1; // 3. Update the loop
16                     // control variable
17                }
18 }
```

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

## CONDITIONAL LOOPS

- Conditional Loops: can also use a condition to decide to exit a loop at any time
- This is called conditional looping
- Also do not know how many times we may need to repeat.
- We will terminate as a result of some type of calculation

# CONTROL THE WHILE LOOP

## CONDITIONAL LOOPS

```
1 int scoops = 0;
2
3 // 1. Declare and initialise a loop control variable
4 // Since I want the sum to be as close to 100
5 // as possible, that is my control condition
6 int sum = 0;
7
8 while (sum < 100) { // 2. Test the loop
9                     // condition
10    printf("Please enter number of scoops: ");
11    scan( "%d", &scoops);
12
13    // 3. Update the loop control variable
14    sum = sum + scoops;
15 }
16 printf("Yay! You have eaten %d scoops of ice cream", sum);
```

# ACTION TIME

## CODE DEMO

- While loop with a counter:  
`while_count.c`
- While loop with a sentinel:  
`while_sentinel.c`
- While loop with a condition:  
`while_condition.c`

# WHAT DID WE LEARN TODAY?

## CONDITIONS

if /else /else if

Decision problems

Relational Operators

Logical Operators

if\_logic.c

## LOGICAL OPERATORS AND IF WITH CHAR

lower.c

## CHAINING IF/ELSE AND ERROR CHECKING

energy\_guessing\_ga  
me.c

# WHAT DID WE LEARN TODAY?

LOOP THE  
LOOP  
WHILE  
(COUNTER)

while\_counter.c

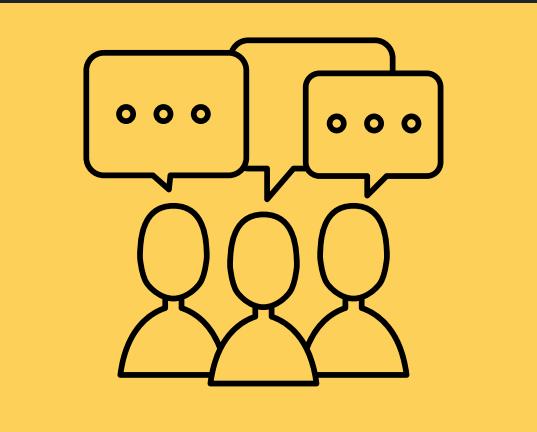
LOOP THE  
LOOP  
WHILE  
(SENTINEL)

while\_sentinel.c

LOOP THE  
LOOP  
WHILE  
(CONDITION)

while\_condition.c

# REACH OUT



## CONTENT RELATED QUESTIONS

Check out the forum



## ADMIN QUESTIONS

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