

## **CSCI 141**

Lecture 9: Repetition: Repetition, the while statement, Repetition, Repetition, Modules

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- The prime number question on A2 was updated Friday.
  - Tip: write a program to check your answer!
- Office hours today: I'll be late, but will also be in my office 4 – 5 today.

# Goals

- Understand the syntax and behavior of the while statement (also known as while loop).
- Know how to use import statements to get access to modules containing functions that other people have written.
  - Know how to use the random module's randrange function.

#### Last time: if statements



an indented code block: one or more statements to be executed if the boolean expression evaluates to **True** 

#### Last Time: Chained Conditionals



















# Today's Quiz

• 3 minutes

# Today's Quiz

- 3 minutes
- Working with a neighbor: do your answers agree? (2 minutes)

# **Today: Repetition**

- So far, we've seen how to:
  - Print things to the screen and replace your calculator
  - Represent complicated boolean expressions and execute different code based on their truth values.
- So far we haven't seen how to:
  - Do anything that you couldn't do yourself, given pencil and paper and a few minutes to step through the code.

Anyone really good at tongue twisters?

Pad kid poured curd pulled cod. Pad kid poured curd pulled cod.

This is (according to MIT psychologists\*) the hardest known tongue twister.

**Fact:** humans are **bad** (or at least slow) at performing repetitive tasks.

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https://www.naturalreaders.com/online/



**Fact:** computers are are good (or at least fast) at performing repetitive tasks.

Suppose you have a starting bank account balance of \$100.00, and your account earns 2% interest each year.

What is your balance after five years?

Suppose you have a starting bank account balance of \$100.00, and your account earns 2% interest each year.

What is your balance each year for five years?

balance = 100.00

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balance = 100.00
balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance)
print(balance) # year 1

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balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance)
print(balance) # year 2

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Suppose you have a starting bank account balance of \$100.00, and your account earns 2% interest each year.

What is your balance each year for five years?

balance = 100.00 balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance) print(balance) # year 1 balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance) print(balance) # year 2 balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance) print(balance) # year 3 uh oh... balance = balance + (0.02 \* balance) my font is print(balance) # year 4 getting small

Suppose you have a starting bank account balance of \$100.00, and your account earns 2% interest each year.

What is your balance each year for five years?

```
balance = 100.00
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 1
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 2
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 3
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 4
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 5
```

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print(balance) # year 3
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 4
balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
print(balance) # year 5
```

argh, ok, done.

Suppose you have a starting bank account balance of \$100.00, and your account earns 2% interest each year.

What is your balance each year for **500** years?

An extremely common task: do the same thing over and over again, or do the same processing on many pieces of data.

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Example: Convert this 100x100 pixel image to grayscale ("black-and-white").



10,000 pixels, same calculation: grey = 0.29 \* red + 0.59 \* green + 0.12 \* blue

# Python to the rescue: the while statement

#### Not so different from an if statement:



an indented code block: one or more statements to be executed if the boolean expression evaluates to **True** 

# Python to the rescue: the while statement

#### Not so different from an if statement:



an indented code block: one or more statements to be executed **while** the boolean expression evaluates to True

#### The while statement: A Working Example

```
# print account balance after each
# of five years:
balance = 100.0 # starting balance
year = 1
while year <= 5:
    balance = balance + (0.02 * balance)
    print(balance)
    year = year + 1</pre>
```

## demo: interest

- balance1.py: the tedious way
- balance2.py: the loopy way

#### The while statement: Semantics (Behavior)

#### If statement:

- 1. Evaluate the condition
- 2. If true, execute body (code block), then continue on.

While statement:

- 1. Evaluate the condition
- If true, execute body, otherwise skip step 3 and continue on.
- 3. Go back to step 1

#### The while statement: Semantics (Behavior)



#### Exercise

**Task:** Find how how many times you can double the number 1 before it exceeds 1000.

```
times = 0
n = 1
while [condition here]:
    n = n * 2
    times = times + 1
print(times, "times!")
```



#### Exercise

**Task:** Find how how many times you can double the number 1 before it exceeds 1000.

times = 0
n = 1
while [condition here]:
 n = n \* 2
 times = times + 1
print(times, "times!")

Which of the following conditions is correct?

- A. times < 1000
- B.times <= 1000
- C.n > 1000
- D. n <= 1000

## Aside: In-Place Operators

When writing loops (and code in general), you'll find yourself doing things like this often:

count = count - 1sum = sum + n

Python has a nice shorthand for this:

count -= 1sum += n

Many math operators have an in-place version:

# Aside: In-Place Operators

When writing loops (and code in general), you'll find yourself doing things like this often:

count = count - 1sum = sum + n

Python has a nice shorthand for this:

count -= 1sum += n

Many math operators have an in-place version:

[No, Python doesn't have increment and decrement operators ++ and --]

#### Demo

#### Demo

- count.py:
  - Counting up, counting down by an interval
- never.py:
  - Condition never True
  - Condition never False
- input.py:
  - sum user-provided positive numbers until a negative number is entered