

Objectives

- Indefinite Loops
- Exam review

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Lab Review

- 1 “Challenge” problem
- 1 Application problem

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Enhanced Lottery Game

- Check if user's pick matches the number you generated

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`pick4winner.py`

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Indefinite Loops

- **for** loops are **definite** loops
 - Execute a *fixed* number of times
- **Indefinite** loops: keeps iterating until certain conditions are met
 - Depending on condition, no guarantee in advance of how many times the loop body will be executed

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While Loop Syntax

while condition :
 statement1
 statement2
 ...
 statementn

keyword

body of while loop

- Like a looped **if** statement
 - Execute statements **only** when condition is true

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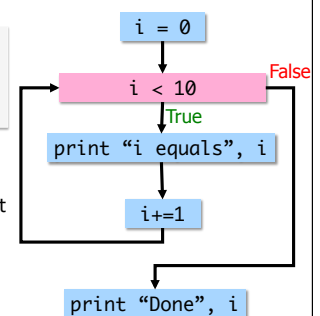
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While Loop

```
i = 0
while i < 10 :
    print "i equals ", i
    i+=1
print "Done", i
```

Questions:

- How many times will **i** get printed out?
- How many times is the condition evaluated?
- What is the value of **i** after the loop?



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`while.py`

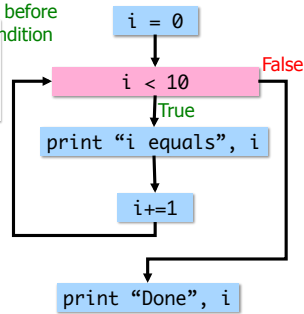
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While Loop

```
i = 0
while i < 10 :
    print "i equals ", i
    i+=1
print "Done", i
```

Questions:

- How many times will *i* get printed out?
- How many times is the condition evaluated?
- What is the value of *i* after the loop?



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while.py

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While vs. For Loops

- Any **for** loop can be translated into a **while** loop
 > **Not vice versa**
- **while** loops are more **powerful** than **for** loops

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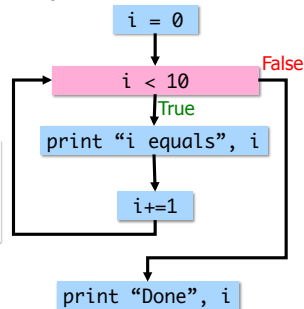
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Convert to a for loop

We can convert this **while** loop into a **for** loop because it executes a **fixed** number of times.

```
i = 0
while i < 10 :
    print "i equals ", i
    i+=1
print "Done", i
```



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Comparing while and for

- What are the main differences between these loops?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each?

```
i = 0
while i < 10 :
    print "i equals ", i
    i+=1
print "Done", i
```

```
for i in xrange(10):
    print "i equals", i
print "Done", i
```

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whilevsfor.py

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What Will This Loop Do?

```
count = 1
while count > 0:
    print count
    count += 1
```

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loop.py

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Infinite Loop

- Condition will never be False so keeps executing

```
count = 1
while count > 0:
    print count
    count += 1
```

- To stop an executing program in Linux use
 > **Control-C**

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Infinite Loop Questions

- Is there ever a time that an infinite loop is wanted?
 - Yes! For example in web servers, we have something like
- Can a computer automatically detect infinite loops?
 - No that is an **undecidable** problem
 - Best to **prevent** infinite loops (more later)
 - Benefit of Python's **for** loops: definite loops

```
while True:
    listenForRequest()
    handleRequest()
```

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Unknown Number of Iterations

- Sums numbers input by user
 - Stop when the user inputs some designated stop value (**enter** key --> "")

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sumtillenter.py 14

Design Pattern: Sentinel Loop

- Sentinel: when to stop
 - "guard" to the loop

```
value = get input
while value != sentinel :
    process value
    value = get input
```

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Discussion

- How can we make sure that the loop actually stops (is not infinite)?

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Discussion

- How can we make sure that the loop actually stops (is not infinite)?
 - Update the condition's variable inside loop
 - Test
- How you'll usually detect an infinite loop...
 - "Why isn't my program giving me any output?"
 - If the program isn't exiting, probably an infinite loop

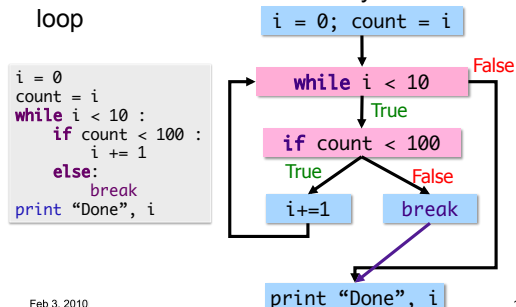
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Use of break statement

- break** statement can "break you" out of a loop



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while Loops: comparing use of break

```
# condition shows when loop # have to look inside loop to
# will stop executing      # know when it stops
x= input("Enter a number:") while True :
while x % 2 != 0 :          x = input("Enter a number:")
    x = input("Try again.   if x %2 == 0 :
    Enter a number: ")      break
print x, "is an even       print x, "is an even number."
number."
```

Using break statements:
Best when loop has to
execute at least once.

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While vs. For Loops

- Any **for** loop can be translated into a **while** loop
 - Not vice versa
- while** loops are more **powerful** than **for** loops
 - Give an example of a **while** loop that can't be converted to a **for**

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Summary of Control-Flow Building Blocks (so far)

- Conditional statements
 - if, if-else, if-elif-else
- Loops
 - while, for

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Exam 1 Prep

- Cumulative up to today
 - We keep using the ideas from the first day of class
 - Basic Linux commands used during every lab
- Similar problems as in handouts, class discussion, labs
- Read code and explain what it does
 - What it displays as output
- Sections: Very Short Answer, Short Answer, Write Code
- Online prep document

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Grading Overview

- Labs: 38%
- 2 Exams: 30%
- Final: 20%
- Broader Issues: 7%
- Participation: 5%

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