

C++ Programming for Engineers

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Loops defined

A loop is a control structure that causes **ONE STATEMENT** or a **GROUP OF STATEMENTS** to **repeat**.

```
int counter = 0;  
cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
```

- General definition:

```
while (condition) {  
    statement(s);  
}
```

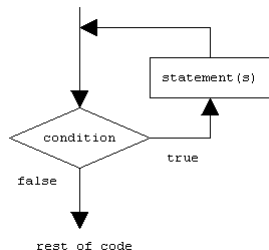
How Loops Work

- 1 **Initialize the state-holding variable to initial value**
- 2 **The condition expression is tested** (can be evaluated as true or false)
- 3 If it is true EACH statement in the body of the loop is executed.
- 4 **Change the condition state** (**Infinite loop???**)
- 5 The condition is tested again
- 6 Repeat until condition is false

```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10) {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
    counter++;
}
```

How Loops Work

Thought process: I run my loop while condition is true



```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10) {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
    counter++;
}
```

One vs. Group of Statements

A run of a loop is called an **iteration**

- Group of statements:

```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10) {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
    counter++; }

```

- One statement:

```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10)
    cout << counter++ << ". Hello" << endl;

```

Output:

0. Hello
1. Hello
2. Hello ...

Infinite loop (1)

Change the condition state (Infinite loop???)

A loop must contain within itself a way to terminate, a piece of code that will change the condition to false.

If a loop does not have a way to stop it is called an infinite loop.

- Nothing to change the state:

```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10) {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
}
```

- Semicolon after a while

```
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 10); {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
    counter++;
}
```

Infinite loop (2)

Most common mistake which results in an infinite loop is to use the assignment = operator when you intend to use the == operator.

```
int counter = 10;
while (counter = 10) {
    cout << counter << ". Hello" << endl;
    counter++;
}
```

Counter is set to 10 each iteration instead of testing it. This is an infinite loop.

If your program hangs (is not responsive) for too long, it is probably stuck in an infinite loop.

Exploring a problem

User has three tries to guess (input) a random number between [1 - 10].

- 1 Generate a random number to guess
- 2 User input ((repeat???)
- 3 Loop condition modeling
- 4 Condition 1: Three tries
- 5 Condition 2: User guessed a number

1. Generate a random number to guess

Variable to hold the number

```
int rnd_number;
```

Rand() is pseudorandom, initialize the seed

```
//initialize random seed:  
srand ( time(NULL) );
```

Generate the number from [1 - 10]

```
//generate random number:  
rnd_number = rand() % 10 + 1;
```

Condition 1: Three tries

We have to count the number of user input tries and stop the guessing (loop) after three tries.

```
int num;
int counter = 0;
while (counter < 3) {
    cout << "Guess the number: ";
    cin >> num;
    counter++;
}
```

Condition 2: User guessed a number

We have to stop the guessing (loop) after the user guessed the correct number.

```
int rnd_number;
// Genrate a random number
int num = 0;
while (num != rnd_number) {
    cout << "Guess the number: ";
    cin >> num;
}
cout << "The number was " << rnd_number << endl;
```

Loop condition modeling (1)

We have to loop while following conditions are both true.

- `counter < 3`
- `num != rnd_number`

We have to form a more elaborated logical expression by combining two simple test conditions.

- *condition 1 [insert logical operator] condition 2*
- *condition 1 && condition 2*
- *condition 1 || condition 2*
- *condition 1 ^condition 2*

Loop condition modeling (2)

Boolean expression evaluates to true or false

- Condition 1 (C1): counter < 3
 - ▶ Three tries
- Condition 2 (C2): num != rnd_number
 - ▶ User guessed a number

C1	C2	c1&&C2
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

C1	C2	c1 C2
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

C1	C2	c1^C2
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

Loop condition modeling (3)

The loop runs while the condition is true

condition 1 && condition 2

(counter < 3) && (num != rnd_number)

Problem solution

```
int rnd_number;
int num = 0;
int counter = 0;

//initialize random seed:
srand ( time(NULL) );

//generate random number:
rnd_number = rand() % 10 + 1;

while ((counter < 3) && (num != rnd_number)) {
    cout << "Guess the number: ";
    cin >> num;
    counter++;
}
```

Exploring a problem - factorial

Factorial of a number

$$n! = (n - 1)! * n$$

$$0! = 1$$

$$1! = 0! * 1$$

$$2! = 1! * 2$$

$$3! = 2! * 3 = (1 * 2) * 3 = 2 * 3$$

...

Motivation: Permutations

- The number of ways of selecting a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer in a club consisting of 10 persons.

$${}_{10}P_4 = \frac{10!}{(10-4)!} = \frac{10*9*8*7*6!}{6!} = 10 * 9 * 8 * 7 = 5040$$

Factorial (2)

- Initial state before the loop
 - ▶ We need to know n (user input)
 - ▶ A placeholder for the intermediate calculations
 - ★ Initial value (0, 1, n) ?
- Termination condition in the loop
 - ▶ How many operations do we need to perform ?
 - ★ Can we use a counter ?
 - ★ Can we do it without an explicit counter ?
- Change of state during the loop
 - ▶ How to perform the calculations ?

Factorial (3)

```
int n;  
cin » n;  
// initial state?  
int total = ?;  
int counter = ?;  
  
while (condition) {  
    //body of the loop  
}  
cout « "Result is: " « total;
```

Factorial (4)

The calculation expanded

$$n * (n - 1) * (n - 2) * (n - 3) * \dots * 2 * 1$$

Two views of the same equation

- n decreases by one every step
- n gets subtracted by a number that increases by one every step
- we never multiply by zero at the end!

Factorial (5)

- Decrement n:

```
int total = 1;
while (n > 1) {
    total = total*n;
    n=n-1;
}
```

- Increment counter:

```
int total = 1;
int counter = 0;
while (counter < n) {
    total = total*(n-counter);
    counter++;
}
```

Exploring a problem - Root finding

Find the square root of a number, without using the sqrt function.

- Many approaches!
- What constitutes a good solution ?
 - ▶ The square root of 2 is a irrational number...infinite decimals
 - ▶ $99/70$ is a common used approximation. (error less than $1/10.000$)
- Iterative solution
 - ▶ Perform a calculation to improve our solution
 - ▶ Measure the error obtained (distance from the solution)
 - ★ Is it good enough ? stop.
 - ★ Otherwise, repeat the process.

Root finding (2)

Loop **while** the condition is true:

- Given the value of n , how to measure the error of its square root estimation:

$$\text{abs}(\text{solution}^2 - n) > \text{delta}$$

- delta is completely dependant on our needs!
- can we use this as a termination condition ?

Root finding (3)

Bisection method, given n find its square root

1. Define **lower** and **upper** limits (1 and n)
2. Start with an initial guess of x
3. Repeat while termination condition is true
4. Take the average: $x = (\text{lower} + \text{upper}) / 2$
5. If $(x^2 \geq n)$ then root between (lower, x)
 upper = x
- 5'. else root between (x , upper)
 lower = x

Root finding (4)

Bisection method, in C

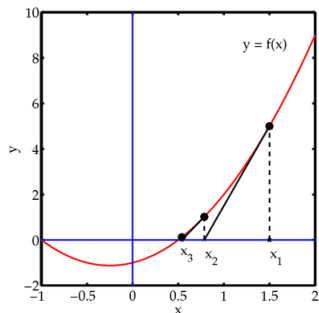
```
double guess = 1.0;
double lower=guess;
double upper=n;

while (fabs(guess*guess - n) > 0.001) {
    guess = (lower+upper)/2.0;
    if (guess*guess > n)
        upper = guess;
    else
        lower = guess;
}
cout << guess;
```


Newton-Raphson method

Finds roots of real-valued functions in an iterative way.
Optimization in the search process, using derivatives

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$



Our problem can be reformulated as

$$f(x) = x^2 - n$$

$$f'(x) = 2x$$

$$x_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(x_n + \frac{n}{x_n} \right)$$

Newton-Raphson method (2)

- Condition for the loop is the same
- The main change is how we estimate the next guess

```
double guess = 1;
while (fabs(guess*guess - n) > 0.001) {
    guess = (guess + n/guess) / 2;
}
cout << guess;
```