



# Principles of Computer Science I

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CSC 120A - Fall 2004  
Lecture Unit 7



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## Review Chapter 4

- Boolean data type and operators (&&, ||,...)
- Selection control flow structure
  - *if, if-else, nested if* structures
- Testing, algorithm walk-through, execution trace
- Encapsulation and abstraction

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## File Input/Output

- Up till now, we have been interacting with our programs through screen and keyboard
- It is also useful to be able to input and output data using a file on disk instead
- Using a file for input allows us to:
  - Handle large quantities of data
  - Type a little bit at a time
  - Go back and fix mistakes
  - Can re-run the program with the same data without having to retype it
- Using a file for output we can
  - View output on the screen or print it
  - Examine output without having to re-run the program
  - Store data that is used as input for another program

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## Five Steps to File IO

1. Import Java library: `java.io.*`
2. Declare file variable identifier
3. Instantiate file object and assign to the file variable
4. Use methods of the file object to read or write data
5. Call a method to close the file when we are done

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## File IO: Step 1

```
import java.io.*;
```

- We already know how to do that
- For files, we will be using the *FileReader*, *FileWriter*, *BufferedReader*, and *PrintWriter* classes from the library
  - *FileReader* and *FileWriter* provide basic functionality of reading/writing one character at a time
  - *PrintWriter* allows us to output data to a file just like we've been outputting data to the screen with the `System.out` object

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## File IO: Step 2

```
PrintWriter outFile;  
BufferedReader inFile;
```

- Declare file identifiers like any other variable
- *BufferedReader* for input files, *PrintWriter* for output files
  - These classes work with *character stream files* (files that we view and change in a text editor)
    - Data is organized in lines (sequences of characters)
    - Each line ends with an EOL (end-of-line) mark that editor doesn't display - it goes to the next line as it places characters on the screen

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## File IO: Step 3

```
outFile = new PrintWriter(new FileWriter("outFile.txt"));
inFile = new BufferedReader(new FileReader("inFile.txt"));
```

- Create file objects for use in your program and associate them with physical files on the disk
- With input file: *file pointer* is placed at the first character in the file
- With output file: *creates* a new empty file, or *erases* old contents of existing file

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## File IO: Step 4 (Output)

```
outFile.print("The answer is " + 49);
outFile.println("Rate = " + rate);
```

- Just like `System.out.print` and `println`
- `println()` adds an EOL mark to the end of the string as it is saved in the file

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## File IO: Step 4 (Input)

```
String line = inFile.readLine();
int num = Integer.parseInt(inFile.readLine());
```

- Exactly like reading data from the keyboard, because we are using the same `BufferedReader` class
- `readLine()` discards the EOL mark as it is reading a line of characters from the file
  - returns null if we've reached the end of file (EOF)
- We can skip over a bunch of letters in a file:  
`inFile.skip(100L);` // L means it's a long integer literal
- Throws an exception if we try to skip past the end of the file
  - Need to include "throws `IOException`" clause after methods that use these input methods

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## File IO: Step 5

```
inFile.close();  
outFile.close();
```

- Breaks the association between the physical file and the variable (inFile/outFile)
- Makes file available for use by other programs
- Be nice: close files once you are done with them
- A simple program using files... (UseFile.java)

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## Looping

- Control structure that causes a statement or group of statements to be executed repeatedly
- Pattern:  
while ( <boolean-expression> )  
    <statement>
- Example:  
while ( count <= 25 )  
    count = count + 1;
- Body of a loop can be single statement or a group of statements enclosed in { ... }

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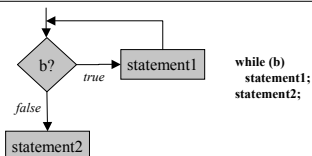
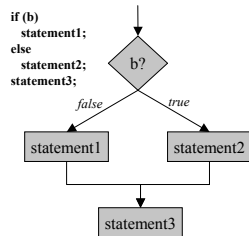
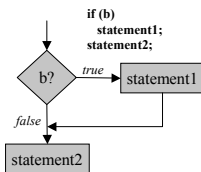
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## Flow Charts



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## Loop Terminology

- **Loop entry:** point at which flow of control reaches first statement inside a loop
- **Iteration:** an individual pass through, or repetition of, the body of a loop
- **Loop test:** point at which *while* expression is evaluated to decide whether to loop or not
- **Loop exit:** point at which control passes to first statement after the loop body
- **Termination condition:** condition that causes loop to be exited

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## Types of Loops

- **Count-controlled loop:** a loop that executes a specified number of times
- **Event-controlled loop:** loop that terminates when something happens inside the body to signal that the loop should be exited
- **Making an angel food cake:**
  - "Beat the mixture 300 strokes" (count-controlled loop)
  - "Cut with a pastry blender until the mixture resembles coarse meal" (event-controlled loop)

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## Count-Controlled Loops

- Use a variable (*loop control variable*) in the test
- Before entering the loop, must *initialize* the loop control variable
- In each iteration of the loop, must *update* (usually *increment by 1*) the loop control variable

```
int loopCount = 1;
while (loopCount <= 10) {
    ...
    loopCount = loopCount + 1;
}
```

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## Example: Count-Controlled Loop

```
int mult = 1;
while (mult <= 10) {
    System.out.println("2 times " + mult + " is " +
        (2 * mult));
    mult++;    // same as: mult = mult + 1;
}
```

- Redo BinaryConv.java using a loop...
- If you forget to properly initialize or update the loop control variable your program will go into the famous *infinite loop*.

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## Event-Controlled Loops

- Loops often used to read in and process long lists of data
  - Amount of data is unknown so we cannot use a count-controlled loop
- Instead, we read/process data until some special data value is reached, or until the end of file
- A *sentinel* (or *trailer*) value in a file is used as a signal that the end of data to be processed has been reached
  - E.g. In a program that reads in a calendar dates, we may use the date February 31 as a sentinel

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## Loop with a Sentinel Value

```
String date = inFile.readLine(); // "priming read"
while (!date.equals("0231")) {
    ...
    date = inFile.readLine();
}
```

- Priming read: before entering the loop, we must read the first data value
- At the end of the loop body, read in the next data value

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## Reading Until EOF

```
String line = inFile.readLine(); // "priming read"
while ( line != null ) {
    ...
    line = inFile.readLine();
}
```

- *null* is a special Java constant value; think of it as referring to a non-existent address
- *null* is not equivalent to an empty String ""

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## Tasks Accomplished by Looping

- **Counting**
  - Keep track of the number of times loop is executed
- **Summation**
  - Computing the sum of a set of data values
- **Exercise: Write a program to read in integers from a file, "temperature.txt", compute their average as a double value, and print the average on the screen**
- **Exercises: Redo the BinaryConv and ISBNDigit programs we wrote earlier**

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## From Textbook, pg. 232

- Example of a flag-controlled loop

```
...
count = 0;           // Initialize event counter
sum = 0;            // Initialize sum
notDone = true;     // Initialize loop control flag

while (notDone) {
    line = dataFile.readLine(); // Get a line
    if (line != null) { // Got a line?
        number = Integer.parseInt(line); // Convert line to int
        if (number % 2 == 1) { // Is the int value odd?
            count++; // Yes - increment counter
            sum += number; // Add value to sum
            notDone = (count < 10); // Update loop control flag
        }
    } else {
        errorFile.println("EOF reached unexpectedly.");
        notDone = false; // Update loop control flag
    }
}
```

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## Designing Loops

- Design flow of control
  1. What condition ends the loop?
  2. How should the condition be initialized?
  3. How should the condition be updated?
- Design processing within loop body
  4. What is the process being repeated?
  5. How should the process be initialized?
  6. How should the process be updated?
- Specify state upon loop exit
  7. What is the state of code upon exiting the loop?

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## Designing Flow of Control

### ■ What makes the loop stop?

Problem Statement	Termination condition
"Sum 365 temperatures"	Counter reaches 365 (count-controlled loop)
"Process all data in the file"	EOF occurs (EOF-controlled)
"Process until 10 odd integers have been read"	10 odd integers read (event counter)
"The end of the data is indicated by a negative test score"	Negative value encountered (sentinel-controlled)

### ■ Initialization and update

- Count-controlled: set iteration counter to 1; increment counter at end of each iteration
- Sentinel-controlled: open file, input initial value before entering the loop (priming read); input next value at end of each iteration
- Flag-controlled: set boolean flag variable; update appropriately within the loop as condition changes

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## Designing Process Within the Loop

- Decide what a single iteration should do
  - Count
  - Sum
  - Read data
  - Perform calculation
  - Print out something
  - ...
- Initialize and update variables appropriately

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## Loop Exit

- Check the condition of variables upon loop exit (especially check for off-by-one errors)

```
lineCount = 1;
while ((inLine = inFile.readLine()) != null)
    lineCount++;
System.out.println("There are " + lineCount +
                   " lines in the file.");
```

- (above code is incorrect)

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## Nested Loops

- Create more complex and useful control structures (just like *if* statements)

```
Initialize outer loop
while ( Outer-loop-condition ) {
    ...
    Initialize inner loop
    while ( Inner-loop-condition ) {
        Inner loop processing
        and update
    }
    ...
}
```

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## Example: Counting Commas in a File

- Partial program on page 236-237
  - Design loops using the seven steps on slide 22
  - Use the `charAt(n)` method of the String class, which returns the **character** at a given position in the string ( "ABCDE".charAt(0) returns 'A' )

- Exercise: How would you implement the `MakeSpaces.spaces(n)` method that we used in lab?

```
public String spaces(int n) { ...
```

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## Loop Testing and Debugging

- Develop test data for loops to check all possible scenarios
  - Loop is skipped entirely
  - Loop body executed exactly once
  - Loop executes a normal number of times
  - Loop fails to exit
- Check loop termination condition carefully
- Watch out for "off-by-one" errors
- Trace execution of loop by hand, step by step
- Use debugging output statements to isolate errors

```
System.out.println("count = " + count);
```

  - Can be commented out later

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## What's Wrong?

- Code segment to print out the even numbers between 1 and 15:

```
int n = 2;
while (n != 15) {
    n = n + 2;
    System.out.print(n + " ");
}
```

- (2 logical errors)

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## What's Wrong II?

- Code segment to copy a line of text from one file to another, character by character:

```
String line = inFile.readLine();
int count = 1;
while (count < line.length()) {
    outFile.print(line.charAt(count));
    count++;
}
outFile.println();
```

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## Asides

- “Uninitialized variable” error
- File types and extensions
  - “.txt” “.doc” “.in” “.out” “.pdf” “.ppt” “.html” *etc.*
- Types of input
  - Interactive vs. non-interactive
- Order of statements in a program
  - Physical vs. logical
- Truth tables

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## Homework and Labs

- Be sure to include header comments on all program files you write
  - Name, date, course, *etc.*
  - A description of the class or program in the file
  - Design issues, assumptions you made
- Comment methods and fields appropriately
  - For example, the `hundreds()` method of the `Check` program
- Check programs
  - 40 is spelled “forty” ☹
- Rational number data type
  - String constructor: `public Rational(String str) { ...`
  - `equals()` method
    - Comparing integers, you can use `==`
    - Only use the `Math.abs` and `TOLERANCE` stuff if you *have* to compare double values
- Try to factor repeated blocks of code into a method (be lazy)

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