

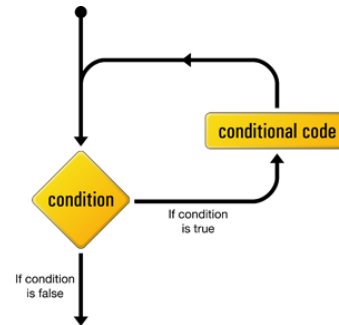
Iteration III

Recall that a loop allows you to execute the same statements multiple times. Previously we've studied `for` loops. This week we will study `while` loops, which continue to execute as long as a condition is true.

Model 1 `while` Statements

A more general looping structure is the `while` statement. The instructor will trace the following program using the debug interface.

```
def main() -> None:
    i = 0
    while i < 3:
        print("the number is", i)
        i = i + 1
    print("goodbye")
main()
```



1. What must the value of the Boolean expression (after the `while`) be in order for the first print statement to execute?
2. Circle the statement that changes the variable `i` in the above code.
3. What happens to the value of the variable `i` during the execution of the loop?
4. Explain why the loop body does not execute again after it outputs "the number is 2".
5. Suppose the order of the statements in the loop body is reversed:

```
while i < 3:
    i = i + 1
    print("the number is", i)
```

- a) How does the order impact the output displayed by the `print` function?
- b) Does the order impact the total number of lines that are output?

6. Identify three different ways to modify the code so that the loop only executes twice.

7. Describe the three parts of a `while` loop that control the number of times the loop executes.

8. What would happen if you comment out the statement `i = i + 1`?

When writing a `while` loop, it's helpful to answer a few questions before you start:

- *What needs to be initialized before the loop?*
- *What condition must be true for the loop to repeat?*
- *What will change so that the loop eventually ends?*

9. Consider the function `add(n)` that prompts the user for n numbers and returns the sum of these values. For example, when `add(5)` is called, the user is asked to input five numbers. If the user inputs 3, 1, 5, 2, and 4, the function would return the value 15.

- Describe the variable that needs to be initialized before the loop begins.
- Describe the Boolean expression that must be true for the loop to continue.
- Describe what will need to change so that the loop will eventually end.
- Now list what else needs to happen inside the body of the loop for you to calculate the sum of the user input.
- Given your previous answer, are there any other values that need to be initialized before the start of the loop?

f) Write the code for add(n) below:

Model 2 Sentinel-value Pattern with `while` loops

The previous problem employs the sentinel-value pattern. The sentinel value is a value used to signal the end of the loop (in this case, the sentinel value was n).

10. Rewrite the following code using a `while` loop and employing the sentinel-value pattern:

```
1 def sum_list(lst -> list) -> int:  
2     sum = 0  
3     for x in lst:  
4         sum = sum + x  
5     return sum
```

Model 3 Tracing with `while` loops and Infinite loops

11. What does this function print with input 3? If there is an infinite loop, indicate the first 4 lines of what the program prints, and state that there is an infinite loop.

```
1 def stop_at_one(x: int) -> int:
2     count = 0
3     while x != 1:
4         print(x)
5         if x % 2 == 1:
6             x = 3 * x + 1
7         else:
8             x = x // 2
```

12. What does this function print with input 3? If there is an infinite loop, indicate the first 4 lines of what the program prints, and state that there is an infinite loop.

```
1 def stop_at_one(x: int) -> int:
2     count = 0
3     while x != 1:
4         print(x)
5         if x % 2 == 1:
6             x = 2 * x + 1
7         else:
8             x = x // 2
```

Model 4 Validating-input Pattern with `while` loops

You can also use a while loop when you want to validate input; when you want to make sure the user has entered valid input for a prompt. Let's say you want a function that asks a yes-or-no question:

```
1 def get_yes_or_no(message: str) -> None:
2     valid_input = False
3     while not valid_input:
4         answer = input(message)
5         answer = answer.upper() # convert to upper case
6         if answer == 'Y' and answer == 'N':
7             print(f'Valid input! Thanks for answering {answer}')
8             valid_input = True
9         else:
10            print('Invalid input! Please enter Y for yes or N for no.')
11
12 def main() -> None:
13     get_yes_or_no('Do you like lima beans? Y)es or N)o: ')
14 main()
```

13. Trace the code assuming that the user enters 'yes', 'no', 'y' and 'n' in this order?

14. Will the program terminate? If your answer is no, then provide the fix.

Model 5 `while` loop writing code practice

15. Write a function, called `sublist`, that takes in a list of numbers as the parameter. In the function, use a while loop to return a sublist of the input list. The sublist must contain the same values of the original list up until it reaches the number 5 (it must not contain the number 5).

16. Write a function, called `sublist`, that takes in a list of strings as the parameter. In the function, use a while loop to return a sublist of the input list. The sublist should contain the same values of the original list up until it reaches the string "STOP" (it should not contain the string "STOP").

17. Write a function called `beginning` that takes a list as input and contains a while loop that only stops once the element of the list is the string 'bye'. What is returned is a list that contains up to the first 10 strings, regardless of where the loop stops. (i.e., if it stops on the 32nd element, the first 10 are returned. If "bye" is the 5th element, the first 4 are returned.) *If you want to make this even more of a challenge, do this without slicing.*