Looping Structures

Motivation

Why loop?

Sometimes you need to do things again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again, and again...and finally you get tired of typing.

The Plan

While not everyone understands:
1. Motivate loops
2. For loops
3. While loops
4. Do-while loops
5. Equivalence
6. Application of Simulated Collision
7. Practice Problems

Motivation

Okay, so that's not all. You also loop in order to:
- Group repeatedly executed code for uniformity
- Make the number of repetitions easily changeable
- Repeat events which the number of executions is known only dynamically
- Combine with selection statements to make more complex algorithms
while Loop

```java
int i=0;
while(i<10)
{
    System.out.println(i);
    i++;
}
```

while Loop

```java
int i=0;
while(i<10)
{
    System.out.println(i);
    i++;
}
```

Why might this be a problem?

```java
double i=0;
while(i<1)
{
    System.out.println(i);
    i+=0.1;
}
```

for Loop

```java
for(int i=0; i<10; i++)
{
    System.out.println(i);
}
```
for Loop

Initialization  Condition  Update
for(int i=0; i<10; i++)
{
    System.out.println(i);
}

for Loop

Initialization  Condition  Update
for(int i=0; i<10; i++)
{
    System.out.println(i*0.1);
}

for Loop

Initialization  Condition  Update
for(int i=0; i<10; i++)
{
    System.out.println(i*0.1+5);
}

for Loop

int i=0;
while(i<10)
{
    System.out.println(i);
    i++;
}

Equivalence of Loops

for(int i=0; i<10; i++)
{
    System.out.println(i);
}
do-while Loop

```java
int i=0;
do {
    System.out.println(i);
i++;
} while(i<=10);
```

**Iteration**

**do-while Loop**

```java
int i=0;
do {
    System.out.println(i);
i++;
} while(i<=10);
```

Notice this semicolon was not here in the while loop!

**When to use which loop?**

- **Is it known how many times the loop will execute prior to executing the loop body?**
  - Yes → **for**
  - No

- **Is it important for the loop body to always execute at least once?**
  - Yes → **do-while**
  - No → **while**
When to use which loop?

Real answer:

Use which ever structure is most convenient, because all loop structures can be represented as any other loop structure.

Why are there multiple loop structures then?

Simple answer – for the programmer’s convenience.

Note: Java 5.0 offers another form of the for loop

We will cover this at a later point

Practice Problems

- Write a loop to print out from 10 to 100 inclusive counting by 10s
- Write a loop that starts with an arbitrary double x and divides it by 2 repeatedly until it is less than 1. Output the number of times the loop executed. What is being computed?
- Write a loop that sums the first x integers where x is a positive integer. Print out the results.
- Write a loop that takes an integer x starting with value 1 and doubles x so long as x is positive. Bonus question: why doesn’t this loop infinitely? Super Bonus question: why does it loop infinitely when x is a double?