#### **Introduction to Computer Science Lecture 5**

Nazareno Aguirre

(based on material by Guillaume Hoffmann)

### Review

Increment and decrement operators

What will this program print out?

# Review

#### Iteration



What does this program do?

# Review

#### Iteration

```
#include <stdio.h>
int main() {
    int n;
    scanf("%d", &n);
    int factorial = 1;
    int i = 1;
    while (i <= n) {
        factorial = factorial * i;
        i++;
    }
    printf("%d\n", factorial);
    return 0;
}</pre>
```

Indent correctly. Choose meaningful variable names. Favor good forms of iteration. Use comments!



# **Today's topics**

- Assignment operators
- Definite iteration ("for" loops)
- Computing sums and products of sequences
- The return statement in main()
- The comma operator

## **Assignment operators**

- In addition to =, there are other assignment operators, such as += and -=.
- An expression such as:

k = k + 2;

adds 2 to the (old) value of k, and assigns the result to k. Also, the expression as a whole will have that value (the value of the right hand side expression).

• The expression:

k += 2;

accomplishes the same task!

## **Assignment operators**

The different assignment operators have the following form:

```
variable op= expression
```

where op is an operator. This is equivalent to

```
variable = variable op (expression)
```

Assignment operators											
=	+=	-=	*=	/=	%=	>>=	<<=	&=	^=	=	

### **Assignment operators - An Example**

#### #include <stdio.h>

```
/* Computes the factorial of a natural number n.
* The factorial of n is the result of the product (1 * 2 * ... * n).
* The argument is received from standard input.
* The result is printed out on standard output.
 *
* Author: John Doe
* Date: April 18th 2023
* Version: 0.1
*/
int main() {
    int n;
    scanf("%d", &n);
    int factorial = 1;
   int i = 1;
   while (i <= n) {</pre>
        factorial *= i;
        i++;
    }
    printf("%d\n", factorial);
   return 0;
```

## **The For Statement**

- It provides an additional mechanism to define iteration
  - It can be reduced to "while" loops (while loops are more expressive)
- For loops correspond to a form of iteration known as "definite iteration"
  - In definite iteration, the number of times that the loop body is executed is determined
- Very useful for certain iteration patterns, e.g., sequence summations and products.
- In C, it has the following syntax:



### **The For Statement**



#### **For Loop Example**

#### #include <stdio.h>

```
/* Computes the factorial of a natural number n.
* The factorial of n is the result of the product (1 * 2 * ... * n).
* The argument is received from standard input.
 * The result is printed out on standard output.
 *
 * Author: John Doe
 * Date: April 18th 2023
 * Version: 0.1
*/
int main() {
    int n;
    scanf("%d", &n);
    int factorial = 1;
    for (int i = 1; i <= n; i++) {</pre>
        factorial = factorial * i;
    printf("%d\n", factorial);
    return 0;
}
```

# For Loops vs While Loops

 For loops can also be written as while loops (while loops are more expressive):



## For Loop to While Loop Reduction



# When and How to use a For statement

- The **for loop** is best used when the number of times the loop will iterate is determined, and can be expressed in relation to iteration variables.
  - It can also favor readability, with initialization/condition/increment all defined at the top of the loop.
- Iteration variable should not be modified in the loop body
  - In that way, we maintain the good practice of "advancing" iteration at the end of the loop body
- Some really **bad practices**:
  - Modify the iteration variables in the loop body
  - Write conditions with side effects
  - Put statements not related to the iteration in the initialization

#### **Manual Execution Example**

```
int a = 0;
for (int i = 0; i < 2; i = i+1) {
    a = a + 2;
}</pre>
```

	а	i	condition
int $a = 0$	0		
Int i = 0		0	
i < 2			true
a = a + 2	2		
i = i + 1		1	
i < 2			true
a = a + 2	4		
i = i + 1		2	
i < 2			false

# The 'Continue' Statement in a For Loop

- We have already discussed that the use of "loop breaking" statements such as continue and break should be avoided
  - It is nevertheless useful to know how these work
- The continue statement in a while loop makes the execution "skip" the remainder of the loop body, i.e., to jump directly to loop condition.
  - In a **for** loop, it makes the execution jump to the **increment** of the loop. Then, the condition is evaluated.



It will skip the rest of the loop body, but execute "i++" before checking the loop condition (i <= n)

# Sigma Notation (sequence summation)

A mathematical expression that represents the **sum of terms of a sequence** within a certain range.



#### **Summation Examples**



### **Summations and their implementation**

Summations can be straightforwardly mapped into programs, using for loops



#### **Summations and their implementations - Example**



#### The return statement

- The return statement is used to communicate return values between programs
  - When modularizing programs in functions (we'll see that later), return statements are used to communicate back the results of function computations
- In our simple programs, with just a main() routine, we often see a **return** 0 statement
  - What happens if we put the return 0; statement elsewhere?
    - Program exits as soon as the return statement is reached.
- What happens if we change the 0 integer constant by another one, like 1?
  - As a convention, return 0 is used to indicate that the program has successfully achieved its goal (returning a non-zero value will indicate that there has been a problem in the computation)

# The Comma Operator

- The comma operator is a binary operator with expressions as operands.
- In a comma expression of the form expr1, expr2

expr1 is evaluated first, and then expr2.

The comma expression as a whole has the value and type of its right operand.
 Example:

a = 0, b = 1

If b is an int, then this comma expression has value 1 and type int.

# The Comma Operator

- The comma operator sometimes gets used in for statements.
- It allows multiple initializations and multiple processing of indices.
- For example, the code:

```
for(sum=0, i=1; i <= n; ++i)
    sum +=i;</pre>
```

can be used to compute the sum of integers from 1 to n.

#### The Comma Operator, a not-so-recommendable example

• Carrying the idea further, we can stuff the entire loop body into the for parentheses.

```
for(sum=0, i=1; i <= n; sum +=i, ++i);</pre>
```

• But not as:

for(sum=0, i=1; i <= n; ++i, sum +=i);</pre>

Because it would make ++i be evaluated first and sum would have a different value.

#### These uses of comma should be avoided.

Readability and clarity are seriously affected when abusing comma statements