

System-Level Programming

8 Control Structures

Peter Wägemann

Lehrstuhl für Informatik 4
Systemsoftware

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität
Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU)

Summer Term 2025

<http://sys.cs.fau.de/lehre/ss25>



```
...  
goto Label
```

```
Label:  
...
```

- `goto` statement rarely used in clean code
- Edgar Dijkstra: „Go To Statement Considered Harmful”

```
Label:  
...
```

```
goto Label  
...
```

- `goto` leads to hard-to-read code
- Label must not be the function's last statement

- `goto` and `if (...) goto` statements are the only control structures that are hardware can directly execute.
- This aspect is essential for understanding interrupts!



- Minor differences in syntax between C and Java/Python
- `if` statement (conditional statement)

```
if (condition)  
    instruction;
```

Condition	
yes	no
Instruction	



- Minor differences in syntax between C and Java/Python
- `if` statement (conditional statement)

```
if (condition)  
    instruction;
```

Condition	
yes	no
Instruction	

- `if-else` statement (two branches)

```
if (condition)  
    instruction1;  
else  
    instruction2;
```

Condition	
yes	no
Instruction_1	Instruction_2



- Minor differences in syntax between C and Java/Python

- **if** statement (conditional statement)

```
if (condition)
    instruction;
```

Condition	
yes	no
Instruction	

- **if-else** statement (two branches)

```
if (condition)
    instruction1;
else
    instruction2;
```

Condition	
yes	no
Instruction ₁	Instruction ₂

- **if-else-if** cascade (multiple branches)

```
if (condition1)
    instruction1;
else if (condition2)
    instruction2;
else
    instruction3;
```

Condition ₁		
yes	no	
Instruction ₁	Condition ₂	
	yes	no
	Instruction ₂	Instruction ₃



- **switch** statement (case selection)
 - alternative to **if** cascade when testing for integer values
 - Python: **match case**

integer expression = ?				
Value1	Value2			else
Inst. 1	Inst. 2		Inst. n	Inst. x

```

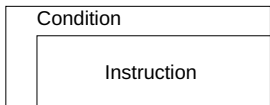
switch (expression) {
case value1:
    instruction1;
    break;
case value2:
    instruction2;
    break;
...
case valuen:
    instructionn;
    break;
default:
    instructionx;
}

```



Pre-Condition and Post-Condition Loops

- Pre-condition loop
 - `while`-loop
 - executed zero or more times



`while(condition)`
instruction;

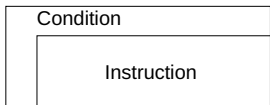
```
while (  
    sb_button_getState(BUTTON0)  
    == RELEASED  
) {  
    ... // do unless button press.  
}
```



Pre-Condition and Post-Condition Loops

■ Pre-condition loop

- **while**-loop
- executed zero or more times

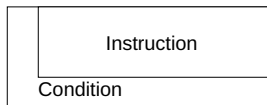


```
while(condition)
    instruction;
```

```
while (
    sb_button_getState(BUTTON0)
        == RELEASED
) {
    ... // do unless button press.
}
```

■ Post-condition loops

- **do-while** loops
- executed once or more



```
do
    instruction;
while(condition);
```

```
do {
    ... // do at least once
} while (
    sb_button_getState(BUTTON0)
        == RELEASED
);
```



- C: **for** loop has an explicitly managed counter
- Python: **for** item **in** iterable

```
for (starting_expression;  
      terminating_expression;  
      incrementing_expression)  
    instruction;
```

$v \leftarrow$ Start expr. (increment) end expr.

Instruction

- Example (usually: n executions with counter variable)

```
uint8_t sum = 0; // calc sum 1+...+10  
for (uint8_t n = 1; n < 11; n++) {  
    sum += n;  
}  
sb_7seg_showNumber( sum );
```

55

- Remarks

- Declaring a variable (n) in the *starting_expression* is only possible from C99 onwards.
- The loop is repeated as long as *terminating_expression* $\neq 0$ (*true*)
 \leadsto the **for** loop is a more explicit **while** loop



- The current iteration of the loop can be terminated with the `continue` instruction.

~> The loop continues with the next iteration

```
for (uint8_t led = 0; led < 8; led++) {  
    if (led == RED1) {  
        continue;           // skip RED1  
    }  
    sb_led_on(led);  
}
```



- The current iteration of the loop can be terminated with the `continue` instruction.

→ The loop continues with the next iteration

```
for (uint8_t led = 0; led < 8; led++) {  
    if (led == RED1) {  
        continue;           // skip RED1  
    }  
    sb_led_on(led);  
}
```



- The execution of the *innermost loop* is terminate with the `break` instruction.

→ The program resumes execution *after* the loop

```
for (uint8_t led = 0; led < 8; led++) {  
    if (led == RED1) {  
        break;              // break at RED1  
    }  
    sb_led_on(led);  
}
```



Loops & goto Instructions

- All loop types have semantically-equivalent sequences with **goto** statements
- Example:

```
for (uint8_t led = 0; led < 8; led++) {  
    if (led == RED1) {  
        continue; /* skip RED1 */  
    }  
    sb_led_on(led);  
}
```

```
uint8_t led = 0;  
goto test;  
loop:  
    if (led == RED1)  
        goto next;  
    sb_led_on(led);  
next:  
    led++;  
test:  
    if (led < 8)  
        goto loop;  
end:
```

