

# More with Loops: While-loops

The other kind of loop is an *indefinite loop* or *while-loop*. This has format

```
while <condition>:  
    <body>
```

For example,

```
x = 0  
while x < 10:  
    x = x+1  
    print(x)
```

When a while-loop is executed, the body is evaluated over and over until the condition is **False**. If the condition never becomes False, the loop never terminates.

Here is a very common programming issue:

Enter data until some condition is met.

To make this simple, we will enter strings until we get the empty string:

```
done = False
```

```
while not done:
```

```
    myInput = input( "type something: " )
```

```
    if myInput == "":
```

```
        done = True
```

```
    else:
```

```
        print( "Hmmm. How interesting.")
```

We can determine if number  $n$  is prime by trying to divide all of the numbers from 2 up to (but not including)  $n$  into it. If any of them divide in evenly then  $n$  is not prime; if none of them do it is prime.

Here is an easy loop for this:

```
n = eval(input("Enter n: " ))
isPrime = True
for i in range(2,n):
    if n%i == 0:
        isPrime = False
if isPrime:
    print( "%d is prime." % n)
else:
    print( "%d is not prime." %n )
```

Now use this to write a program that has a variable Max and prints all of the primes from 2 to Max.

Note that the for-loop makes this program do a lot of useless checking. For example if  $n$  is 100 it divides 99 numbers into  $n$ , although it finds out that 2 divides evenly into  $n$ . We can prevent this with a while loop:

```
isPrime = True
```

```
i = 2
```

```
while i < n and isPrime:
```

```
    if n%i == 0:
```

```
        isPrime = False
```

```
    i = i+1
```