## CS1110 25 Oct 2011: Arrays.

Reading: Secs. 8.1, 8.2, 8.3

Listen to the following lectures on loops on your PLive CD. They are only 2-3 minutes long, and each has an insightful message.

- 1. The 3 lectures on Lesson page 7-6 —read the whole page.
- 2. The 4 lectures in Lesson page 7-5.

## **Computational simplicity**

Most of us don't write perfect essays in one pass, and coding is the same: writing requires revising; programming requires revising. If you are writing too much code — it gets longer and longer, with no end in sight: stop and look for a better way.

If your code is getting convoluted and you have trouble understanding it: stop and look for a better way.

Learn to keep things simple, to solve problems in simple ways. This sometimes requires a different way of thinking.

We are trying to teach not just Java but how to think about problem solving.

A key point is to break a problem up into several pieces and do each piece in isolation, without thinking about the rest of them. Our methodology for developing a loop does just that.

## A bug in the Zune

```
/* day contains the number of days since 1 Jan 1980 */ /* Set year and day to current year and day of year */
```

year = ORIGINYEAR; /\* = 1980 \*/

```
while (day > 365) {
    if (IsLeapYear(year)) {
        if (day > 366) {
            day= day - 366;
            year= year + 1;
        }
    else {
            day= day - 366;
            year= year + 1;
        }
}
```

Does each iteration make progress toward termination? Not if day = 366!!

http://tinyurl.com/9b4hmy









