

Chapter 3: Selections and Conditionals

CS1: Java Programming
Colorado State University

Original slides by Daniel Liang
Modified slides by Chris Wilcox

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Motivations

If you assigned a negative value for `radius` in Listing 2.2, `ComputeAreaWithConsoleInput.java`, the program would print an invalid result. If the radius is negative, you don't want the program to compute the area. How can you deal with this situation?

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Objectives

- To declare **boolean** variables and write Boolean expressions using relational operators (§3.2).
- To implement selection control using one-way **if** statements (§3.3).
- To implement selection control using two-way **if-else** statements (§3.4).
- To implement selection control using nested **if** and multi-way **if** statements (§3.5).
- To avoid common errors and pitfalls in **if** statements (§3.6).
- To generate random numbers using the `Math.random()` method (§3.7).
- To program using selection statements for a variety of examples (**SubtractionQuiz**, **BMI**, **ComputeTax**) (§§3.7–3.9).
- To combine conditions using logical operators (`&&`, `||`, and `!`) (§3.10).
- To program using selection statements with combined conditions (**LeapYear**, **Lottery**) (§§3.11–3.12).
- To implement selection control using **switch** statements (§3.13).
- To write expressions using the conditional expression (§3.14).
- To examine the rules governing operator precedence and associativity (§3.15).
- To apply common techniques to debug errors (§3.16).

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

The `boolean` Type and Operators

Often in a program you need to compare two values, such as whether `i` is greater than `j`. Java provides six comparison operators (also known as relational operators) that can be used to compare two values. The result of the comparison is a Boolean value: true or false.

```
boolean b = (1 > 2);
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Relational Operators

Java Operator	Mathematics Symbol	Name	Example (radius is 5)	Result
<code><</code>	<code><</code>	less than	<code>radius < 0</code>	<code>false</code>
<code><=</code>	<code>≤</code>	less than or equal to	<code>radius <= 0</code>	<code>false</code>
<code>></code>	<code>></code>	greater than	<code>radius > 0</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>>=</code>	<code>≥</code>	greater than or equal to	<code>radius >= 0</code>	<code>true</code>
<code>==</code>	<code>=</code>	equal to	<code>radius == 0</code>	<code>false</code>
<code>!=</code>	<code>≠</code>	not equal to	<code>radius != 0</code>	<code>true</code>

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Problem: A Simple Math Learning Tool

This example creates a program to let a first grader practice additions. The program randomly generates two single-digit integers `number1` and `number2` and displays a question such as “What is 7 + 9?” to the student. After the student types the answer, the program displays a message to indicate whether the answer is true or false.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you cannot run the buttons, see www.cs.garmstrong.edu/liang/javaslide/importantnote.doc

AdditionQuiz Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

One-way if Statements

```

if (boolean-expression) {
    statement(s);
}
    
```

```

if (radius >= 0) {
    area = radius * radius * PI;
    System.out.println("The area
    + " for the circle of radius "
    + radius + " is " + area);
}
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Note

```

if (i > 0) {
    System.out.println("i is positive");
}
    
```

(a) Wrong

```

if (i > 0) {
    System.out.println("i is positive");
}
    
```

(b) Correct

```

if (i > 0) {
    System.out.println("i is positive");
}
    
```

(a)

Equivalent

```

if (i > 0)
    System.out.println("i is positive");
    
```

(b)

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Simple if Demo

Write a program that prompts the user to enter an integer. If the number is a multiple of 5, print HiFive. If the number is divisible by 2, print HiEven.

SimpleIfDemo Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

The Two-way if Statement

```

if (boolean-expression) {
    statement(s) -for-the-true-case;
}
else {
    statement(s) -for-the-false-case;
}
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

if-else Example

```

if (radius >= 0) {
    area = radius * radius * 3.14159;

    System.out.println("The area for the "
    + "circle of radius " + radius +
    " is " + area);
}
else {
    System.out.println("Negative input");
}
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

Multiple Alternative if Statements

```

if (score >= 90.0)
    System.out.print("A");
else if (score >= 80.0)
    System.out.print("B");
else if (score >= 70.0)
    System.out.print("C");
else if (score >= 60.0)
    System.out.print("D");
else
    System.out.print("F");
    
```

(a)

Equivalent

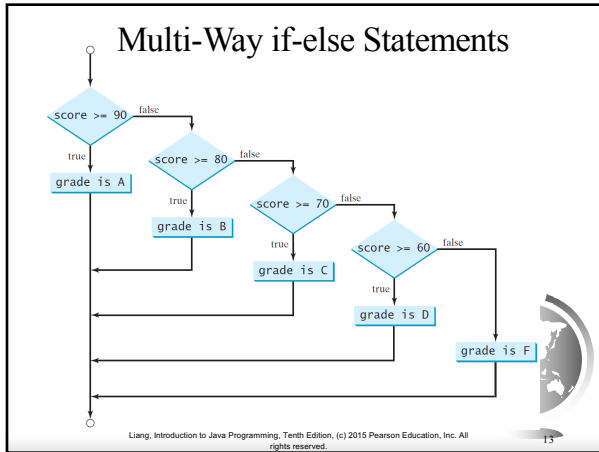
```

if (score >= 90.0)
    System.out.print("A");
else if (score >= 80.0)
    System.out.print("B");
else if (score >= 70.0)
    System.out.print("C");
else if (score >= 60.0)
    System.out.print("D");
else
    System.out.print("F");
    
```

(b)

This is better

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.



Trace if-else statement

Suppose score is 70.0 The condition is false

```

    if (score >= 90.0)
        System.out.print("A");
    else if (score >= 80.0)
        System.out.print("B");
    else if (score >= 70.0)
        System.out.print("C");
    else if (score >= 60.0)
        System.out.print("D");
    else
        System.out.print("F");
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 14

Trace if-else statement

Suppose score is 70.0 The condition is false

```

    if (score >= 90.0)
        System.out.print("A");
    else if (score >= 80.0)
        System.out.print("B");
    else if (score >= 70.0)
        System.out.print("C");
    else if (score >= 60.0)
        System.out.print("D");
    else
        System.out.print("F");
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 15

Trace if-else statement

Suppose score is 70.0 The condition is true

```

    if (score >= 90.0)
        System.out.print("A");
    else if (score >= 80.0)
        System.out.print("B");
    else if (score >= 70.0)
        System.out.print("C");
    else if (score >= 60.0)
        System.out.print("D");
    else
        System.out.print("F");
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 16

Trace if-else statement

Suppose score is 70.0 grade is C

```

    if (score >= 90.0)
        System.out.print("A");
    else if (score >= 80.0)
        System.out.print("B");
    else if (score >= 70.0)
        System.out.print("C");
    else if (score >= 60.0)
        System.out.print("D");
    else
        System.out.print("F");
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 17

Trace if-else statement

Suppose score is 70.0 Exit the if statement

```

    if (score >= 90.0)
        System.out.print("A");
    else if (score >= 80.0)
        System.out.print("B");
    else if (score >= 70.0)
        System.out.print("C");
    else if (score >= 60.0)
        System.out.print("D");
    else
        System.out.print("F");
    
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 18

Note

The else clause matches the most recent if clause in the same block.

<pre>int i = 1, j = 2, k = 3; if (i > j) if (i > k) System.out.println("A"); else System.out.println("B");</pre>	Equivalent <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<pre>int i = 1, j = 2, k = 3; if (i > j) if (i > k) System.out.println("A"); else System.out.println("B");</pre>
(a)	This is better with correct indentation →	(b)

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

19

Note, cont.

Nothing is printed from the preceding statement. To force the else clause to match the first if clause, you must add a pair of braces:

```
int i = 1;
int j = 2;
int k = 3;
if (i > j) {
  if (i > k)
    System.out.println("A");
}
else
  System.out.println("B");
```

This statement prints B.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

20

Common Errors

Adding a semicolon at the end of an if clause is a common mistake.

```
if (radius >= 0); ← Wrong
{
  area = radius*radius*PI;
  System.out.println(
    "The area for the circle of radius " +
    radius + " is " + area);
}
```

This mistake is hard to find, because it is not a compilation error or a runtime error, it is a logic error.

This error often occurs when you use the next-line block style.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

21

TIP

<pre>if (number % 2 == 0) even = true; else even = false;</pre>	Equivalent <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<pre>boolean even = number % 2 == 0;</pre>
(a)		(b)

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

22

CAUTION

<pre>if (even == true) System.out.println("It is even.");</pre>	Equivalent <hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<pre>if (even) System.out.println("It is even.");</pre>
(a)		(b)

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

23

Problem: An Improved Math Learning Tool

This example creates a program to teach a first grade child how to learn subtractions. The program randomly generates two single-digit integers number1 and number2 with number1 \geq number2 and displays a question such as "What is 9 - 2?" to the student. After the student types the answer, the program displays whether the answer is correct.

SubtractionQuiz Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

24

Problem: Body Mass Index

Body Mass Index (BMI) is a measure of health on weight. It can be calculated by taking your weight in kilograms and dividing by the square of your height in meters. The interpretation of BMI for people 16 years or older is as follows:

BMI	Interpretation
BMI < 18.5	Underweight
18.5 <= BMI < 25.0	Normal
25.0 <= BMI < 30.0	Overweight
30.0 <= BMI	Obese

ComputeAndInterpretBMI

Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

25

Problem: Computing Taxes

The US federal personal income tax is calculated based on the filing status and taxable income. There are four filing statuses: single filers, married filing jointly, married filing separately, and head of household. The tax rates for 2009 are shown below.

Marginal Tax Rate	Single	Married Filing Jointly or Qualifying Widow(er)	Married Filing Separately	Head of Household
10%	\$0 – \$8,350	\$0 – \$16,700	\$0 – \$8,350	\$0 – \$11,950
15%	\$8,351 – \$33,950	\$16,701 – \$67,900	\$8,351 – \$33,950	\$11,951 – \$45,500
25%	\$33,951 – \$82,250	\$67,901 – \$137,050	\$33,951 – \$68,525	\$45,501 – \$117,450
28%	\$82,251 – \$171,550	\$137,051 – \$208,850	\$68,526 – \$104,425	\$117,451 – \$190,200
33%	\$171,551 – \$372,950	\$208,851 – \$372,950	\$104,426 – \$186,475	\$190,201 – \$372,950
35%	\$372,951+	\$372,951+	\$186,476+	\$372,951+

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

26

Problem: Computing Taxes, cont.

```

if (status == 0) {
    // Compute tax for single filers
}
else if (status == 1) {
    // Compute tax for married file jointly
    // or qualifying widow(er)
}
else if (status == 2) {
    // Compute tax for married file separately
}
else if (status == 3) {
    // Compute tax for head of household
}
else {
    // Display wrong status
}

```

ComputeTax

Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

27

Logical Operators

Operator	Name	Description
!	not	logical negation
&&	and	logical conjunction
	or	logical disjunction
^	exclusive or	logical exclusion

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

28

Truth Table for Operator !

p	!p	Example (assume age = 24, weight = 140)
true	false	!(age > 18) is false, because (age > 18) is true.
false	true	!(weight == 150) is true, because (weight == 150) is false.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

29

Truth Table for Operator &&

p ₁	p ₂	p ₁ && p ₂	Example (assume age = 24, weight = 140)
false	false	false	(age <= 18) && (weight < 140) is false, because both conditions are both false.
false	true	false	
true	false	false	(age > 18) && (weight > 140) is false, because (weight > 140) is false.
true	true	true	(age > 18) && (weight >= 140) is true, because both (age > 18) and (weight >= 140) are true.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

30

Truth Table for Operator ||

p ₁	p ₂	p ₁ p ₂	Example (assume age = 24, weight = 140)
false	false	false	
false	true	true	(age > 34) (weight <= 140) is true, because (age > 34) is false, but (weight <= 140) is true.
true	false	true	(age > 14) (weight >= 150) is false, because (age > 14) is true.
true	true	true	

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

31

Truth Table for Operator ^

p ₁	p ₂	p ₁ ^ p ₂	Example (assume age = 24, weight = 140)
false	false	false	(age > 34) ^ (weight > 140) is true, because (age > 34) is false and (weight > 140) is false.
false	true	true	(age > 34) ^ (weight >= 140) is true, because (age > 34) is false but (weight >= 140) is true.
true	false	true	(age > 14) ^ (weight > 140) is true, because (age > 14) is true and (weight > 140) is false.
true	true	false	

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

32

Examples

Here is a program that checks whether a number is divisible by 2 and 3, whether a number is divisible by 2 or 3, and whether a number is divisible by 2 or 3 but not both:

TestBooleanOperators

Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

33

Examples

```
System.out.println("Is " + number + " divisible by 2 and 3? " +
    ((number % 2 == 0) && (number % 3 == 0)));
```

```
System.out.println("Is " + number + " divisible by 2 or 3? " +
    ((number % 2 == 0) || (number % 3 == 0)));
```

```
System.out.println("Is " + number +
    " divisible by 2 or 3, but not both? " +
    ((number % 2 == 0) ^ (number % 3 == 0)));
```

TestBooleanOperators

Run

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

34

Companion Website

The & and | Operators

Supplement III.B, "The & and | Operators"

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

35

Companion Website

The & and | Operators

If **x** is 1, what is **x** after this expression?

```
(x > 1) & (x++ < 10)
```

If **x** is 1, what is **x** after this expression?

```
(1 > x) && (1 > x++)
```

How about (1 == x) | (10 > x++)?

```
(1 == x) || (10 > x++)?
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

36

Problem: Determining Leap Year?

This program first prompts the user to enter a year as an `int` value and checks if it is a leap year.

A year is a leap year if it is **divisible by 4** but not by 100, or it is divisible by 400.

```
(year % 4 == 0 && year % 100 != 0) || (year % 400 == 0)
```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

37

Problem: Lottery

Write a program that randomly generates a lottery of a two-digit number, prompts the user to enter a two-digit number, and determines whether the user wins according to the following rule:

- If the user input matches the lottery in exact order, the award is \$10,000.
- If the user input matches the lottery, the award is \$3,000.
- If one digit in the user input matches a digit in the lottery, the award is \$1,000.



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

38

switch Statements

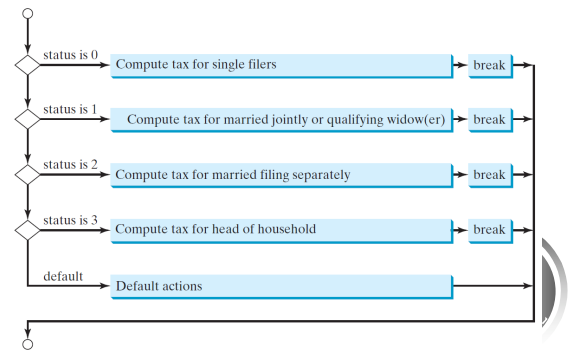
```
switch (status) {
    case 0: compute taxes for single filers;
            break;
    case 1: compute taxes for married file jointly;
            break;
    case 2: compute taxes for married file separately;
            break;
    case 3: compute taxes for head of household;
            break;
    default: System.out.println("Errors: invalid status");
            System.exit(1);
}
```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

39

switch Statement Flow Chart



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

40

switch Statement Rules

The **switch-expression** must yield a value of **char**, **byte**, **short**, or **int** type and must always be enclosed in parentheses.

The **value1**, ..., and **valueN** must have the same data type as the value of the **switch-expression**. The resulting statements in the **case** statement are executed when the value in the **case** statement matches the value of the **switch-expression**. Note that **value1**, ..., and **valueN** are constant expressions, meaning that they cannot contain variables in the expression, such as $1 + x$.

```
switch (switch-expression) {
    case value1: statement(s)1;
                break;
    case value2: statement(s)2;
                break;
    case valueN: statement(s)N;
                break;
    default: statement(s)-for-default;
}
```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

41

switch Statement Rules

The keyword **break** is optional, but it should be used at the end of each case in order to terminate the remainder of the **switch** statement. If the **break** statement is not present, the next **case** statement will be executed.

The **default** case, which is optional, can be used to perform actions when none of the specified cases matches the **switch-expression**.

```
switch (switch-expression) {
    case value1: statement(s)1;
                break;
    case value2: statement(s)2;
                break;
    case valueN: statement(s)N;
                break;
    default: statement(s)-for-default;
}
```

When the value in a **case** statement matches the value of the **switch-expression**, the statements *starting from this case* are executed until either a **break** statement or the end of the **switch** statement is reached.



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.


42

animation

Trace switch statement

Suppose day is 2:

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 43

animation

Trace switch statement

Match case 2

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 44

animation

Trace switch statement

Fall through case 3

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 45

animation

Trace switch statement

Fall through case 4

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 46

animation

Trace switch statement

Fall through case 5

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 47

animation

Trace switch statement

Encounter break

```
switch (day) {
  case 1:
  case 2:
  case 3:
  case 4:
  case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
  case 0:
  case 6: System.out.println("Weekend");
}
```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 48

animation


Trace switch statement

Exit the statement

```

switch (day) {
    case 1:
    case 2:
    case 3:
    case 4:
    case 5: System.out.println("Weekday"); break;
    case 6:
    case 7: System.out.println("Weekend");
}

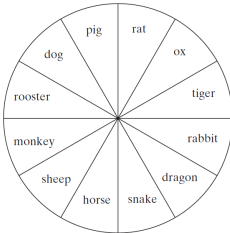
```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 49

Problem: Chinese Zodiac


Write a program that prompts the user to enter a year and displays the animal for the year.



year % 12 =

- 0: monkey
- 1: rooster
- 2: dog
- 3: pig
- 4: rat
- 5: ox
- 6: tiger
- 7: rabbit
- 8: dragon
- 9: snake
- 10: horse
- 11: sheep

ChineseZodiac Run



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 50

Conditional Expressions

```

if (x > 0)
    y = 1;
else
    y = -1;

```

is equivalent to


```

y = (x > 0) ? 1 : -1;

```

(boolean-expression) ? expression1 : expression2

Ternary operator
Binary operator
Unary operator



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 51

Conditional Operator

```


if (num % 2 == 0)
    System.out.println(num + " is even");
else
    System.out.println(num + " is odd");

```

```

System.out.println(
    (num % 2 == 0) ? num + " is even" :
    num + " is odd");

```




Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 52

Conditional Operator, cont.

```

boolean-expression ? exp1 : exp2


```



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 53

Operator Precedence

- + ()
- + var++, var--
- + +, - (Unary plus and minus), ++var, --var
- + (type) Casting
- + ! (Not)
- + *, /, % (Multiplication, division, and remainder)
- + +, - (Binary addition and subtraction)
- + <, <=, >, >= (Relational operators)
- + ==, !=; (Equality)
- + ^ (Exclusive OR)
- + && (Conditional AND) Short-circuit AND
- + || (Conditional OR) Short-circuit OR
- + =, +=, -=, *=, /=, %= (Assignment operator)



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved. 54

Operator Precedence and Associativity

The expression in the parentheses is evaluated first. (Parentheses can be nested, in which case the expression in the inner parentheses is executed first.) When evaluating an expression without parentheses, the operators are applied according to the precedence rule and the associativity rule.

If operators with the same precedence are next to each other, their associativity determines the order of evaluation. All binary operators except assignment operators are left-associative.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

55

Operator Associativity

When two operators with the same precedence are evaluated, the *associativity* of the operators determines the order of evaluation. All binary operators except assignment operators are *left-associative*.

$a - b + c - d$ is equivalent to $((a - b) + c) - d$

Assignment operators are *right-associative*. Therefore, the expression

$a = b += c = 5$ is equivalent to $a = (b += (c = 5))$

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

56

Example

Applying the operator precedence and associativity rule, the expression $3 + 4 * 4 > 5 * (4 + 3) - 1$ is evaluated as follows:

```

3 + 4 * 4 > 5 * (4 + 3) - 1
      ↑
      | (1) inside parentheses first
3 + 4 * 4 > 5 * 7 - 1
      ↑
      | (2) multiplication
3 + 16 > 5 * 7 - 1
      ↑
      | (3) multiplication
3 + 16 > 35 - 1
      ↑
      | (4) addition
19 > 35 - 1
      ↑
      | (5) subtraction
19 > 34
      ↑
      | (6) greater than
false
  
```

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

57

Companion
Website

Operand Evaluation Order

Supplement III.A, “Advanced discussions on how an expression is evaluated in the JVM.”

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

58

Debugging

Logic errors are called *bugs*. The process of finding and correcting errors is called debugging. A common approach to debugging is to use a combination of methods to narrow down to the part of the program where the bug is located. You can hand-trace the program (i.e., catch errors by reading the program), or you can insert print statements in order to show the values of the variables or the execution flow of the program. This approach might work for a short, simple program. But for a large, complex program, the most effective approach for debugging is to use a debugger utility.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

59

Debugger

Debugger is a program that facilitates debugging. You can use a debugger to

- ◆Execute a single statement at a time.
- ◆Trace into or stepping over a method.
- ◆Set breakpoints.
- ◆Display variables.
- ◆Display call stack.
- ◆Modify variables.

Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

60

Companion
Website

Debugging in Eclipse

Supplement II.G, Learning Java Effectively with
Eclipse



Liang, Introduction to Java Programming, Tenth Edition, (c) 2015 Pearson Education, Inc. All rights reserved.

61