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# Groovy Project

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## Abstract

## Introduction

## History

Groovy was first appeared in 2003 and the first version was released in 2007. James Strachan is the designer of Groovy and collaborated with Guillaume Laforge, Jochen Theodorou, Paul King, and Cedric Champeau to develop the language. The purpose of the language was to assist the Java community to have a compatible language for the Java platform and still in use today.

## Control Structures

### 0.1 Order of Evaluation

```
if ( x > 5 && y < 0)
```

In Groovy, it would evaluate an expression from left to right. When examining the example above, it would check if x is greater than 5 first. Since Groovy does use short circuit evaluation, if the first statement is FALSE, it would not evaluate the second statement. Therefore, when evaluating the example above, if x is less than 5, it would not check if y is less than 0 because the AND expression would only evaluate to TRUE when both statement is TRUE. This also applies to OR expression. It would evaluate the statement to TRUE if the first statement is TRUE.

### 0.2 Statements – Selection

```
switch(a) {  
    case 1:  
        println("The value of a is an Integer");  
        break;  
    case [21, 'test ', 9.12]:  
        println("The value is a List");  
        break;  
    case { a instanceof Float }:  
        println("The value is a Float");  
        break;  
    default:  
        println("The value is unknown");  
        break;  
}
```

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In Groovy we can use different classifiers for a switch statement instead of only an integer. There is a function called `isCase()`, which users can implement different classifiers. Groovy already allows users to compare Classes (`isInstance`), Object (`equals`), Collection (`contains`), and expressions (`match`). The switch function also includes a default, which allows the user to set a response if the parameter doesn't fit any cases.

### 0.3 Statements – Iteration

```
for(int i in 1..5) {  
    println(i);  
}
```

The example above is another way to write a for loops in Groovy. It works similar to a for loop; however, it sets its range differently. The output of the example above will print numbers from 1 to 5. Any number that is declared before the `IN` key word would be the start of `i`. It would increment by 1 till it gets to the number that is declared after the dot.

```
0.step 5, 2, {  
    println(it)  
}
```

Groovy supports a function called `step`, which can iterate through numbers like a for loop. The 0 in the example above is the starting number in the loop, the 5 is stopping point (inclusive), and the 2 is how much it is increments. If the user wants to use the numbers, the variable would be "it". Therefore, the output above would be 0, 2, 4 on separate lines.

### 0.4 Error Handling

```
try {  
    //Protected code  
} catch (ArrayIndexOutOfBoundsException ex) {  
    println("Catching the Array out of Bounds exception");  
} finally {  
    //The finally block always executes.  
}
```

Groovy handles run-time errors through the try catch block. It would run the code in try block and when it encounters an error, it would go to one of the catch clauses. The user can have cases handling a specific error or have an catch clause catch any error and have general error message. The final-clause is executed regardless of an error is thrown or not.

## Data Types

### 0.5 Type System

Current versions of Groovy support both dynamic and static typing. Groovy allows for either Java like syntax, with typing variables and return types, or allows you to not include typing, or some combination of the two. When types are not statically typed, they are inferred and checked at run-time.

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## 0.6 Primitive Types

Groovy supports the same primitive types as Java. This includes byte, short, int, long, float, double, char, and Boolean.

### 0.6.1 Integral Numbers

Byte, Short, Int, and Long are all classified as integral numbers (whole numbers). Each of these types behave similarly, with the exception that they have different maximum and minimum values. Byte is an 8 bit number, short is 16 bit, int is 32 bit, and long is 64 bit. The Groovy compiler is able to recognize these numbers written in decimal, binary (with prefix 0b), octal (with prefix 0), and hexadecimal (with prefix 0x) form.

```
byte b = 9
short s = 0b1001
int i = 011
long l = 0x9
assert b == s && s == i && i == l
```

These number types all support the operations: addition (+), subtraction (-), multiplication (\*), division (/), and exponentiation (\*\*).

### 0.6.2 Decimal Numbers

Groovy uses both float (single precision) and double (double precision) for decimal values. Just like in Java, Groovy also supports using scientific notation for decimal types using e or E. Floats and Decimals support the same operations as the integral numeric types. These operations are also supported between the two number types, often resulting in a float or double result.

### 0.6.3 Characters

Groovy has the primitive type char, although it does not have an explicit char literal statement. Since String literals can be defined by single quotes, instantiating a char requires casting to char. Groovy provides three ways to do this:

```
String s = 'A'
char c1 = s
char c2 = s as char
char c3 = (char) s
```

## 0.7 Data Collection

Groovy's data collection types all come from their Java equivalents. Groovy supports all data collection types that come with Java.util (List, Map, Set, etc.). However, Groovy allows for instantiation of Lists and Maps without creating Java objects. Groovy also uses Java's Arrays and has a collection called Ranges.

### 0.7.1 Lists

Groovy's list type is based upon Java's ArrayList object type. This allows for a dynamic like sizing of the list. Unlike Java, though, Groovy does not require list elements to be of the same type.

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```
def same_type = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5] 123
def diff_type = [1, 'a', true, 3.14] 124
```

The above code will compile even though the second array contains different types. 125  
126

### 0.7.2 Maps 127

Groovy's map type is based upon Java's LinkedHashMap. In Groovy a new map can be 128  
created using the "[:]", representing an empty map. Groovy also provides two ways to 129  
both add and access data to/from a map. 130

```
def capitals = [:] 131
capitals['Arizona'] = 'Phoenix' 132
capitals.Colorado = 'Denver' 133
134
assert capitals['Colorado'].equals('Denver') 135
assert capitals.Arizona.equals('Phoenix') 136
```

As presented in the above code snippet, maps can be manipulated using square bracket 137  
syntax "dictionary[key] = value" or a dot syntax "dictionary.key = value". 138  
139

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