

MA2252 Introduction to Computing

Lecture 7: Branching Statements

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At the end of lecture, students will be able to understand and create

- If-Statements
- Switch statements

Branching Statements

Branching statements are used in programming to execute a section of code under specific conditions.

Examples:

- 1 If-Statements
- 2 Switch Statements

If statements can be constructed in different ways and they always end with `end` keyword.

- 1 Using `if` keyword

Construction:

```
if logical expression  
    code block  
end
```

Example:

```
function [t] = total_marks(x,y)
if x<40||y<40
    disp('FAIL')
end
t=x+y;
end
```

If-Statements (contd.)

- 2 Using `if` and `else` keywords

Construction:

```
if logical expression
    code block 1
else
    code block 2
end
```

If-Statements (contd.)

Example:

```
function [t] = total_marks(x,y)
if x<40||y<40
    disp('FAIL')
else
    disp('PASS')
end
t=x+y;
end
```

Demo

If-Statements (contd.)

- 3 Using `if`, `elseif` and `else` keywords

Construction:

```
if logical expression P
    code block 1
elseif logical expression Q
    code block 2
elseif logical expression R
    code block 3
else
    code block 4
end
```

If-Statements (contd.)

Example

```
function [t] = total_marks(x,y)
if x<0||y<0
    disp('marks cannot be negative')
elseif x>100||y>100
    disp('marks cannot exceed 100')
elseif x<40||y<40
    disp('FAIL')
else
    disp('PASS')
end
t=x+y;
end
```

Demo

Nested If-Statement

If-statement nested/contained within another if-statement.

Example:

```
function [t] = total_marks(x,y)
if x<0||y<0
    disp('marks cannot be negative')
    t=sprintf('cannot calculate total marks');
elseif x>100||y>100
    disp('marks cannot exceed 100')
    t=sprintf('cannot calculate total marks');
```

If-Statements (contd.)

```
else  
t=x+y;  
    if x<40||y<40  
        disp('FAIL')  
    else  
        disp('PASS')  
    end  
end  
end  
end
```

Demo

Activity

```
function [weight] = myweight(x)
if weight>70
    disp('Eat healthy')
elseif weight>80
    disp('Exercise more')
elseif weight>100
    disp('Call the doctor')
else
    disp('Relax!')
end
```

My weight is 110 kg. What suggestion this code will give? To answer, please go to mentimeter link in the chat.

Switch Statements

Switch statements are used to check if an expression is equal to one of possible values. Each value is called a case.

Switch Statements (contd.)

Construction:

```
switch expression
  case value 1
    code block 1
  case value 2
    code block 2
  case value 3
    code block 3
  otherwise
    code block 4
end
```

Switch Statements (contd.)

Example:

```
function grade = mygrade_switch(x)
%this function calculates grade based on marks from 0 to 10 using switch
switch x
    case 10
        grade='A+';    %assign A+ if marks=10
    case 9
        grade='A';
    case {7,8}
        grade='B';
    otherwise
        grade='C'
end
end
```

Demo

If vs Switch

- 1 If-statements are useful when you deal with logical conditions in your code.
- 2 Switch becomes handy when you deal with one expression taking multiple possible values.
- 3 Switch statements can also be written using if-statements but vice-versa is not true in general.

End of Lecture 7

Please provide your feedback [▶ here](#)