



Programming Basics – WiSe21/22

Fundamental language concepts

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Chapter 2: Fundamental language concepts

2.1 Data types

2.2 Variables and assignments

2.3 Expressions and operators

How does a computer store information?



- Computer memory can store any **bit patterns**
 - ⊞ Meaning must be clearly defined
 - ⊞ Definition of different **schemas** for use on a sequence of bits



- **Data type**
 - ⊞ is a **schema** for the use of bits to represent **values**
 - ⊞ Values are not just numbers, but any kind of data that a computer can process

A diagram of a memory structure. On the left, the word 'Addresses' is written vertically. To its right is a vertical column of 9 boxes, each containing a bit pattern. The boxes are numbered 0 to 8 from bottom to top. The bit patterns are: 0: 0100 1111, 1: 1100 1001, 2: 0101 0001, 3: 0110 1011, 4: 0000 0000, 5: 0110 1110, 6: 0110 1110, 7: 1100 1100, 8: 0100 1001.

8	0100 1001
7	1100 1100
6	0110 1110
5	0110 1110
4	0000 0000
3	0110 1011
2	0101 0001
1	1100 1001
0	0100 1111

Main Memory

What data can be processed in Java programmes?

➤ Java distinguishes between two categories:

⌘ Primitive types

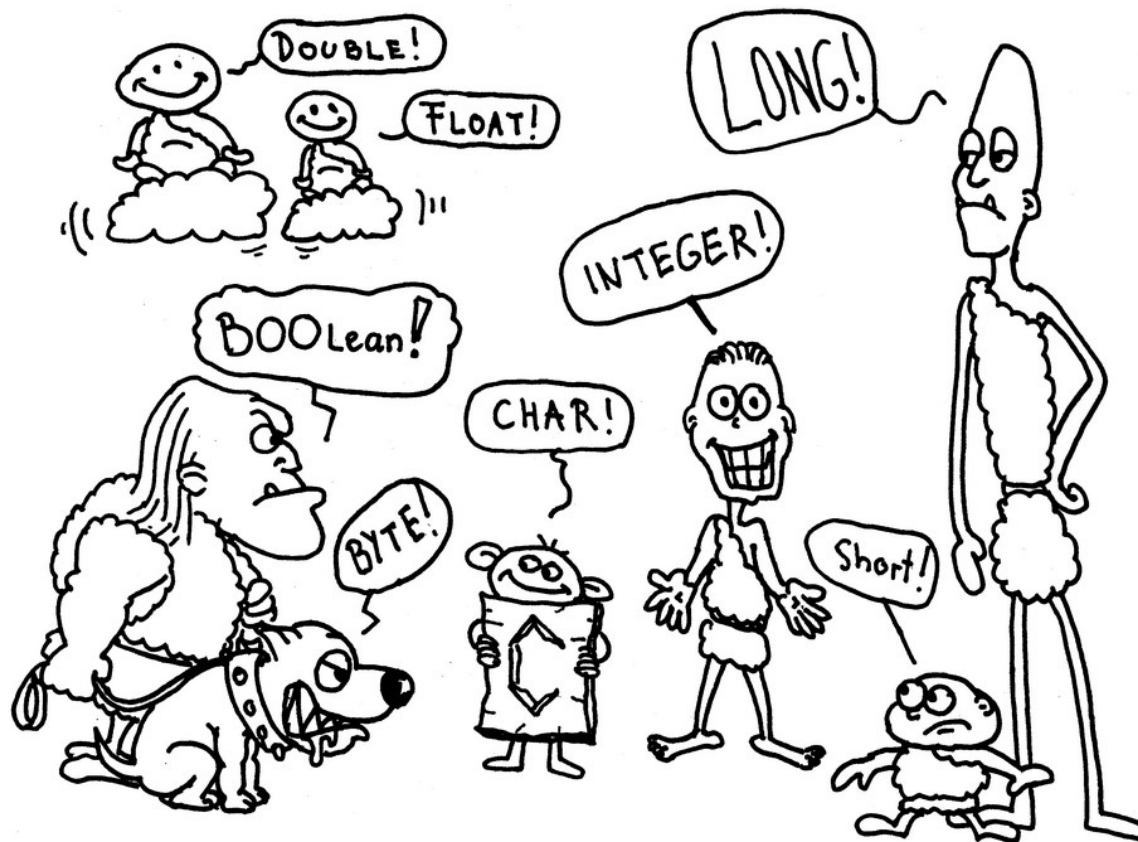
- ⌘ Simple types for **numbers**, (Unicode) **characters** and **truth values** (a.k.a. logical values or Boolean values)

later

⌘ Non-primitive (reference) types

- ⌘ Management of object references
(e.g. strings, dialogues or data structures)

Overview of primitive data types



Source: Ulllenboom (2012): Java ist auch eine Insel

8 primitive data types

- 6 different types for the representation of **numbers**
- 1 type for the representation of **characters**
- 1 type for the representation of **boolean values**

Numerical primitive data types

Integer primitive data types		
Type	Size	Range of values
byte	8 Bit	-128 to +127
short	16 Bit	-32.768 to +32.767
int	32 Bit	approx. -2 billion to +2 billion
long	64 Bit	approx. -10e18 to +10e18

Primitive floating point types		
Type	Size	Range of values
float	32 Bit	-3.4e38 to +3.4e38
double	64 Bit	-1.7e308 to +1.7e308

Legend: e stands for "powers of ten"

The larger the value range, the more bits are required

Digression: number overflows



- For programming we do not use the bit patterns.
- We use **literals**:
 - ⊞ Specific **values** of the respective primitive data type
 - ⊞ Examples of **integer literals**: 122, 16 or -32
 - ⊞ Examples of **floating-point literals**: 123.0, -19823.234, 0.00000321

Primitive data type `char`

- Representation of **characters** using **16 bits**
- Application of the **Unicode** method
 - ⊞ Each character is assigned a bit pattern (digital code)

⊞ Extract:

0	NUL	1	SOH	2	STX	3	ETX	4	EOT	5	ENQ	6	ACK	7	BEL
8	BS	9	HT	10	LF	11	VT	12	FF	13	CR	14	SO	15	SI
16	DLE	17	DC1	18	DC2	19	DC3	20	DC4	21	NAK	22	SYN	23	ETB
24	CAN	25	EM	26	SUB	27	ESC	28	FS	29	GS	30	RS	31	US
32	SP	33	!	34	"	35	#	36	\$	37	%	38	&	39	'
40	(	41	)	42	*	43	+	44	,	45	-	46	.	47	/
48	0	49	1	50	2	51	3	52	4	53	5	54	6	55	7
56	8	57	9	58	:	59	;	60	<	61	=	62	>	63	?
64	@	65	A	66	B	67	C	68	D	69	E	70	F	71	G
72	H	73	I	74	J	75	K	76	L	77	M	78	N	79	O
80	P	81	Q	82	R	83	S	84	T	85	U	86	V	87	W
88	X	89	Y	90	Z	91	[	92	\	93	]	94	^	95	_
96	`	97	a	98	b	99	c	100	d	101	e	102	f	103	g
104	h	105	i	106	j	107	k	108	l	109	m	110	n	111	o
112	p	113	q	114	r	115	s	116	t	117	u	118	v	119	w
120	x	121	y	122	z	123	{	124	|	125	}	126	~	127	DEL

Character literals

- In a programme, a character literal is enclosed by **simple quotation marks**:
`'a' 'm' 'A'`
- Control characters are also possible, e.g.
`'\n'` new line
`'\t'` tab character

You'll learn more on this topic in
the Chapter about Characters and
Strings!

Primitive data type `boolean`

- Type for **truth values**
- Only two values possible => two **boolean literals**:
 - ⊞ `true` = true, yes, applicable
 - ⊞ `false` = false, no, not applicable
- `boolean` is not a numerical type, it's **incompatible** with `int` or `double`

Exercise – Data types



- Live exercise
 - ✦ Complete **Task 1** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ✦ You have 5 minutes.



Chapter 2: Fundamental language concepts

2.1 Data types

2.2 Variables and assignments

2.3 Expressions and operators

Fundamental concept variable - motivation

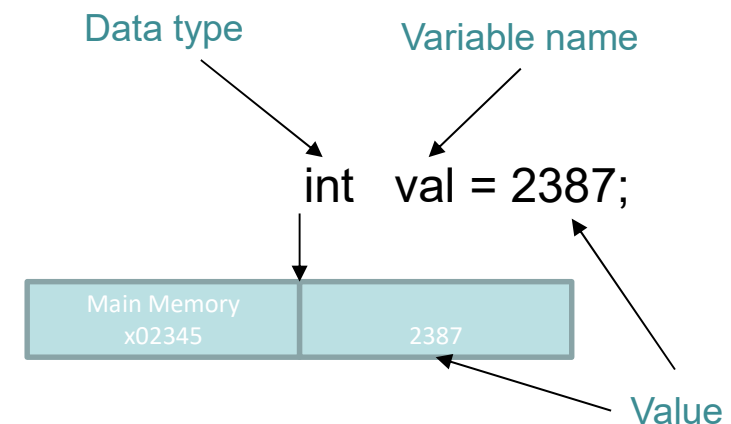


- Main memory: storage of data as well as machine commands
- To put data in memory and then retrieve it later, a programme must have a name for each memory section it uses.



Variable

- Name for a memory location in the main memory
 - ✚ Use of a specific data type
 - ✚ Value of the variable is stored in memory
 - ✚ Value can be read (retrieved) and changed during programme execution
- Containers in which specific data values can be stored for later use
- Data type determines
 - ✚ size of the memory area and
 - ✚ what kind of data can be stored



Variable names

- Variable names are **designators/identifiers**
- By **convention**, variable names **begin with lower case letters**



- Examples of variable names:

salary

i

counter

track2

Identifiers - different types

- In many places in the source code, **names** (designators, identifiers) can be freely selected by the programmer

```
public class Hello Class name
{
    public static void main Method name (String[] args) Variable name
    {
        System.out.println ("Hello World!");
    }
}
```

- Names must comply with the **syntax**
 - ⌘ Only upper and lower case letters, numbers and underscore (_) are allowed
 - ⌘ The first character cannot be a number
 - ⌘ None of the approx. fifty reserved words (keywords) allowed

Identifiers (1)

➤ Examples:

- # counter
- # colourDepth
- # iso9660
- # xmlProcessor
- # MAX_VALUE

➤ Not allowed:

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|
| # 1stTry | first letter cannot be a number |
| # queen of hearts | spaces not allowed in name |
| # const | reserved word |
| # muenchen-erding | hyphen not allowed in name |

Identifiers (2)



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camel_case

Recommendations for notation:



- Lower case letters for variables
- Upper case letters for constants
- New parts of words with upper case letters
- Whole words
- Meaningful names
- Write confusing abbreviations out in full
- Common acronyms in upper case letters

COUNTER

counter

max_value

MAX_VALUE

gettoken

getToken

c

counter

o00OoO

counter

bup

binaryUpload

Html

HTML

Java keywords

abstract	continue	float	native	super
assert	default	for	new	switch
boolean	do	goto (*)	package	synchronized
break	double	if	private	this
byte	else	implements	protected	throw
case	enum	import	public	throws
catch	extends	instanceof	return	transient
char	false	int	short	try
class	final	interface	static	void
const (*)	finally	long	strictfp	volatile
				while

(*) Although `const` and `goto` are reserved keywords, they are not used in Java .

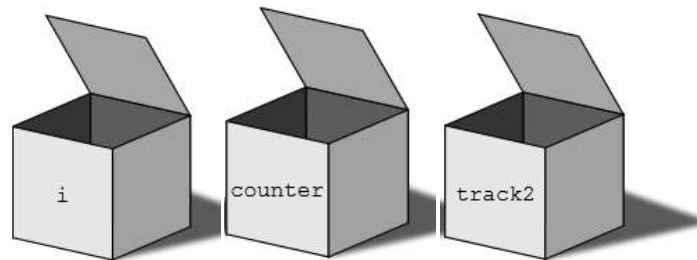
Definition of a variable

- Variables **must** be **defined** (i.e. declared)

```
Data type Variable name ;
```

- Examples:

```
int i;  
int counter;  
int track2;
```



- Only **one** definition per variable
- Definition == statement (instruction)

Initialisation of variables

- Immediately assign an initial value to the variable when it is defined = **initialisation**

```
int fahrenheit = 91;
```

Short form for
definition + initialisation

- Separate definition and value assignment ...

```
int start;  
start = 11;
```

... is equivalent to

```
int start = 11;
```

- **Initialise variables whenever possible! (IDEs point you to it, too.)**

Uninitialised variables

- Compiler monitors the use of variables
- Example of an error:

```
public static void main(String[] args) {  
    int length;  
    int breadth;  
    breadth = 2*length;  
}
```

Variable 'length' might not have been initialized

[Initialize variable 'length'](#) Alt+Umschalt+Eingabe [More actions...](#) Alt+Eingabe

[int length](#)

Compiler Error:

java: variable
length might
not have been
initialized

- ⊞ A newly defined variable has **no value** (uninitialised)
 - ⊞ You can assign a value to an uninitialised variable (**write**)
 - ⊞ However, it cannot be **read** from an uninitialised variable
- Compiler does not translate the programme!

Fixed variables - constants

- Some variables (values) should not change after they are assigned
=> **constants**
- Protection against change with **modifier final**

```
final int speedOfLight;  
speedOfLight = 299792458;
```

- **final** allows **only one** value assignment

```
final int speedOfLight;  
speedOfLight = 299792458;  
speedOfLight = 0;           // Error!
```

Exercise – Definition of variables



- Live exercise
 - ⌘ Complete **Tasks 2 and 3** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ⌘ You have 10 minutes.



Example programme (1)

- Simple output of the value of a variable

```
public class Example {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args) {  
  
        int workingSalary = 1200;  
        System.out.println("Earnings: " + workingSalary);  
  
    }  
  
}
```



Example programme (2)

➤ Use of variables

```
public class Example {  
  
    public static void main(String[] args)    {  
  
        int workingHours = 40;  
        double hourlySalary = 10.0;  
  
        System.out.println("Hours worked: " + workingHours);  
        System.out.println("Gross salary: " + (workingHours * hourlySalary));  
  
    }  
  
}
```

Important concept: to use the value stored in a variable, simply use the name of the variable.

Assignment instructions (1)

➤ Syntax:

```
variable name = expression;
```

- ✚ Equal sign "=" means "assignment" or "initialisation"
- ✚ expression is a collection of characters that returns a value

➤ Example assignments (assumption: variables have already been defined):

```
total = 3 + 8;  
price = 12.99;  
tax = price * 0.05;
```

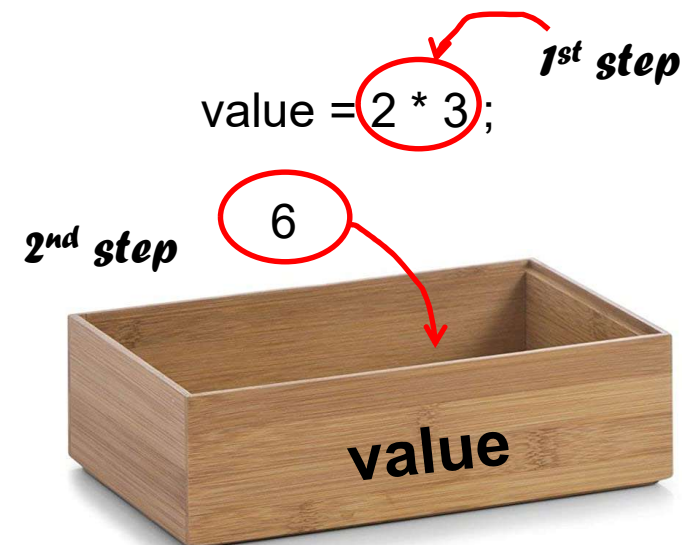
Assignment instructions (2)

➤ Semantics: **two steps**

1. Calculation **TO THE RIGHT** of the equal sign
-> value of the expression on the right is calculated or
-> value is only used
2. Contents of the variable **TO THE LEFT** of the equal sign is replaced by the result of step 1

➤ Example: `value = 2 * 3;`

1. Calculation $2 * 3$ results in 6
2. 6 is placed in the variable named `value`



Types of instructions

- So far, you know the following types of instructions:

- ⌘ Definition / Declaration

```
int counter;
```

- ⌘ Value assignment / Initialisation

```
counter = 1;
```

- ⌘ Output

```
System.out.println(counter);
```

- Programme = list of instructions
- Sequence of instructions in the programme is arbitrary, but with regard to a **variable**, **attention must be paid to**
 1. Definition
 2. Writing (left in a value assignment)
 3. Reading (as an expression or part of an expression)

Exercise – Value assignment



- Live exercise
 - ✦ Complete **Task 4** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ✦ You have 5 minutes.



Chapter 2: Fundamental language concepts

2.1 Data types

2.2 Variables and assignments

2.3 Expressions and operators

Expressions (1)

- Simply put, an expression is a **combination** of:
 - ⊞ **Operands** - variables, constants / literals
 - ⊞ **Operators** – symbols that link values with each other, e.g. "+" for addition or "*" for multiplication
 - ⊞ **Brackets** - "(" and ")"

- Examples:

- ⊞ Correct expression $(44 - x) / (y + 8)$

- ⊞ Incorrect expression $*z \ 88$

Expressions (2)

- Properties:
 - ⊞ Every expression can be **calculated/evaluated**.
 - ⊞ Every expression has a **type and value**, that results after the expression is evaluated.
- If an expression contains **multiple operators**, then **precedences** determine the order in which the operators are performed (cf. mathematics: BODMAS rule for order of operations)
- *BODMAS*: *Brackets, Order, Division/Multiplication, Addition/Subtraction*
- **Different execution order** through **brackets** (expressions in brackets are evaluated first)

Operands – integers (1)

- Numerical constants in the source code
- Notation:
 - ⊞ Sequence of decimal digits
 - ⊞ Positive and negative values: + or – sign before the number
 - ⊞ No sign before the number = + (sign before the number **optional**)
 - ⊞ Usually decimal, i.e. base 10

```
0
28
+28
-3888
-0
+123456789
```

Operands – integers (2)

➤ Syntax for other number bases:

⊞ Hexadecimal (base 16): Prefix "0x"

```
0x28  
0x1000
```

⊞ Octal (base 8): Leading digit "0"

```
023  
01000
```



Danger - source of errors!

⊞ Binary (base 2): Prefix "0b"

```
0b1000  
0b1_010_000
```

Operands - floating-point numbers

➤ Often used:

- ⊞ numbers with fractions (such as $\pi = 3.141592\dots$)
- ⊞ very large or very small values (such as 10^{23} , 10^{-34})

➤ Notation:

Digits after the
decimal point

3.14
0.001
-123.04
21500.0

Powers of ten (E or e)

1E23 ($1 \cdot 10^{23}$)
1e-34 ($1 \cdot 10^{-34}$)
6.670E-11 ($6.670 \cdot 10^{-11}$)
-4.17e-4 ($-4.17 \cdot 10^{-4}$)

Suffix (D or d)

D
-234d
0.001D
1e-34d

Multiple notations are
possible for the same value:

20.5 or 0.0205E3 or 205000E-4

Arithmetic operators

➤ Selection:

Operator	Meaning	Precedence
-	Unary minus	Highest
+	Unary plus	Highest
*	Multiplication	Middle
/	Division	Middle
%	Modulo operation	Middle
+	Addition	Lowest
-	Subtraction	Lowest

All operators
are defined for
integers and
floating-point
numbers

Numerical expressions – uniformly integer (1)

- Notation is similar to mathematics – but no superscript, subscript or numbers on top of each other

- ⊞ Mathematical expressions must be "flattened" into a linear string:

- $\frac{3}{4}$ becomes `3/4`

- ⊞ Always write out multiplication operators: `5a` becomes `5*a`

- Fundamental arithmetic operations:

- ⊞ `+` Addition
 - ⊞ `-` Subtraction
 - ⊞ `*` Multiplication
 - ⊞ `/` Division

```
5 + 2 * 7
3 * 4 + 4 * 5
50 - 10 + 20
+2*+8
-5-3
17 / 4
```



Integer
division!!!

Numerical expressions – uniformly integers (2)

➤ Integer division

- ✚ **truncates** the digits after the decimal point of the result
- ✚ there is no rounding

```
17 / 4    ->    4 ( not 4.25)
-17 / 4   ->   -4 ( not -4.25)
```

➤ Remainder (modulus) operator returns division remainder (%)

```
11 % 4    ->    3
 7 % 2    ->    1
18 % 18   ->    0
 1 % 18   ->    1
```



Negative operands

```
11 % -4    ->    3
-11 % 4    ->   -3
-11 % -4   ->   -3
```

Sign before the number of the result =
Sign before the number of the left (first)
operand

Numerical expressions – uniformly floating-point numbers

- Floating-point arithmetic is mathematically more precise

```
20.0 / 8.0 -> 2.5
```

- Reasons for `int` arithmetic:

- ⊞ `double` arithmetic is slower

- ⊞ `double` values require more space

- ⊞ `double` arithmetic makes **rounding errors** hard to predict



`int` when possible,
`double` when
necessary

```
System.out.println(1000.0/50.0*50.0);    // 1000.0
System.out.println(1000.0/60.0*60.0);    // 1000.00000000000001
```

Numerical expressions – different data types

➤ **Implicit type conversion** = automatic conversion of one type to another

➤ Example:

⌘ Two operands of the same type: Result type = operand type

```
1    + 2    → 3    (int)
1.0  + 2.0  → 3.0  (double)
```

⌘ Mixed operand type: double result

```
1.0  + 2    → 3.0  (double)
1    + 2.0  → 3.0  (double)
```

Implicit type conversion
(int -> double)

→ Steps:

1. Convert `int` operand to double
2. Calculate result

```
1.0  + 2    → 1.0 + 2.0
      → 3.0
```

Implicit type conversion (double -> int)

- There is an **equivalent double value** for every **int value**

```
5 -> 5.0  
-5000000 -> -5E9
```

- **But:** for many double values, there is **no** equivalent int value
- Therefore: **no implicit type conversion of double -> int**

⊞ Allowed:

```
double d = 5;  
// first convert 5 -> 5.0, then assign
```

⊞ Error:

```
int i = 5.0;  
// Error!
```

Explicit type conversion (type cast)

- "Forced" type conversion = **explicit type conversion**

`(type) expression`

`(int) 2.5 * 3 -> 2 * 3 = 6`

- ⌘ `(type)` formally a **unary operator**
- ⌘ "larger" data types can be transferred to "smaller" data types
- ⌘ **Please note: loss of information!**

```
double x = 3.89;
int y;
y = (int) x;
```

`// y is assigned a value of 3`



Minimise type casts wherever possible or avoid them entirely

Exercise – Analysing expressions

- Live exercise
 - ✦ Complete **Task 5** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ✦ You have 5 minutes.



Evaluating expressions (1)

- The sequence of the calculation (= semantics) must still be defined
- Order is decisive:

$2 + 3 * 4$	\rightarrow	$5 * 4$	\rightarrow	20
$2 + \underline{3 * 4}$	\rightarrow	$2 + 12$	\rightarrow	14
- Order follows **precedence** of operators
 - ⊞ **Multiplicative** operators (*,/,%) **have higher precedence** than **additive** operators (+,-)
- **Brackets** explicitly define the order

$(2 + 3) * 4$	\rightarrow	$5 * 4$	\rightarrow	20
---------------	---------------	---------	---------------	----
- **Unary** (= single operand) operators **have higher precedence** than **binary** operators

$-3 + -4$	\rightarrow	$(-3) + (-4)$	\rightarrow	-7
-----------	---------------	---------------	---------------	----
- Precedence for different operators – **associativity** for operators with equal precedence

Evaluating expressions (2)

➤ Example:

$$\begin{array}{lcl} 8 - 3 - 2 & \rightarrow & 5 - 2 \rightarrow 3 \\ \hline 8 - 3 - 2 & \rightarrow & 8 - 1 \rightarrow 7 \end{array}$$

➤ **Associativity** (direction of execution)

- ⊞ **left-associative:** operators are evaluated from left to right
- ⊞ **right-associative:** operators are evaluated from right to left

- All binary arithmetic operators are left-associative!
- For information on individual operators, see the operator table

Operator table

Operator	Rank	Type	Description
++, --	1	Arithmetical	Increment and Decrement
+, -	1	Arithmetical	unary plus and minus
~	1	Integral	bitwise complement
!	1	Boolean	logical complement
(Typ)	1	Any	Cast
*, /, %	2	Arithmetical	Multiplication, division, remainder
+, -	3	Arithmetical	Addition and subtraction
+	3	String	String concatenation
<<	4	Integral	Shift left
>>	4	Integral	Right shift with sign extension
>>>	4	Integral	Right shift without sign extension
<, <=, >, >=	5	Arithmetical	numerical comparisons
instanceof	5	Object	Type comparison
==, !=	6	Primitive	Equality/inequality of values
==, !=	6	Object	Equality/inequality of references
&	7	Integral	bitwise And
&	7	Boolean	logical And
^	8	Integral	bitwise XOR
^	8	Boolean	logical XOR
|	9	Integral	bitwise Or
|	9	Boolean	logical Or
&&	10	Boolean	logical conditional And, Short circuit
||	11	Boolean	Logical conditional Or, Short circuit
?:	12	Any	Condition Operator
=	13	Any	Assignment
*, /, %=, +=, =, <<=, >>=, >>>=, &=, ^=, |=	14	Arithmetical	Assignment with Operation
+=	14	String	Assignment with string concatenation

Translated from :
https://openbook.rheinwerk-verlag.de/javainsel/02_004.html

Exercise – Evaluating expressions



- Live exercise
 - ⌘ Complete **Task 6** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ⌘ You have 5 minutes.



Relational operators

- Relational operators expect numerical operands, result = truth value

Operator	Meaning
<	less than
<=	less than or equal to
>	greater than
>=	greater than or equal to
==	equal to
!=	not equal to

- Evaluation analogous to arithmetic expressions according to precedence and associativity

- Relational operands only take effect after arithmetic operators – "bind weakly"

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 2 + 3 < \underline{2 * 3} \\
 2 + 3 < 6 \\
 \hline
 5 < 6 \\
 \text{true}
 \end{array}$$

Exercise – Relational operators



- Live exercise
 - ✦ Complete **Task 7** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
 - ✦ You have 5 minutes.



Logical operators (1)

- Logical operators link truth values
- Overview of logical operators:

Operator	# operands	Name	Meaning	Result is true exactly when
&&	2	AND	Logical And	... both operands are true
||	2	OR	Inclusive logical Or	... at least one operand is true
^	2	XOR	Exclusive logical Or	... exactly one operand is true
!	1	NOT	Logical Not	... the operand is false

boolean a	boolean b	! a	a && b	a || b	a ^ b
true	true	false	true	true	false
true	false	false	false	true	true
false	true	true	false	true	true
false	false	true	false	False	false

Logical operators (2)

- Logical operators can be used to formulate **compound conditions**
- Example:
 - ⊞ Mathematics: $-8 \leq x < 8$
 - ⊞ Text: x is greater than or equal to -8 and less than 8
 - ⊞ Java: `(x >= -8) && (x < 8)`
- Precedence: binary, logical operators `&&`, `||`, `^` bind weaker than arithmetic and relational operators
- Like all unary operators, not `!` binds stronger than binary operators
- Example:


```
x > 6 - 11 && x + 1 < 2 * 3
(x > (6 - 11)) && ((x + 1) < (2 * 3))
```

Operator groups

- So far: three operator groups

Group	Operators	Types
Arithmetical	+ - * / %	Numerical -> numerical
Relational	< > <= >= == !=	Numerical -> boolean
Logical	&& || ^ !	Boolean -> boolean

- Another possibility:

⊞ `boolean` values can also be checked with `==` and `!=`

- Variables of type `boolean` are allowed

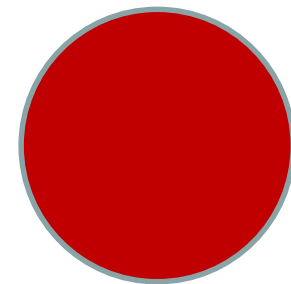
```
boolean isOK;  
isOK = true;
```

or

```
boolean isOK = true;
```

- Logical expressions can be assigned to `boolean` variables

```
boolean ice = temperature < 0;  
boolean steam = temperature > 100;  
boolean water = !ice && !steam;
```



Exercise – boolean variables and logical expressions



➤ Live exercise

- ✦ Complete **Task 8** on the live exercises sheet “Fundamental language concepts”
- ✦ You have 5 minutes.



Runtime library (1)

- Runtime library = collection of functions, e.g.
 - ⊞ input and output
 - ⊞ mathematical functions
 - ⊞ . . .

- Functional scope of the runtime library is referred to as the **Java API** (application programming interface)
 - ⊞ defines the interface between user code and specified system parts
 - ⊞ <http://docs.oracle.com/javase/8/docs/api/>

Runtime library (2)

- For example: **mathematical functions** (`java.lang.Math`)

- Call scheme:

```
Math.function(args)
```

- Selection of functions:

Function	Mathematical	Java
Square root	\sqrt{x}	<code>Math.sqrt(x)</code>
Natural logarithm	$\ln(x)$	<code>Math.log(x)</code>
Logarithm to base 10	$\log_{10}(x)$	<code>Math.log10(x)</code>
exponential function	e^x	<code>Math.exp(x)</code>
Sinus	$\sin(x)$	<code>Math.sin(x)</code>
Arcus tangent	$\arctan(x)$	<code>Math.atan(x)</code>

- Predefined constants: π , Euler's number e

```
Math.PI and Math.E
```